

# Ezekiel 29:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will give the land of Egypt unto Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon; and he shall take her multitude, and take her spoil, and take her prey; and it shall be the wages for his army.

## Analysis

**Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will give the land of Egypt unto Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon**—As compensation for Tyre, God promises Egypt to Nebuchadnezzar. (הִנֵּנִי נְתַנֵּן לְתִבְזְכָאֵר) 'behold, I am giving to Nebuchadnezzar') shows God's sovereign distribution of nations.

**And he shall take her multitude, and take her spoil, and take her prey**—Three verbs emphasize total plunder: (נָשָׁא הַמֹּ�ה) 'carry away her wealth'), (שָׁלַל שְׁלָלָה) 'plunder her plunder'), and (בָּזָז בִּזְזָה) 'seize her spoil'). **And it shall be the wages for his army**—(שָׁכָר לְחַלְלוֹ) 'wages for his army'). God compensates Babylon's service against Tyre with Egyptian plunder. This demonstrates God's absolute sovereignty: He directs pagan kings, compensates their labor, and accomplishes His purposes through unwitting agents (Isaiah 10:5-7, 45:1-7).

## Historical Context

Nebuchadnezzar invaded Egypt in 568/567 BC (confirmed by Babylonian chronicles), about five years after this prophecy. While he didn't conquer all Egypt permanently, he did campaign successfully, plunder cities, and install a vassal king

—exactly as prophesied. Egyptian power never fully recovered, fulfilling Ezekiel's prediction that Egypt would become 'the basest of kingdoms' (29:14-15).

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's compensation of pagan Babylon demonstrate His sovereignty over all nations?
2. What does this teach about God's justice in rewarding even unwitting service?
3. How should we understand God using 'wages' language with pagan kings?

## Interlinear Text

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נִתְ | הָנָנִי | יְהוָה | אָדָנִי | לְכָ | כִּי | אָמַר |  
H2005 H3069 H136 H559 H3541 H3651 Behold I will give  
Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD

מִצְרַיִם | אֶרֶץ | בְּבֵבֶל | מֶלֶךְ | לְנָבֻכָּדְרָאצָר |  
H4714 H776 H853 H894 H4428 H5019 of Egypt the land king of Babylon unto Nebuchadrezzar

וְנִשְׁאַלְתָּה | וְנִשְׁלַלְתָּה | וְנִשְׁלַלְתָּה | וְנִשְׁלַלְתָּה | וְנִשְׁלַלְתָּה | וְנִשְׁלַלְתָּה |  
H957 H962 H7998 H7997 H1995 H5375 her prey and take her spoil and take her land and take her multitude and he shall take

לְחַיְלָוּ: | שָׁכָר |  
H2428 H7939 and it shall be the wages for his army

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 32:11** (Kingdom): For thus saith the Lord GOD; The sword of the king of Babylon shall come upon thee.

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