

Ezekiel 29:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the land of Egypt shall be desolate and waste; and they shall know that I am the LORD: because he hath said, The river is mine, and I have made it.

Analysis

Egypt's desolation stems from Pharaoh's prideful claim 'the river is mine, and I have made it.' Attributing God's provision to human achievement is the essence of idolatry—making self the ultimate source and authority. Such pride necessitates divine correction through humbling circumstances. God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble (James 4:6).

Historical Context

Egyptian theology deified Pharaoh and attributed national prosperity to Egyptian gods and human wisdom. This worldview denied Yahweh's sovereignty over creation and history. Egypt's fall would expose their theological error.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. In what areas of success or blessing might you be functionally denying God credit?

2. How does cultivating gratitude and acknowledging God's provision combat pride?

Interlinear Text

וְהִיָּתָה הַ	אֶרֶץ	מִצְרַיִם	לְשָׂמָהּ הַ	וְסָרְבָה הַ	
H1961	And the land	of Egypt	shall be desolate	and waste	
	H776	H4714	H8077	H2723	
וְיָדְעוּ	כִּי	אֲנִי יְהוָה	אֲנִי	אָמַר	
and they shall know	H3588	H589	that I am the LORD	H3282	because he hath said
H3045			H3068	H559	
וְהָרִירָה	לִי	וְאֲנִי יְהוָה	עָשִׂיתִי:		
The river	H0	H589	is mine and I have made		
H2975			H6213		

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 29:3 (Creation): Speak, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great dragon that lieth in the midst of his rivers, which hath said, My river is mine own, and I have made it for myself.

Proverbs 16:18 (Parallel theme): Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

Proverbs 18:12 (Parallel theme): Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour is humility.