

Ezek. 29:8-16 THE PROPHECY OF EGYPT LOSING ITS POWER AND AUTHORITY FOREVER

*‘Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD, “Behold, I shall bring upon you a sword, and I shall cut off from you man and beast. 9 “And the land of Egypt will become a desolation and waste. Then they will know that I am the LORD. **Because you said, ‘The Nile is mine, and I have made it,’** 10 therefore, behold, I am against you and against your rivers, and I will make the land of Egypt an utter waste and desolation, from Migdol to Syene and even to the border of Ethiopia. 11 “A man’s foot will not pass through it, and the foot of a beast will not pass through it, and it will not be inhabited for forty years. 12 “So I shall make the land of Egypt a desolation in the midst of desolated lands. And her cities, in the midst of cities that are laid waste, will be desolate forty years; and I shall scatter the Egyptians among the nations and disperse them among the lands.” 13 ‘For thus says the Lord GOD, “At the end of forty years I shall gather the Egyptians from the peoples among whom they were scattered. 14 “And I shall turn the fortunes of Egypt and shall make them return to the land of Pathros, to the land of their origin; and there they will be a lowly kingdom. 15 **“It will be the lowest of the kingdoms; and it will never again lift itself up above the nations. And I shall make them so small that they will not rule over the nations.** 16 “And it will never again be the confidence of the house of Israel, bringing to mind the iniquity of their having turned to Egypt. Then they will know that I am the Lord GOD.”*

The first seven verses are a poetic piece of text. They are actually the words of a psalm. He gives a song and then gives the meaning of the song. In these verses he is referring to Egypt.

This all goes back to the original judgement of Egypt, so that the pharaoh would find out who the Almighty was that created all things. The people should have learned a lesson about who created everything, including the Nile River back in the Exodus. By making this statement they made it obvious they had learned nothing. As you recall Egypt became a very powerful nation once again forty years after the Exodus, but now Ezekiel explains the nation would become mute so to speak. Ezekiel explains that because of their rebellion Egypt would never again be a great nation. This has already happened and we can verify that it never has become a significant nation to this day, and never will be. That is one of the reasons there has been so much turmoil in Egypt over the last few decades in particular. It will never rise from its ashes, no-matter what they try to do.

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Bible Commentary Jerry Hennig (Nov 28/16)