

Ezekiel 29:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass in the seven and twentieth year, in the first month, in the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

Analysis

But they shall know that I am the Lord GOD concludes with the recognition formula. Through Egypt's humbling, Israel learns that Yahweh alone deserves trust. The entire Egyptian judgment serves pedagogical purposes for Israel—teaching through example not to trust human power. God's judgments on other nations often serve to instruct His people. We should learn from others' judgments rather than repeat their errors. Observing divine justice should produce wisdom—if God judges them for that, He'll judge us for it too. Egypt's permanent humbling teaches: trust God alone.

Historical Context

Post-exilic Judaism did indeed stop trusting Egypt militarily. The lesson was learned. Later Jewish resistance to Greek and Roman oppression demonstrated reliance on God rather than foreign alliances. The Maccabees and later zealots resisted compromise with pagan powers. Egypt's reduction accomplished its purpose—teaching Israel to trust Yahweh alone.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. What lessons should we learn from God's judgment of others?
2. How does observing divine justice produce wisdom for our own lives?
3. What false confidences must we abandon to trust God alone?

Interlinear Text

וְיָהּ י' H1961	בְּעֶשְׂרִים יָמִים H6242	וְשֶׁבַע H7651	בְּרִאשׁוֹן שָׁנָה H8141	וְיָהּ י' H413
and twentieth	And it came to pass in the seven	year	in the first	
month in the first	day of the month	the word	of the LORD	
H259	H2320	H1697	H3068	
לֵאמֹר: came unto me saying H559				

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 29:1 (Word): In the tenth year, in the tenth month, in the twelfth day of the month, the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,