

# Ezekiel 23:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yet she multiplied her whoredoms, in calling to remembrance the days of her youth, wherein she had played the harlot in the land of Egypt.

## Analysis

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Yet she multiplied her whoredoms shows divine alienation didn't stop Jerusalem's pursuit of idols—it accelerated it. In calling to remembrance the days of her youth, wherein she had played the harlot in the land of Egypt means Jerusalem romanticized origins, returning to Egypt for alliance. When God's presence withdraws, humans don't naturally turn back but plunge deeper into sin. Jeremiah's contemporaries fled to Egypt despite prophetic warning (Jeremiah 42-43). Egypt represented the past, the familiar, the originally corrupting influence. In crisis, we regress to formative patterns, even destructive ones. Apart from grace, abandonment by God produces not repentance but accelerated rebellion—the darkening spiral of Romans 1.

## Historical Context

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During final years before Jerusalem's fall, Judah's kings (especially Jehoiakim and Zedekiah) vacillated between Babylonian and Egyptian alliances, repeatedly turning to Egypt for military support (Jeremiah 37:5-7; Ezekiel 17:15). This political instability reflected spiritual chaos and refusal to submit to Babylonian dominance as God commanded through Jeremiah.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. Why do we return to past sins when present circumstances deteriorate?
2. How does divine withdrawal lead to deeper rebellion rather than repentance?
3. What formative influences continue to exert pull during spiritual crisis?

## Interlinear Text

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וַתִּרְבֵּה ה	אֶת	תַּזְנוֹתֶיהָ	לְזָכָר	אֶת	יָמֵי
Yet she multiplied	H853	her whoredoms	in calling to remembrance	H853	the days
H7235		H8457	H2142		H3117
נְעוּרֶיהָ	אֲשֶׁר	זָנָתָהּ	בְּאֶרֶץ	מִצְרַיִם:	
of her youth	H834	wherein she had played the harlot	in the land	of Egypt	
H5271		H2181	H776	H4714	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 23:3** (References Egypt): And they committed whoredoms in Egypt; they committed whoredoms in their youth: there were their breasts pressed, and there they bruised the teats of their virginity.