

“Against Egypt”

Isaiah 19:1-25 9/24/17

Today, we'd like to see the title of “Against Egypt” in the book of Isaiah 19:1-25.

To Online Word's people on the earth, we'd like to suggest 3 Questions.

Q1. In verses 5 to 10, what will Isaiah prophesy? And what do you think about God's word?

Q2. In verse 12, “Where *are* they? Where are your wise men? Let them tell you now, And let them know what the LORD of hosts has purposed against Egypt,” what does it mean? And how can we put this in practice in our own life?

Q3. In verse 18, “In that day five cities in the land of Egypt will speak the language of Canaan and swear by the LORD of hosts; one will be called the City of Destruction,” and verse 23, “In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria, and the Assyrian will come into Egypt and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians will serve with the Assyrians,” what does the “that day” indicate respectively? And what can we learn from here?

(Background)

Ancient Egypt had been continually attacked by Canaanites, Assyrians, Babylonians, and finally fell by Greece in 331 BC (by Alexander the Great) which conquered Judah.

Date	Events Date
2000 BC	Abraham
1446 BC	Exodus
1050 BC	Monarch Begins (king Saul)
931 BC	Kingdom Divided between Judah & Israel
722 BC	Assyria conquered Israel (Assyria conquered by Babylon in 612 BC)
586 BC	Babylon conquered Judah
536 BC	Persia conquered Babylon
331 BC	Greece conquered Judah (with Persia & Egypt by Alexander the Great)
168 BC	Abomination of Desolation (Antiochus IV Epiphanes – Maccabees, the group of Jewish warriors, who were 5 sons of Mattathias the priest, for Hanukkah the rededication of temple on Christmas season)
63 BC	Rome conquered Judah
4 BC	Birth of Jesus
70 AD	Fall of Jerusalem (Titus)

Isaiah's prophecy was made **during 745-695 BC** when 4 kings of Judah reigned in light of Isaiah 1:1 “The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah [Azariah] (the 9th 767-740), Jotham (the 10th 740-736), Ahaz (the 11th 736-716), and Hezekiah (the 12th 716-687), kings of Judah.”

Today, Isaiah the prophet prophesied against Egypt in about 700 BC. Egypt had the internal

strife among tribes. In 671 BC, Esarhaddon the Assyrian king attacked and conquered many pieces of land.

(Text)

<p>¹ The <u>burden</u> against Egypt.</p> <p>Behold, the LORD rides on a swift cloud, And will come into Egypt; <u>The idols of Egypt will totter</u> at His presence, And <u>the heart of Egypt will melt in its midst.</u></p> <p>² “I will set <u>Egyptians against Egyptians</u>; Everyone will fight against his brother, And <u>everyone against his neighbor</u>, City against city, kingdom against kingdom.</p> <p>³ <u>The spirit of Egypt will fail in its midst</u>; <u>I will destroy their counsel</u>, And they will consult the <u>idols</u> and the <u>charmers</u>, The <u>mediums</u> and the <u>sorcerers</u>.</p> <p>⁴ And the Egyptians I will give Into the hand of <u>a cruel master</u>, And <u>a fierce king</u> will rule over them,” Says the Lord, the LORD of hosts.</p> <p>⁵ <u>The waters will fail from the sea</u>, And <u>the river will be wasted and dried up.</u></p> <p>⁶ <u>The rivers will turn foul</u>; <u>The brooks of defense will be emptied and dried</u> <u>up</u>; <u>The reeds and rushes will wither.</u></p> <p>⁷ <u>The papyrus reeds by the River, by the mouth of</u> <u>the River</u>, And <u>everything sown by the River</u>, <u>Will wither, be driven away, and be no more.</u></p>	<p>1= burden (spiritual burden or oracle) ; the idols of Egypt will totter (move in an unstable or uncontrollable way ; tremble); the heart of Egypt will melt in its midst (because Egypt relied upon the idols, as God allows the followings)</p> <p>2= Egyptians against Egyptians (internal strife among tribes)</p> <p>3=The spirit of Egypt (evil spirits listed here); I will destroy their counsel (confuse their counsel, i.e., their counsel to encourage Egypt to fight against Assyria is useless at the time of Assyrian attack); idols; charmers; mediums; sorcerers (their counsel not from God but from those evil spirits)</p> <p>4= a cruel master... a fierce king (likely Esarhaddon the Assyrian king's serious attacks in 671 BC, taking most pieces of land)</p> <p>(5-10=Q1)</p> <p>5= The waters will fail from the sea (The Nile river will fail as fresh water because the salt water on the Mediterranean sea intrudes);</p> <p>6= The rivers will turn foul (a lot of streams of the Nile River will be dirty or stink); The brooks of defense (dams of small streams) will be emptied and dried up (will disappear); The reeds and rushes [flag] will wither (rushes or flag is often called as linen. The plants will be dried out or will not survive)</p> <p>7= The papyrus reeds (the Egyptian paper from reeds); the mouth of the River (the upper streams of the Nile River); everything sown by the River (every plants sown from the upper and middle streams of the River) be driven away (be washed away), and no more (no existent more).</p>
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¹ The kings of Assyria were Tiglath-Pileser, Shalmanesser, Sargon, Sennacherib, and Esarhaddon in order

