

1 and lead people to inquire what it meant. It
2 would have little effect for Jeremiah to say:
3 "In a vision I buried a girdle for many days and
4 then I dug it up and saw how deteriorated it
5 was." But for him to hold before his hearers
6 the actual girdle that they had seen him wearing
7 and let them observe its deteriorated condition
8 might be very effective in driving home his
9 message. For Ezekiel to say that in a vision he
10 had lain for 390 days facing a tile on which he
11 had drawn a picture of Jerusalem would add
12 nothing to the effect of his message. It would
13 be quite different if he were to lie in the
14 public square a few hours each day, perhaps with
15 a sign beside him saying "Day 1," "Day 2," "Day
16 3," etc. People thinking of their homeland and
17 longing to return, would quickly notice the
18 similarity of the picture on the tile to the
19 place they so wished to see again. Parents
20 would point out its details to their children,
21 and the children would ask why Ezekiel was
22 lying there in that way. Thus attention would
23 be attracted and curiosity aroused. When the
24 Lord would again direct Ezekiel to present the
25 message orally (Ezek 6:11) the people would be

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