

# 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. הִנְנֵנִי נֹתֵן לְנְבוּכַדְרֶאצַּר (hinnēnî nōthēn linēbûkadre'sar, '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: נָסָא הָמוֹנָהּ (nāsā' hāmônāh, 'carry away her wealth'), שָׁלַל שְׁלָלָהּ (shālal shēlālāh, 'plunder her plunder'), and בָּזַז בִּזְיָהּ (bāzaz bizzāh, 'seize her spoil'). **And it shall be the wages for his army**—שָׂכָר לְחֵיָלוֹ (śākār lēhêlô, '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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כֹּה לֵכִי	אָמַר	אֲדֹנָי יְהוֹה	הִנְנִי	נֹתִי		
H3651	H3541	H559	H136	H2005		
Therefore thus saith	the Lord	GOD		Behold I will give		
			H3069	H5414		
לְנִבְכַּדְרֶזָּר	מֶלֶךְ	בָּבֶל	אֶת	אֶרֶץ	מִצְרַיִם	
H5019	H4428	H894	H853	H776	H4714	
unto Nebuchadrezzar	king	of Babylon	the land	of Egypt		
וְנָשָׂא	הַמִּטָּה	וְשָׁלַל	שְׁלָלָהּ	וַיִּזַּק	בְּתֵּהּ	וְהִיטָה
H5375	H1995	H7997	H7998	H962	H957	H1961
and he shall take	her multitude	and take	her spoil	and take	her prey	
שָׂכָר	לְחֵילוֹ					
H7939	H2428					
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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