

# Isaiah 27:12

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall beat off from the channel of the river unto the stream of Egypt, and ye shall be gathered one by one, O ye children of Israel.

## Analysis

**And it shall come to pass in that day, that the LORD shall beat off from the channel of the river unto the stream of Egypt, and ye shall be gathered one by one, O ye children of Israel.** After judgment on enemies (vv.10-11), focus returns to Israel's restoration. **In that day** points eschatologically to God's final gathering. **The LORD shall beat off** (yachbot Yahweh, יַחַבֹּט יְהוָה) uses agricultural imagery of beating olive trees to harvest fruit (Deuteronomy 24:20) or threshing grain. Here God beats/shakes the land to dislodge His scattered people.

**From the channel of the river** (mishib'olet hannahar, מִשְׁבֹּלֵת הַנָּהָר, from the flowing of the Euphrates) indicates Mesopotamia/Babylon. **Unto the stream of Egypt** (ad-nachal Mitsrayim, עַד-נַחַל מִצְרַיִם, to the brook/wadi of Egypt) defines southern boundary. These represent the full extent of the Promised Land (Genesis 15:18) and directions of exile. God will reclaim His people from all dispersion points.

**Ye shall be gathered one by one** (tulqatu le'achad echad, תִּלְקְטוּ לְאֶחָד אֶחָד, literally "gleaned one one") emphasizes individual, careful collection—like gleaning grain or gathering scattered sheep. No one is overlooked; each person matters. Jesus echoed this in the parable of the lost sheep (Luke 15:4-7) and promised to lose none the Father gave Him (John 6:39). The Hebrew term for gathering (laqat, לָקַט) is used of Ruth gleaning (Ruth 2:2-3), suggesting God's tender care in restoration.

## Historical Context

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Historically, Jews scattered from Babylon to Egypt to Persia were partially regathered after 538 BC, but full restoration awaited Messianic age. Jesus began gathering scattered Israel (Matthew 23:37), and the church continues gathering Jews and Gentiles into one body (Ephesians 2:11-22). Premillennial interpreters see future literal regathering of Israel to the land; amillennial interpreters see spiritual gathering of all God's people (Jew and Gentile) into the church. Either way, the promise is comprehensive restoration—no lost sheep left behind.

## Related Passages

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**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. What does God's beating/shaking the land to gather His people teach about His determined effort to restore them?
2. How does 'one by one' gathering emphasize God's individual care and personal knowledge of each of His people?
3. In what ways does this verse comfort believers who feel scattered, isolated, or far from God's purposes?

## Interlinear Text

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וְהָיָה H1961	בֵּי יוֹם H3117	וְהָיָה וְאֵל H1931	יַחַב ט H2251	יְהוָה הַ H3068
And it shall come to pass in that day		shall beat off	that the LORD	
מִשְׁבַּח לַת H7641	הַנָּהָר H5104	עַד H5704	נַחַל H5158	מִצְרַיִם H859
from the channel	of the river	unto the stream	of Egypt	
וְתִלְקָט וְ H3950	אֶחָד H259	אֶחָד H259	בְּנֵי י H1121	יִשְׂרָאֵל: H3478
and ye shall be gathered	by one	by one	O ye children	of Israel

## Additional Cross-References

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**Genesis 15:18** (References Lord): In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

**Isaiah 56:8** (References Lord): The Lord GOD which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith, Yet will I gather others to him, beside those that are gathered unto him.

**Nehemiah 1:9** (Parallel theme): But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there.