

Ezekiel 32:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yea, thou shalt be broken in the midst of the uncircumcised, and shalt lie with them that are slain with the sword.

Analysis

Yea, thou shalt be broken in the midst of the uncircumcised, and shalt lie with them that are slain with the sword—Egypt's fate restated: תִּשְׁבָּר (tishshābēr, 'you shall be broken/shattered') בְּתוֹךְ עֲרֵלִים (bēthôkh 'ārēlīm, 'in the midst of uncircumcised'). For circumcised Egyptians, this is ultimate degradation—mingling with barbarous peoples they despised.

The verb שָׁבַר (shābar, 'to break/shatter') has appeared throughout these oracles (30:21-22, 24—Pharaoh's broken arms). Now it culminates: Egypt herself is 'broken,' shattered beyond repair, consigned to Sheol among peoples she considered beneath her. The irony is profound: Egypt, who prided herself on civilization and religious sophistication, joins crude barbarians in death. All human distinctions vanish in judgment; only relationship with God matters (Galatians 3:28, Colossians 3:11).

Historical Context

Egyptian circumcision (practiced from ancient times) created cultural superiority complex—Herodotus noted Egyptians viewed uncircumcised peoples as unclean. To be told they'd lie forever among uncircumcised would horrify Egyptians. Yet this is exactly what happened: Egypt lost distinct identity, absorbed into multicultural empires, her ancient religion and culture extinct. The 'breaking' proved permanent.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What does lying among 'uncircumcised' teach about the emptiness of cultural pride?
2. How does God's disregard for human distinctions in judgment reveal His impartiality?
3. What cultural or religious superiority complexes might God similarly judge?

Interlinear Text

וְאֵת הַ	בֵּית וֶן	עֵרְלִים	תִּשָּׁבֵר	וְתִשָּׁבֵב
H859	in the midst	of the uncircumcised	Yea thou shalt be broken	and shalt lie
	H8432	H6189	H7665	H7901
אֶת	חַלְלֵי	חֶרֶב:		
H854	with them that are slain	with the sword		
	H2491	H2719		

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org