

Ezekiel 30:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and will disperse them through the countries.

Analysis

And I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and will disperse them among the countries—הִפְצִיטִי (hăphîšôṭî, 'I will scatter') and זָרִיתִי (zērîṭî, 'I will disperse/winnow') describe exile and deportation. Egypt would experience what she once inflicted on others—population displacement.

This threat echoes Israel's covenant curses (Deuteronomy 28:64), but applied to Egypt. Where Israel's scattering was discipline with promise of regathering (Ezekiel 36-37), Egypt's was judgment without restoration promise. Babylon deported populations as policy; Egypt would taste this bitter cup.

Historical Context

Babylon practiced mass deportation (Israel experienced it in 586 BC). When Nebuchadnezzar conquered Egypt (568/567 BC), many Egyptians were exiled. Later, under Persian, Greek, and Roman rule, Jewish and Egyptian populations were scattered throughout empires. Egypt's ancient population was diluted, displaced, and eventually Arabized, fulfilling the 'scattering' prophecy.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Egypt experiencing scattering (like Israel) demonstrate impartial divine justice?
2. What is significant about scattering being permanent for Egypt but temporary for Israel?
3. How do covenant curses applied to pagan nations reveal God's universal moral standards?

Interlinear Text

וְהִפָּצוֹתִי י	אֶת	מִצְרַיִם	בְּגוֹיֵם	וְזָרִיתִי מ
And I will scatter	H853	the Egyptians	among the nations	and will disperse
H6327		H4714	H1471	H2219

בְּאַרְצוֹת:
them through the countries
H776

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 30:26 (References Egypt): And I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and disperse them among the countries; and they shall know that I am the LORD.