

# Ezekiel 29:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When they took hold of thee by thy hand, thou didst break,  
and rend all their shoulder: and when they leaned upon thee,  
thou brakest, and madest all their loins to be at a stand.

## Analysis

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This verse elaborates the reed-staff metaphor: when Israel leaned on Egypt, it broke and tore their shoulder, making them unstable ('made all their loins to be at a stand'—paralyzed their strength). False dependencies don't just fail—they actively harm. Every reliance on creature-help rather than God compounds problems. Only God provides reliable support.

## Historical Context

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When Pharaoh Hophra withdrew support in 588 BC, Jerusalem faced Babylon alone. Far from helping, Egypt's involvement intensified Babylon's anger and Jerusalem's suffering. Trust in Egypt brought worse consequences than facing Babylon with faith in God.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How have false dependencies not merely failed but actually made your situation worse?
2. What does it mean to make God your sole sufficiency rather than seeking backup securities?

## Interlinear Text

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| <b>בְּתִפְשׁוֹ ׀</b><br>When they took hold<br>H8610 | <b>בְּךָ ׀</b><br>H0                           | <b>בְּכַפּ ׀</b><br>of thee by thy hand<br>H3709 | <b>תֵּר וַיִּץ</b><br>thou didst break<br>H7533             | <b>וַבְּקִעְתָּ</b><br>and rend<br>H1234                 |
| <b>כָּל ׀</b><br>H0                                  | <b>לָהֶם ׀</b><br>H3605                        | <b>כֵּת ׀</b><br>all their shoulder<br>H3802     | <b>וַבְּהִשָּׁעֲנּוּ ׀</b><br>and when they leaned<br>H8172 | <b>עַל יָד׃</b><br>H5921                                 |
| <b>תִּשָּׁבֶר</b><br>upon thee thou brakest<br>H7665 | <b>וְהָעֵמֻד׃</b><br>to be at a stand<br>H5976 | <b>כָּל ׀</b><br>H0                              | <b>לָהֶם ׀</b><br>H3605                                     | <b>מִתְנַיִם׃</b><br>and madest all their loins<br>H4975 |

## Additional Cross-References

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**Isaiah 36:6** (Parallel theme): Lo, thou trustest in the staff of this broken reed, on Egypt; whereon if a man lean, it will go into his hand, and pierce it: so is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all that trust in him.