

Announcing the Demise of the Kraken of the Nile**Ezekiel 29:1–16****Veritas Adult Community****December 5, 2020**

¹In the tenth year, in the tenth [month], on the twelfth [day] of the month, the following message of YHWH came to me: ²Human, direct your face toward Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and prophesy against him and against all Egypt. ³Speak, and declare:

Thus has the Lord YHWH declared:

Look, I am against you, O Pharaoh, king of Egypt, the great monster, sprawled out in the midst of his channels, who says, “My Nile belongs to me; I made [it] for myself.” ⁴But I will place hooks in your jaws and make the fish of your channels stick to your scales. I will haul you up from your channels, with all the fish of your channels sticking to your scales.

⁵I will hurl you out into the wilderness—
you and all the fish of your channels.

On the open field you will fall;

You will not be gathered,

And you will not be collected.

To wild animals of the earth

And birds of the heavens

I have consigned you as food.

⁶Then all who live in Egypt will know that I am YHWH.

Because you are a reed crutch to the house of Israel—

⁷When they grasp you, you splinter in their hand,
and totally tear up their armpits.

When they lean on you, you shatter,

causing their hips to collapse—

⁸Therefore, thus has the Lord YHWH declared:

I will bring a sword against you and cut off from you both human and animal. ^{9a}Then the land of Egypt will be a desolate wasteland, and they will know that I am YHWH.”

^{9b}Because you said, “The Nile belongs to me; I made it.”

¹⁰Therefore I am against you and against your river channels. I will turn the land of Egypt into an utterly desolate wasteland, from Migdol to Syene, as far as the Nubian frontier. ¹¹No foot, human or animal, will pass through it. It will remain uninhabited for forty years. ¹²I will turn the land of Egypt into the most desolate of all desolate lands, and her cities will be the most desolate among ruined cities—for forty years. And I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations and disperse them among the lands.

¹³That is—thus has the Lord YHWH declared—at the end of forty years, I will gather Egypt from among the peoples where they have been scattered. ¹⁴I will restore the fortunes of Egypt, and bring them back to the land of Pathros, the land of their origin. There they will be a lowly kingdom. ¹⁵It will be the lowliest of kingdoms and will never again assert itself over the nations. I will keep them small so they never again lord it over the nations. ¹⁶Never again will they serve as an object of trust for the house of Israel—a reminder of guilt they incurred when they turned toward them. Then they will know that I am the Lord YHWH.



Exposition

A. Introduction

1. The Seven-fold Collection of Oracles against Egypt

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| a. <i>Announcing the Doom of Pharaoh, the Kraken of the Nile (29:1–16)</i> | January 7, 587 |
| b. Egypt: Nebuchadnezzar's Consolation Prize (29:17–21) | April 26, 571 |
| c. A Day of YHWH for Egypt (30:1–19) | ----- |
| d. Breaking the Arms of Pharaoh (30:20–26) | April 29, 586 |
| e. The Doom of the Pharaonic Tree (31:1–18) | June 21, 586 |
| f. <i>The Doom of the Pharaonic Monster (32:1–16)</i> | March 3, 585 |
| g. Egypt's Descent to Sheol (32:17–32) | March 18, 585 |

2. Egypt in Israel's History

	Thutmose III	1479–1425 BC
Ezekiel 20:5–8	Rameses II	1279–1213 BC
	Merneptah	1213–1203 BC
2 Kings 14:25–26	Shishak/Sheshonq I	943–922 BC
2 Kings 18:21:21; Isa 36:6	Shebitku (“Ethiopian Dynasty”)	702–690 BC
2 Kings 23:29–35; 2 Chron 35:20–24	Necho II	610–595 BC
Ezekiel 19:2–4	Psammetichus II	595–589 BC
Jeremiah 37:5–8	Apries (Hophra)	589–570 BC

3. Outline of 29:1–16

- a. Preamble (29:1–2)
- b. YHWH's Disposition Toward Pharaoh (29:3–9a)
 - (1) The End of the Great Sea Monster: YHWH's Response to Pharaoh's *hubris* (29:3–6a)
 - (a) The Charge (29:3)
 - The Double Title, “Pharaoh, King of Egypt
 - “The Great Sea Monster” (*hattannîn haggādôl*)
 - The Arrogant Claim: My Nile belongs to me; I made it for myself
 - (b) The Divine Response (29:4–6a)
 - Regarding the Monster (A B C)
 - Regarding the Fish (A', B', C')
 - (2) The End of the Broken Reed: YHWH's Response to Pharaoh's Treachery (29:6b–9a)
 - (a) The Charge (29:6b–7)
 - (b) The Divine Response (29:8–9a)
- c. YHWH's Intentions Concerning Egypt (29:9b–16)
 - (1) His Immediate Plans: The “Wasting” of Egypt (29:9b–12)
 - (2) His Long-Range Plans: The Restoration of Egypt (29:13–16)

D. Lessons from Ezekiel 29:1–16

1. YHWH is the divine lord of history.
2. Those who stand in the way of YHWH's plans render themselves his enemies.
3. Just because outside powers and agencies defend those who claim to be the people chosen by God does not mean the Lord's favor rests on them.