<p>⁸ <u>The fishermen also will mourn;</u> All those will lament who <u>cast hooks into the River,</u> And <u>they will languish</u> who spread nets on the waters.</p> <p>⁹ Moreover those who <u>work in fine flax</u> And <u>those who weave fine fabric</u> will be <u>ashamed;</u></p> <p>¹⁰ And <u>its foundations will be broken.</u> All who make <u>wages will be troubled of soul.</u></p> <p>¹¹ Surely the <u>princes of Zoan are fools;</u> <u>Pharaoh's wise counselors give foolish counsel.</u> How do you say to Pharaoh, "<u>I am the son of the wise.</u> <u>The son of ancient kings?"</u></p> <p>¹² Where <u>are they?</u> Where are your wise men? <u>Let them tell you now,</u> And <u>let them know what the LORD of hosts has purposed against Egypt.</u></p> <p>¹³ The princes of Zoan have become <u>fools;</u> The princes of Noph are <u>deceived;</u> They have also <u>deluded Egypt,</u> <u>Those who are the mainstay of its tribes.</u></p>	<p>8= The fishermen also will mourn (The fishermen who live around the fertile soil delta in the downstream of the Nile River will mourn or weep); cast hooks into the River (throw away the fishing tool of hooks into the Nile River); they will languish (the fishermen will be weakened; Why?²)</p> <p>9= work in fine flax (fine linen); those who weave fine fabric (texture)... ashamed (because of no more fine flax surviving on the natural dams of upper or middle streams of the Nile River)</p> <p>10= its foundations (fine flax fabric's works foundation) will be broken (because fine flax can't survive); wages... trouble of soul (no job, no wages)</p> <p>11= princes of Zoan (in the eastern Nile delta)... fools; Pharaoh's wise counselors ... foolish (their counsels to fight against Assyria the invader -- without asking God -- are foolish; only the fear of God is beginning of wisdom ³Prov 9:10); I am the son of the wise, The son of ancient kings?"(a rhetorical question. No, you are not wise!)</p> <p>12=Q2 let them tell you now, and let them know what the Lord of hosts has purposed against Egypt (let wise men -- only people who receive God's word -- tell you -- Egyptians -- now, and let them -- Egyptians -- know what the Lord of host has purposed against Egypt; Divine prophecies are ones of strong apologetics because upon the fulfillment of the prophecies proves the prophecies were the word inspired by God in accuracy, Pontius Pilate in dispute proved by a named stone in the water at Caesarea; Sargon the Assyrian king in dispute discovered by a discovered record of Sargon the father of Sennacherib)</p> <p>13- the mainstay of its tribes (the main tribes or leading tribes of Egypt)</p>
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² ECOSYSTEM FAILURE: The Nile River is the longest river at 4,180 miles or 6,695 Km from Ethiopia, Sudan, and Egypt. There were a lot of reeds and linens on the natural dams of upper streams or mid-streams of the Nile River. And so the surrounding people were able to live on papyrus or fine linen fabric works from the reeds and linens. But every year flood occurred in the Nile River, pushing mud and silt of upper streams into the downstream of the Nile River which created a lot of fertile delta which attracted a lot of fish. And so the surrounding people were able to live as fishermen.

However, for the purpose to prevent annual flood, to supply electricity, and to irrigate a lot of farm land, the Aswan dam had been built in 1970 since 1947. The purpose is sufficed. But all natural dams of upper and middle streams were drowned into the deep reservoir of the Aswan dam. Reeds and linens are drowned too. Snails which eat small insects of such plants are not able to survive because the insects which live in shallow streams are not able to live in the new big deep reservoir. The people living on reeds and linens works lament. In the downstream of the Nile River the natural silt dams of a lot of fertile delta are eroded by the salt water of the Mediterranean Sea. And so, a lot of fish who survive around the fertile delta between fresh water and salt sea are gone away. The fishermen living on fishing works in fertile delta mourn.

