

**The Day of the LORD in Egypt
 And Breaking the Arms of Pharaoh
 Ezekiel 30:1–26
 Veritas Adult Community
 December 19, 2020**

The Announcement of the Day of YHWH in Egypt

¹The following message of YHWH came to me:

²Human, prophecy, saying, “Thus has the Lord YHWH declared:

Howl! Oy veh! O day!

³For the day is near!

Near is the day of YHWH!

A day of clouds,

A moment for the nations, it will be.

⁴A sword will enter Egypt,

And anguish will grip Cush,

When the slain fall in Egypt,

And they take away her pomp,

And her foundations are razed.

⁵ Cush, Put, Lud, all the mixed horde, Kub, and the warriors of the covenant land with them will fall victims of the sword.

The Effects of the Day of YHWH on Egypt’s Allies

⁶Thus has YHWH declared:

Egypt’s allies will fall, and her own arrogant might will collapse. From Migdol to Syene they will fall victims of the sword within her—the declaration of the Lord. ⁷She will be the most devastated among devastated lands, and her cities will be the most desolate of cities. ⁸But they will know that I am YHWH, when I have set fire to Egypt, and all her allies are crushed. ⁹In that day envoys will go out from my presence in ships to terrorize self-reliant Cush. Anguish will seize them “in the day of Egypt.” Watch out! It is at hand!

The Agent of the Day of YHWH In Egypt

¹⁰Thus has the Lord YHWH declared:

I will bring an end to the pomp of Egypt by the hand of Nebuchadrezzar, the king of Babylon. ¹¹He, together with his forces, the most barbaric of nations, will be brought in to ruin the land. They will draw their swords against Egypt and fill the land with victims. ¹²I will dry up the channels of the Nile and sell the land into the hands of evil men. I will devastate the land and everything in it by the hand of foreigners. I am YHWH. I have spoken.

The Scope of the Judgment on the Day of YHWH

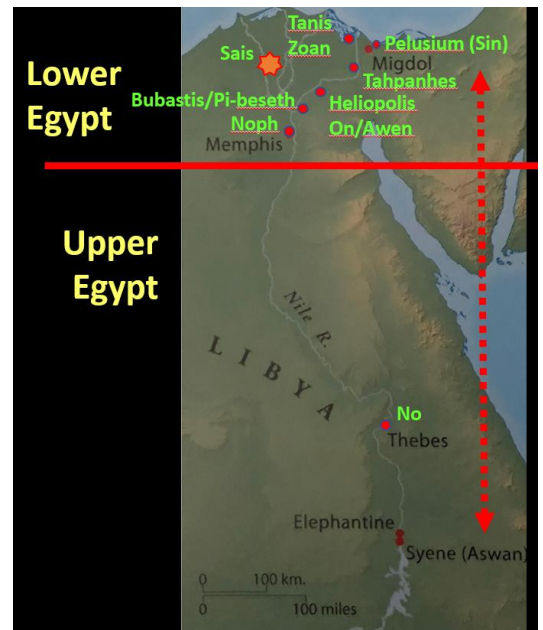
¹³Thus has the Lord YHWH declared:

I will destroy the idols (dung pellets);

I will put an end to the empty gods from Noph [Memphis].

Never again will a prince rise from the land of Egypt.

And I will instill fear in the land of Egypt.
¹⁴I will devastate Pathros [Upper Egypt]
 and set Zoan [Tanis] on fire;
 I will execute punishments on No [Thebes].
¹⁵I will pour out my fury on Sin [Pelusium],
 the stronghold of Egypt;
 I will cut off the pomp of No [Thebes].
¹⁶I will set fire to Egypt,
 And Sin [Pelusium] will writhe in anguish;
 No [Thebes] will be breached,
 And Noph [Memphis] will face enemies in broad daylight.
¹⁷The young men of On [Heliopolis]
 and Pi-Beseth [Bubastis] will fall by the sword,
 And her cities will go into captivity.
¹⁸And in Tehaphnehes [Daphnai] the day will be dark,
 When I smash there the yoke of Egypt.
 Then her arrogant might will be brought to an end in her.
 She (the city) herself will be covered with a cloud,
 And her daughters will go into captivity.
¹⁹I will execute punishments in Egypt,
 And they will know that I am YHWH.



Breaking the Arms of Pharaoh: The Kingpin of Egypt

²⁰In the eleventh year, in the first month, on the seventh day, the following message of YHWH came to me:
²¹Human, thus has the Lord YHWH declared: I have broken the arm of Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. Now look! It has not been bound so it might heal, nor firmly bandaged to bind it, to strengthen it so it might grasp a sword.
²²Therefore, thus has the Lord YHWH declared:
 I am against Pharaoh, the King of Egypt! I will break his arms, both the healthy one and the injured one, and the sword will fall from his hand. ²³I will scatter Egypt among the nations and disperse them among the countries. ²⁴I will strengthen the arms of the King of Babylon and place my sword in his hand. Then I will break the arms of Pharaoh, and he will groan before him like one slain. ²⁵I will strengthen the arms of the King of Babylon, but the arms of the Pharaoh will fall. And they will know that I am YHWH, when I place my sword in the hand of the King of Babylon, and he extends it against the land of Egypt. ²⁶I will scatter Egypt among the nations, and disperse them among the countries, and they will know that I am YHWH.

Exposition

Introduction

A. Ezekiel's Third Oracle against Egypt (30:1–19)

1. Preamble (1:1–2a)
2. The Announcement of Divine Judgment upon Egypt (vv. 2b–5)
 - a. The Day of YHWH is a day of woe: *Oy veh!*
 - b. The Day of YHWH is a moment for the nations.
3. The Effects of the Day of YHWH on Egypt's Allies (vv. 6–9)
 - a. They will all fall within the land of Egypt.
 - b. They will be destroyed with Egypt.
 - c. They will be terrorized by YHWH's envoys.
 - d. They will know who YHWH is.
4. YHWH's Agents of Judgment in Egypt (vv. 10–12)
5. The Scope of the Divine Judgment in Egypt (vv. 13–19)
 - a. The Judgment of the Gods of Egypt



Exodus 12:12

On that night I will pass through the land of Egypt and strike down every firstborn son and firstborn male animal in the land of Egypt. I will execute judgment against all the gods of Egypt, for I am the LORD! (NLT)

Numbers 33:3–4

³ [The Israelites] set out from the city of Rameses in early spring—on the fifteenth day of the first month—on the morning after the first Passover celebration. The people of Israel left defiantly, in full view of all the Egyptians. ⁴ Meanwhile, the Egyptians were burying all their firstborn sons, whom the LORD had killed the night before. The LORD had defeated the gods of Egypt that night with great acts of judgment! (NLT)

- b. The Judgment of all the Important Towns of Egypt

B. Breaking the Arms of Pharaoh (30:20–26)

1. The Preamble (v. 20)
2. YHWH's Past Actions against Pharaoh (v. 21)
3. YHWH's Future Actions against Pharaoh (vv. 22–26)

The Key Words: “arm” and “hand”

C. Lessons from Ezekiel 30

1. YHWH (not Amun, Re, or Ptah) is lord of history; the day of YHWH among the nations is his day.
2. This text sends a warning against all forms of idolatry and hubris.
3. Ezekiel calls on all to adopt a radically theological and theocentric view of life.
4. The outcome of earthly events is determined in heaven.