

Ezekiel 29:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But I will put hooks in thy jaws, and I will cause the fish of thy rivers to stick unto thy scales, and I will bring thee up out of the midst of thy rivers, and all the fish of thy rivers shall stick unto thy scales.

Analysis

God will put 'hooks in thy jaws' and bring Pharaoh up from his river with fish clinging to his scales. This vivid imagery depicts Egypt's capture and deportation along with her allies. The fish represent nations dependent on Egypt who would share her fate. God's sovereignty extends to controlling and judging the mightiest earthly powers.

Historical Context

Nebuchadnezzar conquered Egypt circa 568-567 BC, fulfilling this prophecy. Egypt never regained her former glory, becoming a 'base kingdom' (verse 14) under Persian, Greek, and Roman rule. The prophecy's fulfillment validated Ezekiel's ministry.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does God's control over history's most powerful empires assure you of His sovereignty today?
2. What does it mean that nations and leaders are accountable to God regardless of their acknowledgment of Him?

Interlinear Text

וְנִתְתַּתִּי	בְּלֹפֶן יְגַדְּלָה	תַּדְבֵּךְ:	לֹגֶת	
But I will put	hooks	in thy jaws	shall stick	and I will cause the fish
H5414	H2397	H3895	H1692	H1710
of thy rivers	unto thy scales	and I will bring thee up	out of the midst	of thy rivers
H2975	H7193	H5927	H8432	H2975
וְאֶת יְגַדְּלָה	מֵת וְלֹא	וְמַעֲלִית יְגַדְּלָה	וְאֶת יְגַדְּלָה	
and I will cause the fish	of thy rivers	unto thy scales	out of the midst	of thy rivers
H3605	H853	H1710	H2975	H2975
תַּדְבֵּךְ:	בְּקַשְׁקַשְׁתִּי יְגַדְּלָה	וְאֶת יְגַדְּלָה	בְּקַשְׁקַשְׁתִּי יְגַדְּלָה	
		וְאֶת יְגַדְּלָה	unto thy scales	shall stick
		H7193	H1692	

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 38:4 (Parallel theme): And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords:

2 Kings 19:28 (Parallel theme): Because thy rage against me and thy tumult is come up into mine ears, therefore I will put my hook in thy nose, and my bridle in thy lips, and I will turn thee back by the way by which thou camest.