

Jeremiah 44:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will give Pharaoh-hophra king of Egypt into the hand of his enemies, and into the hand of them that seek his life; as I gave Zedekiah king of Judah into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, his enemy, and that sought his life.

Analysis

Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I will give Pharaoh-hophra king of Egypt into the hand of his enemies (הִנְנִי נֹתֵן אֶת־פַּרְעֹה הַחֹפְרָע מֶלֶךְ־מִצְרַיִם בְּיַד אֹיְבָיו)—specific, falsifiable prophecy. Hophra (Pharaoh Apries, 589-570 BC) encouraged Judah's rebellion against Babylon and briefly lifted Jerusalem's siege (37:5-11), making him the remnant's hoped-for protector. God declares: the man you're trusting for security will himself fall to enemies.

And into the hand of them that seek his life (וּבְיַד מְבַקְשֵׁי נַפְשׁוֹ)—adding emphasis: not just military defeat but mortal threat. **As I gave Zedekiah king of Judah into the hand of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, his enemy, and that sought his life**—the parallel is devastating. They fled Judah's fate under Zedekiah, placing hope in Hophra—but Egypt's Pharaoh will suffer identical doom. Hophra was eventually overthrown by rival Amasis (570 BC) and killed, fulfilling this prophecy within years of its utterance.

Historical Context

Pharaoh Hophra (Greek: Apries) reigned 589-570 BC. Herodotus (Histories 2.161-169) and Egyptian sources record his overthrow: after military failures

(likely including Nebuchadnezzar's 568/7 BC invasion), general Amasis led rebellion, defeated Hophra, and strangled him. The parallel to Zedekiah (captured 586 BC, sons killed before him, eyes put out, taken to Babylon, 39:4-7) was precise—both Judah and Egypt's kings fell to Babylonian power.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does trusting human rulers for security that only God can provide inevitably lead to disappointment?
2. What does the exact parallel (Zedekiah's fate = Hophra's fate) teach about God's consistent justice across nations?
3. When have you seen God fulfill specific prophecies in your lifetime—how does this strengthen confidence in unfulfilled promises?

Interlinear Text

כֹּה	אָמַר	יְהוָה	הִנֵּנִי	נָתַתִּי	אֶת	פְּרַעֲהָ
H3541	Thus saith	the LORD	H2005	Behold I will give	H853	H0
	H559	H3068		H5414		
חָפַר ע	מֶלֶךְ	מִצְרַיִם	בְּיָד	אֹיֵב ו	בְּיָד	
Pharaohhophra	king	of Egypt	and into the hand	his enemy	and into the hand	
H6548	H4428	H4714	H3027	H341	H3027	
וּמִבֶּקֶשׁ	נַפְשׁוֹ:	כְּאֵשׁ ר	נָתַתִּי	אֶת	צִדְקִיָּה הו	מֶלֶךְ
and that sought	his life	H834	Behold I will give	H853	Zedekiah	king
H1245	H5315		H5414		H6667	H4428
יְהוּדָה	בְּיָד	נְבוּכַדְרֶאצַּר	מֶלֶךְ	בָּבֶל ל	אֹיֵב ו	
of Judah	and into the hand	of Nebuchadrezzar	king	of Babylon	his enemy	
H3063	H3027	H5019	H4428	H894	H341	
וּמִבֶּקֶשׁ	נַפְשׁוֹ:					
and that sought	his life					
H1245	H5315					

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 34:21 (Kingdom): And Zedekiah king of Judah and his princes will I give into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of them that seek their life, and into the hand of the king of Babylon's army, which are gone up from you.

Ezekiel 30:21 (Kingdom): Son of man, I have broken the arm of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and, lo, it shall not be bound up to be healed, to put a roller to bind it, to make it strong to hold the sword.