

Ezekiel 29:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

It shall be the basest of the kingdoms repeats and intensifies verse 14. Neither shall it exalt itself any more above the nations promises permanent humility. Egypt's imperial ambitions are permanently ended. For I will diminish them, that they shall no more rule over the nations explains how—God will reduce Egypt's power so dominance is impossible. Divine reduction prevents future exaltation. When God humbles, He humbles permanently. No human effort can restore what God has permanently diminished. This is sobering: some consequences of sin last forever. Restoration doesn't always mean return to former status.

Historical Context

Egypt's reduction from superpower to minor kingdom was permanent. Though Egyptian civilization continued, the empire ended. At its peak, Egypt ruled from Libya to Syria; after judgment, Egypt itself was ruled by foreigners for 25+ centuries. The permanent nature of this reduction demonstrates that some divine judgments have lasting historical effects that persist across millennia.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What consequences of sin persist even after restoration?
2. How does permanent reduction differ from temporary discipline?
3. What does Egypt's example teach about sin's irreversible historical effects?

Interlinear Text

מִן	הַמְּמַלְכוֹת	תְּהִי הַ	שָׁפֵל הַ	וְלֹא	תִתְנַשֵּׁא
H4480	of the kingdoms	H1961	It shall be the basest	H3808	neither shall it exalt
	H4467		H8217		H5375
עַל	עַ	וְד	בְּגוֹיִם:	וְהָ מְעַטָּה יִם	לְבַלְתָּ י
H5750	H5921		itself any more above the nations	for I will diminish	H1115
			H1471	H4591	
	רָד וְ		בְּגוֹיִם:		
	them that they shall no more rule		itself any more above the nations		
	H7287		H1471		

Additional Cross-References

Zechariah 10:11 (Parallel theme): And he shall pass through the sea with affliction, and shall smite the waves in the sea, and all the deeps of the river shall dry up: and the pride of Assyria shall be brought down, and the sceptre of Egypt shall depart away.

Ezekiel 30:13 (Parallel theme): Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also destroy the idols, and I will cause their images to cease out of Noph; and there shall be no more a prince of the land of Egypt: and I will put a fear in the land of Egypt.

Ezekiel 17:14 (Kingdom): That the kingdom might be base, that it might not lift itself up, but that by keeping of his covenant it might stand.

Ezekiel 32:2 (Kingdom): Son of man, take up a lamentation for Pharaoh king of Egypt, and say unto him, Thou art like a young lion of the nations, and thou art as

a whale in the seas: and thou camest forth with thy rivers, and troubledst the waters with thy feet, and fouledst their rivers.

Ezekiel 17:6 (Parallel theme): And it grew, and became a spreading vine of low stature, whose branches turned toward him, and the roots thereof were under him: so it became a vine, and brought forth branches, and shot forth sprigs.

Ezekiel 31:2 (Kingdom): Son of man, speak unto Pharaoh king of Egypt, and to his multitude; Whom art thou like in thy greatness?

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