³ Prov 9:10 "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

<p>14 The LORD <u>has mingled a perverse spirit</u> in her midst; And they have caused Egypt to err in all her work, As a drunken man <u>staggers in his vomit</u>.</p> <p>15 <u>Neither</u> will there be <u>any work</u> for Egypt, Which <u>the head or tail</u>, Palm branch or <u>bulrush</u>, may do.</p> <p>16 <u>In that day Egypt will be like women</u>, and will be <u>afraid and fear</u> because of <u>the waving of the hand of the LORD of hosts</u>, which He waves over it.</p> <p>17 And <u>the land of Judah will be a terror to Egypt</u>; everyone who makes mention of it will be afraid in himself, because of the counsel of the LORD of hosts which <u>He has determined against it</u>.</p> <p>18 <u>In that day</u> five cities in the land of Egypt will speak <u>the language of Canaan</u> and swear by the LORD of hosts; one will be called <u>the City of Destruction</u>.</p> <p>19 <u>In that day</u> there will be <u>an altar to the LORD</u> in the midst of the land of Egypt, and <u>a pillar to the LORD</u> at its border.</p> <p>20 And it will be for <u>a sign and for a witness to the LORD</u> of hosts in the land of Egypt; for they will cry to the LORD <u>because of the oppressors</u>, and <u>He will send them a Savior and a Mighty One</u>, and He will deliver them.</p>	<p>14= has mingled a perverse sight (the Lord allowed such perverse spirit because the Lord would not violate human free will.)</p> <p>15= Neither... any work... the head or tail (the leaders or servants have no jobs) bulrush (a tall rush/flag, i.e. tall linen)</p> <p>(16-25: a future day)</p> <p>16= in that day (often referring to a future day; in the great tribulation period)... like women... afraid and fear... because the waving of the hand of the LORD of hosts (the Lord allows the great tribulation period of 7 years)</p> <p>17= the land of Judah will be a terror to Egypt (Antichrist will move against Egypt and Ethiopia. Then, China and Russia have gathered to invade Western Europe. Antichrist and his troops will meet them in the valley of Megiddo, the battle of Armageddon⁴ Rev 16:16.); He has determined against it (God has determined against Egypt)</p> <p>18= Q3 In that day (in the great tribulation period, the "that day" in verses 16 & 19 also)</p> <p>19= in that day (in the great tribulation period); an altar to the Lord; a pillar to the Lord (a sign & a witness to the Lord, verse 20; i.e. close to Jesus 2nd coming on the earth to establish Millennium Kingdom)</p> <p>20= it (an altar or a pillar... a sign and for a witness to the Lord;..... because of the oppressors (Antichrist & his followers oppress people who do not worship him); He will send them (criers, seekers of God) a Savior and a Mighty One (Jesus Christ is 2nd coming to establish the Millennium Kingdom on the earth⁵ John 1:12)</p>
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⁴ Rev 16:16 And they gathered them together to the place called in Hebrew, Armageddon

⁵ John 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

<p>²¹ Then the LORD will be known to Egypt, and the Egyptians will know the LORD <u>in that day</u>, and will make sacrifice and offering; yes, they will make a vow to the LORD and perform <i>it</i>.</p> <p>²² And the LORD will strike Egypt, <u>He will strike and heal <i>it</i></u>; they will return to the LORD, and He will be entreated by them and heal them.</p> <p>²³ <u>In that day</u> there will be a highway from <u>Egypt to Assyria</u>, and the Assyrian will come into Egypt and the Egyptian into Assyria, and the Egyptians will serve with the Assyrians.</p> <p>²⁴ <u>In that day Israel</u> will be one of three <u>with Egypt and Assyria</u>—a blessing in the midst of the land,</p> <p>²⁵ whom <u>the LORD</u> of hosts shall <u>ble^ss</u>, saying, “<u>Blessed is Egypt My people</u>, and <u>Assyria the work of My hands</u>, and <u>Israel My inheritance</u>.”</p>	<p>21= in that day (in the day of Millennium kingdom)</p> <p>22= He will strike and heal it (God strikes/chastens to heal/correct you, not destroy ; when we face affliction, suffering or troubles, God wants us to ask Him for our correction ⁶James 5:13)</p> <p>23=Q3 In that day (in Millennium kingdom day)... Egypt to Assyria (former enemies but now brothers & sisters in Christ ⁷Eph 2:14; ⁸Phil 2:10-11)</p> <p>24= In that day.. Israel...with Egypt and Assyria (Previously, Egypt which treated Israelites as slaves for 400 years in Egypt ⁸Exodus 1:11; ⁹Gen 15:13; Assyria the conqueror of Israel the Northern kingdom ; now these Arabs have still hostility against Jews; but in the future all 3 peoples as brothers and sisters in Christ)</p> <p>25= the Lord...ble^ss... Egypt My People; Assyria the work of My hands; Israel My inheritance (All 3 peoples as the children of God in the future)</p>
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⁶ James 5:13 Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms.

⁷ Eph 2:14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation; ⁸Phil 2:10-11 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹ and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

⁸ Exodus 1:11 Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh supply cities, Pithom and Raamses.; ⁹Gen 15:13 Then He said to Abram: “Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land *that is* not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years.