

Ezekiel 29

King James Version (KJV)

(God chastises Egypt. Jerusalem is close to defeat to the Babylonians)

29 In the tenth year, in the tenth month, in the twelfth day of the month, the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, (This is 6 months minus 3 days before the fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonians)

²Son of man, set thy face against Pharaoh king of Egypt, and prophesy against him, and against all Egypt: (Zedekiah looked to the Egyptians for help<as mercenaries>, instead of looking to God. The Egyptians took his money, and then didn't back him. In the end, the Egyptians also went down before the Babylonians)

Background: (God sent Babylon to take Judah captive for 70 years. HE did that to correct Judah for all their sins and their idolatry. Babylon appointed Zedekiah as vassal king to rule Judah under them)

(All Zedekiah had to do was to live up to the oath of allegiance that he took to Babylon, and to God; and they all would have live in peace. Instead, Zedekiah betrayed his oath to Babylon and to God. He tried to rebel against Babylon; and hired Egyptian mercenaries to fight for him)

³Speak, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great dragon that lieth in the midst of his rivers, which hath said, My river is mine own, and I have made it for myself. (God created the Nile; not Pharaoh)

⁴But I will put hooks in thy jaws, and I will cause the fish of thy rivers to stick unto thy scales, and I will bring thee up out of the midst of thy rivers, and all the fish of thy rivers shall stick unto thy scales.

⁵And I will leave thee thrown into the wilderness, thee and all the fish of thy rivers: thou shalt fall upon the open fields; thou shalt not be brought together, nor gathered: I have given thee for meat to the beasts of the field and to the fowls of the heaven. (God will pull Pharaoh out of the fertile Nile River valley, and toss him into the desert. His people will stick to him like glue)

NOTE: (In the 70's, the USSR <Rosh – Russ - Russia> dammed up the Nile River to produce electricity. That dam stopped the spring floods that made the desert fertile for crops and livestock. They are now

forced to use chemical fertilizers that are destroying the soil. Every year since then, the Nile Valley has produced less and less crops)

⁶And all the inhabitants of Egypt shall know that I am the LORD, because they have been a staff of reed to the house of Israel. (A staff made of reed won't support any weight. In fact, it will break, and the sharp end will pierce the hand of whoever is leaning on it) see 2Kings-18:21-22

(Always depend on God for help. Man will let you down every time)

⁷When they took hold of thee by thy hand, thou didst break, and rend all their shoulder: and when they leaned upon thee, thou brakest, and madest all their loins to be at a stand. (Speaking to Pharaoh - Israel depended on you. You made promises to them. You took their money and then reneged on all your commitments)

⁸Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will bring a sword upon thee, and cut off man and beast out of thee. (The sword here is Nebuchadnezzar. God called him – “my servant”) Jeremiah 27:6-8

(man = Adam – there won't be any descendants of Adam among them any more. The Egyptians depended on the “shepherd kings” <Hyksos>, in southern Egypt, to tend the herds of cattle and sheep. Ancient Egyptians saw tending herds as a lowering of oneself. The shepherd kings left Egypt after this)

⁹And the land of Egypt shall be desolate and waste; and they shall know that I am the LORD: because he hath said, The river is mine, and I have made it. (Pharaoh made nothing, other than a mess. God gave them the Nile and all of its bounty)

¹⁰Behold, therefore I am against thee, and against thy rivers, and I will make the land of Egypt utterly waste and desolate, from the tower of Syene even unto the border of Ethiopia. (Syene – where the Russians <USSR> built the Aswan Dam on the Nile in the 1960's. It resulted in stopping the spring floods that used to fertilize the land around the Nile. That decimated farming in the whole region)

¹¹No foot of man shall pass through it, nor foot of beast shall pass through it, neither shall it be inhabited forty years.

¹²And I will make the land of Egypt desolate in the midst of the countries that are desolate, and her cities among the cities that are

laid waste shall be desolate forty years: and I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and will disperse them through the countries. (Nebuchadnezzar did this after he conquered Egypt)

¹³ Yet thus saith the Lord GOD; At the end of forty years will I gather the Egyptians from the people whither they were scattered:

¹⁴ And I will bring again the captivity of Egypt, and will cause them to return into the land of Pathros, into the land of their habitation; and they shall be there a base kingdom. (This is judgment on the nation of Egypt. They would never again be a superpower)

¹⁵ It shall be the basest of the kingdoms; neither shall it exalt itself any more above the nations: for I will diminish them, that they shall no more rule over the nations. (Although Egypt is one of the oldest nations in the world, they never recovered to become a world power again. They are still a base nation today)

¹⁶ And it shall be no more the confidence of the house of Israel, which bringeth their iniquity to remembrance, when they shall look after them: but they shall know that I am the Lord GOD. (That's the whole point. God wants people to know Him so that they can receive His salvation. They all knew of Him through the miracles that He did for Israel; and yet they worshipped their idols instead)

¹⁷ And it came to pass in the seven and twentieth year, in the first month, in the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

¹⁸ Son of man, Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon caused his army to serve a great service against Tyrus: every head was made bald, and every shoulder was peeled: yet had he no wages, nor his army, for Tyrus, for the service that he had served against it: (Tyrus was a corrupt and very rich Kenite stronghold for commerce and usury. He destroyed Tyrus for God, but never got paid for it)

¹⁹ Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will give the land of Egypt unto Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon; and he shall take her multitude, and take her spoil, and take her prey; and it shall be the wages for his army. (God will pay him with the spoils of Egypt)

²⁰ I have given him the land of Egypt for his labour wherewith he served against it, because they wrought for me, saith the Lord GOD. (God sent Nebuchadnezzar to correct Israel and to stop the Kenite)

money machine in Tyrus. God called him "my servant". Egypt is paying the price for helping Zedekiah to work against God's plan) See Jeremiah-27:6-8

²¹In that day will I cause the horn of the house of Israel to bud forth, and I will give thee the opening of the mouth in the midst of them; and they shall know that I am the LORD. (The Word of God will be brought forth to the whole world on the Day of the Lord)

NOTE: (Jeremiah took the daughters of Zedekiah <Israelites> through Egypt; and then to the British Isles to rule in England & Scotland. They would later become the Christian countries of Western Europe. Generations later, their descendant, King James, ordered the Bible to be published in English so that all people could read it for themselves)