

Where Did The 10 Shekels Go?

Understanding MT Ezekiel 45:12 and its LXX translation

Ezekiel 45:12 in the MT

מֵאֲזֵנֵי־צֶדֶק וְאִפְתַּ־צֶדֶק וּבֵת־צֶדֶק יְהִי לָכֶם: ¹¹ הָאִי־פָה וְהַבַּת תִּכֶּן אֶחָד יִהְיֶה לְשֹׂאת מַעֲשֵׂר הַחֹמֶר
הַבַּת וְעִשְׂרֵת הַחֹמֶר הָאִי־פָה אֶל־הַחֹמֶר יִהְיֶה מִתְכַּנְתּוֹ: ¹² וְהַשֶּׁקֶל עֶשְׂרִים גֵּרָה עֶשְׂרִים שְׁקָלִים
חֲמִשָּׁה וְעֶשְׂרִים שְׁקָלִים עֲשֶׂרָה וְחֲמִשָּׁה שְׁקָל הַמִּנָּה יִהְיֶה לָכֶם:

¹⁰ “You shall have honest balances, an honest ephah, and an honest bath. ¹¹ The ephah and the bath shall be of the same measure, the bath containing one-tenth of a homer and the ephah one-tenth of a homer; the homer shall be the standard measure. ¹² The shekel shall be twenty gerahs. Twenty shekels, twenty-five shekels, and fifteen shekels shall make a mina for you.

Ezekiel 45:12 in the MT

- Weights and Measurements?
- Insertions from a different source?
 - זאת הַתְּרוּמָה אֲשֶׁר תִּרְיִמוּ as *Wiederaufnahme*
- Calculating the mina
 - 20 + 25 + 15
 - Often seen as strange

The “strange” way of calculating the mina

- Why $20 + 25 + 15$?
- Should עֶשְׂרֵה וְחֲמִשָּׁה
be חֲמִשָּׁה וְעֶשְׂרֵה?
- Why is the last שֶׁקֶל
written in the singular?

→ Look at the Septuagint

The LXX of Ezekiel

- Complex translation,
likely dated to the 2nd century BCE
- Signs of adaptation to a Hellenistic context
- Likely different Hebrew *Vorlage* at times
- However, this section has few
differences due to a different *Vorlage*

Ezekiel 45:10-12 (LXX)

¹⁰ ζυγὸς δίκαιος καὶ μέτρον δίκαιον καὶ χοῖνιξ δικαία ἔστω ὑμῖν. ¹¹ τὸ μέτρον καὶ ἡ χοῖνιξ ὁμοίως μία ἔσται τοῦ λαμβάνειν· τὸ δέκατον τοῦ γομορ ἡ χοῖνιξ, καὶ τὸ δέκατον τοῦ γομορ τὸ μέτρον, πρὸς τὸ γομορ ἔσται ἴσον. ¹² καὶ τὸ στάθμιον εἴκοσι ὀβολοί· οἱ πέντε σίκλοι πέντε, καὶ οἱ δέκα σίκλοι δέκα, καὶ πεντήκοντα σίκλοι ἡ μνᾶ ἔσται ὑμῖν.

¹⁰ You should have a just balance and a just measure and a just choenix. ¹¹ The measure and the choenix shall likewise be one to receive; the choenix shall be a tenth of the gomor, and the measure shall be the tenth of the gomor; to the gomor it shall be equal. ¹² And the stathmion shall be twenty obols; five shekels shall be five and ten shekels shall be ten and fifty shekels shall be one mina for you.

Ezekiel 45:12 – between MT and LXX

וְהַשֶּׁקֶל עֶשְׂרִים גֵּרָה עֶשְׂרִים שְׁקָלִים וְעֶשְׂרִים חֲמִשָּׁה וְחֲמִשָּׁה שְׁקָל
הַמִּנָּה יִהְיֶה לָכֶם:

The shekel shall be twenty gerahs. Twenty shekels, twenty-five shekels, and fifteen shekels shall make a mina for you

καὶ τὸ στάθμιον εἴκοσι ὀβολοί· οἱ πέντε σίκλοι πέντε, καὶ οἱ δέκα σίκλοι δέκα, καὶ πεντήκοντα σίκλοι ἡ μνᾶ ἔσται ὑμῖν.

And the stathmion shall be twenty obols; five shekels shall be five and ten shekels shall be ten and fifty shekels shall be one mina for you.

