

Jeremiah 46:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

O thou daughter dwelling in Egypt, furnish thyself to go into captivity: for Noph shall be waste and desolate without an inhabitant.

Analysis

O thou daughter dwelling in Egypt, furnish thyself to go into captivity (הַיְכִינֵי) —The imperative heikiniy commands Egypt's inhabitants to prepare keliy golah (vessels of exile), the baggage of deportation. **Noph** (נָפָה), Hebrew for Memphis, Egypt's ancient capital and religious center, would become **waste and desolate** (טָרַבָּה תָּהִיה).

This verse dramatizes the reversal of Exodus: God's people once fled Egypt for freedom; now Egypt itself faces exile. The phrase bat yoshevet (daughter dwelling) personifies Egypt as a woman secure in her home, unprepared for the displacement about to shatter her world. Nebuchadnezzar's 568 BC invasion fulfilled this prophecy when he devastated Egypt's cities.

Historical Context

Memphis (Noph) was Egypt's political and religious capital, home to the temple of Ptah and burial site of the sacred Apis bull. Jeremiah prophesied during Babylon's rise (626-586 BC), when Egypt under Pharaoh Hophra challenged Babylonian dominance, ultimately facing invasion by Nebuchadnezzar in 568 BC.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. What false securities in your life might God be calling you to prepare to lose?
2. How does Egypt's judgment demonstrate that no nation—however ancient or powerful—stands beyond God's sovereignty?
3. What does the reversal of Exodus imagery teach about God using the same means for both salvation and judgment?

Interlinear Text

כְּלֵךְ	גָּזָלָה	עָשָׂה	לְ	בַּת	וַיֵּשֶׁב
thyself to go into captivity	H1473	furnish	H0	dwelling	O thou daughter
H3627	H6213		H3427		H1323
מִצְרַיִם	נָבָע	לְשָׁמֶן	תְּהִרֵּה	וַיְגַצֵּת	מֵאָהָרֶן
in Egypt	H3588	for Noph	H8047	and desolate	H369
H4714	H5297		H1961		H3341
וַיֵּשֶׁב					
dwelling					
H3427					

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 20:4 (References Egypt): So shall the king of Assyria lead away the Egyptians prisoners, and the Ethiopians captives, young and old, naked and barefoot, even with their buttocks uncovered, to the shame of Egypt.

Jeremiah 48:18 (Parallel theme): Thou daughter that dost inhabit Dibon, come down from thy glory, and sit in thirst; for the spoiler of Moab shall come upon thee, and he shall destroy thy strong holds.

Jeremiah 44:1 (References Egypt): The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the Jews which dwell in the land of Egypt, which dwell at Migdol, and at Tahpanhes, and at Noph, and in the country of Pathros, saying,

Ezekiel 30:13 (References Egypt): Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also destroy the idols, and I will cause their images to cease out of Noph; and there shall be no more a prince of the land of Egypt: and I will put a fear in the land of Egypt.