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הַמִּנָּה יִהְיֶה לָכֶם:

The shekel shall be twenty gerahs. Twenty shekels, twenty-five shekels,
and fifteen shekels shall make a mina for you

1 mina = (20 + 25 + 15 =) 60 shekels

καὶ τὸ στάθμιον εἴκοσι ὀβολοί· οἱ πέντε σίκλοι πέντε, καὶ οἱ δέκα σίκλοι
δέκα, καὶ πεντήκοντα σίκλοι ἡ μνᾶ ἔσται ὑμῖν.

And the stathmion shall be twenty obols; five shekels shall be five
and ten shekels shall be ten and fifty shekels shall be one mina for
you.

1 mina = 50 shekels

The Multiple Minae of the Zenon Papyri

- Zenon of Kaunos
 - Merchant active around 250-230 BCE
- Many papyrus documents found
- Much information on economic activity in Hellenistic Egypt in the 3rd century BCE

P. Cair. Zen. 4 59782a – COLUMN IX

139 / τὰ πάντ[α] [[εἰς τὸ αὐτὸ]]

140 σιδήρου π ος μν εδ' η'

141 διάφορον διὰ τὸ τῇ η και λ στατήρῳ μν ἀνηλωσθαι

142 καὶ [[ὥι πλείῳ παρὰ τὸν σταθμὸν π]] παρὰ τὸ π μν ια δ'

142a παρὰ δὲ τὸ πᾶν π ιδ μν ις / π ρ μν κα δ' η'

143 καὶ στομώματος [[π θ μν ηλδ' η']] π η μν ιθλδ' η'

144 [[καὶ ὥι πλείῳ παρὰ τὸν σταθμὸν π]]

145 διάφορον π α μν μβλδ' / στομώματος π ι μν βλ η'

146 εἰς τὸ αὐτὸ σιδήρου π ρ μν κα δ' η'
βλ η'

147 στομώματος π ι μν [[κα λδ']]

148 [διάφ]ορ[ο]ν σ[ιδ]ήρου μν ληλ η'
νζδ' η'

149 [στ]ομώματος π...[.] μν [[ηδ' η']]

139 make all of this

140 iron: talents 76 minae 5 ¼ 1/8

141 the difference because of 8 and 30 staters minae to use

142 and of which the full from the weight talent from the talent minae 11 ¼

142a from all the talents 14 minae 16 make talents 90 minae 21 ¼ 1/8

143 and steel: talents 9 minae 8 ½ ¼ 1/8 talents 8 minae 19 ½ ¼ 1/8

144 and of which the full besides the weight talent

145 different talent 1 minae 42 ½ ¼ makes steel talents 10 minae 2 ½ 1/8

146 for him iron talents 90 minae 21 ¼ 1/8
2 ½ 1/8

147 steel talents 10 minae 21 ½ ¼

148 the difference of iron minae 38 ½ 1/8
57 ¼ 1/8

149 steel talents [.] minae 8 ¼ 1/8

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¹⁴⁰ σιδήρου π ος μν εδ' η'

¹⁴¹ διάφορον διὰ τὸ τῇι η και λ στατήρῳι μν ἀνηλῶσθαι

¹⁴² καὶ [[ὧι πλείῳ παρὰ τὸν σταθμὸν π]] παρὰ τὸ π μν ια δ'

^{142a} παρὰ δὲ τὸ πᾶν π ιδ μν ις / π ρ μν κα δ' η'

¹⁴⁰ iron: **talents 76 minae 5 ¼ 1/8**

¹⁴¹ the difference because of **8 and 30 staters minae** to use

¹⁴² and of which the full from the weight talent from the talent minae 11 ¼

^{142a} from all the talents 14 minae 16 make **talents 90 minae 21 ¼ 1/8**

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¹ πρὸς Ἀλκιμον.

¹ to Alkimos

² ἔχεις τῇι λς στατήρῳι

² you have here 36 staters

³ μνᾶι σκαφεῖα θ ἀφ' ὧν

³ minas spades 9 from which

⁴ συνεκόπη γ καὶ ἐγενήθησαν β

⁴ was chopped up 3 and they became 2

[...]

[...]

¹⁷ λβ στατήρῳι μνᾶι μν(ᾱς) ι

¹⁷ 32 staters to the mina, minae 10

¹⁸ στατῆρας γ

¹⁸ staters 3

¹⁹ αἰ / τῇι λς στατήρῳι μνᾶι μν θ

¹⁹ which (becomes) here 36 staters to the

mina, minae 9