

# Isaiah 19

## An oracle concerning Egypt

Behold, the LORD is riding on a swift cloud  
and comes to Egypt;  
and the idols of Egypt will tremble at his presence,  
and the heart of the Egyptians will melt within them.  
<sup>2</sup> And I will stir up Egyptians against Egyptians,  
and they will fight, each against another  
and each against his neighbour,  
city against city, kingdom against kingdom;  
<sup>3</sup> and the spirit of the Egyptians within them will be emptied out,  
and I will confound their counsel;  
and they will inquire of the idols and the sorcerers,  
and the mediums and the necromancers;  
<sup>4</sup> and I will give over the Egyptians  
into the hand of a hard master,  
and a fierce king will rule over them,  
declares the Lord GOD of hosts.

<sup>5</sup> And the waters of the sea will be dried up,  
and the river will be dry and parched,  
<sup>6</sup> and its canals will become foul,  
and the branches of Egypt's Nile will diminish and dry up,  
reeds and rushes will rot away.  
<sup>7</sup> There will be bare places by the Nile,  
on the brink of the Nile,  
and all that is sown by the Nile will be parched,  
will be driven away, and will be no more.  
<sup>8</sup> The fishermen will mourn and lament,  
all who cast a hook in the Nile;  
and they will languish  
who spread nets on the water.  
<sup>9</sup> The workers in combed flax will be in despair,  
and the weavers of white cotton.  
<sup>10</sup> Those who are the pillars of the land will be crushed,  
and all who work for pay will be grieved.

<sup>11</sup> The princes of Zoan are utterly foolish;  
the wisest counsellors of Pharaoh give stupid counsel.  
How can you say to Pharaoh,  
“I am a son of the wise,  
a son of ancient kings”?  
<sup>12</sup> Where then are your wise men?  
Let them tell you

that they might know what the LORD of hosts has purposed against Egypt.

<sup>13</sup> The princes of Zoan have become fools,  
and the princes of Memphis are deluded;  
those who are the cornerstones of her tribes  
have made Egypt stagger.

<sup>14</sup> The LORD has mingled within her a spirit of confusion,  
and they will make Egypt stagger in all its deeds,  
as a drunken man staggers in his vomit.

<sup>15</sup> And there will be nothing for Egypt  
that head or tail, palm branch or reed, may do.

<sup>16</sup> In that day the Egyptians will be like women, and tremble with fear before the hand  
that the LORD of hosts shakes over them. <sup>17</sup> And the land of Judah will become a terror to  
the Egyptians. Everyone to whom it is mentioned will fear because of the purpose that the  
LORD of hosts has purposed against them.

## **Egypt, Assyria and Israel are blessed**

<sup>18</sup> In that day there will be five cities in the land of Egypt that speak the language of  
Canaan and swear allegiance to the LORD of hosts. One of these will be called the City of  
Destruction.

<sup>19</sup> In that day there will be an altar to the LORD in the midst of the land of Egypt, and a  
pillar to the LORD at its border. <sup>20</sup> It will be a sign and a witness to the LORD of hosts in  
the land of Egypt. When they cry to the LORD because of oppressors, he will send them a  
saviour and defender, and deliver them. <sup>21</sup> And the LORD will make himself known to the  
Egyptians, and the Egyptians will know the LORD in that day and worship with sacrifice  
and offering, and they will make vows to the LORD and perform them. <sup>22</sup> And the LORD  
will strike Egypt, striking and healing, and they will return to the LORD, and he will listen  
to their pleas for mercy and heal them.

<sup>23</sup> In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria, and Assyria will come into  
Egypt, and Egypt into Assyria, and the Egyptians will worship with the Assyrians.

<sup>24</sup> In that day Israel will be the third with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing in the midst of the  
earth, <sup>25</sup> whom the LORD of hosts has blessed, saying, “Blessed be Egypt my people, and  
Assyria the work of my hands, and Israel my inheritance.”

## **Isaiah 20**

### **Sign against Egypt and Cush (Ethiopia)**

In the year that the commander in chief, who was sent by Sargon the king of Assyria,  
came to Ashdod and fought against it and captured it— <sup>2</sup> at that time the LORD spoke by  
Isaiah the son of Amoz, saying, “Go, and loose the sackcloth from your waist and take off  
your sandals from your feet,” and he did so, walking naked and barefoot.

<sup>3</sup> Then the LORD said, “As my servant Isaiah has walked naked and barefoot for three years as a sign and a portent against Egypt and Cush, <sup>4</sup> so shall the king of Assyria lead away the Egyptian captives and the Cushite exiles, both the young and the old, naked and barefoot, with buttocks uncovered, the nakedness of Egypt. <sup>5</sup> Then they shall be dismayed and ashamed because of Cush their hope and of Egypt their boast. <sup>6</sup> And the inhabitants of this coastland will say in that day, ‘Behold, this is what has happened to those in whom we hoped and to whom we fled for help to be delivered from the king of Assyria! And we, how shall we escape?’”

## Isaiah 21

### Fallen, fallen is Babylon

The oracle concerning the wilderness of the sea.

As whirlwinds in the Negeb sweep on,  
it comes from the wilderness,  
from a terrible land.

<sup>2</sup> A stern vision is told to me;  
the traitor betrays,  
and the destroyer destroys.

Go up, O Elam;  
lay siege, O Media;  
all the sighing she has caused  
I bring to an end.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore my loins are filled with anguish;  
pangs have seized me,  
like the pangs of a woman in labour;  
I am bowed down so that I cannot hear;  
I am dismayed so that I cannot see.

<sup>4</sup> My heart staggers; horror has appalled me;  
the twilight I longed for  
has been turned for me into trembling.

<sup>5</sup> They prepare the table,  
they spread the rugs,  
they eat, they drink.

Arise, O princes;  
oil the shield!

<sup>6</sup> For thus the Lord said to me:  
“Go, set a watchman;  
let him announce what he sees.

<sup>7</sup> When he sees riders, horsemen in pairs,  
riders on donkeys, riders on camels,  
let him listen diligently,  
very diligently.”

<sup>8</sup> Then he who saw cried out:

“Upon a watchtower I stand, O Lord,  
continually by day,  
and at my post I am stationed  
whole nights.  
<sup>9</sup> And behold, here come riders,  
horsemen in pairs!”  
And he answered,  
“Fallen, fallen is Babylon;  
and all the carved images of her gods  
he has shattered to the ground.”  
<sup>10</sup> O my threshed and winnowed one,  
what I have heard from the LORD of hosts,  
the God of Israel, I announce to you.

### **An oracle concerning Dumah (Edom)**

<sup>11</sup> The oracle concerning Dumah.  
  
One is calling to me from Seir,  
“Watchman, what time of the night?  
Watchman, what time of the night?”  
<sup>12</sup> The watchman says:  
“Morning comes, and also the night.  
If you will inquire, inquire;  
come back again.”

### **An oracle concerning Arabia**

<sup>13</sup> The oracle concerning Arabia.  
  
In the thickets in Arabia you will lodge,  
O caravans of Dedanites.  
<sup>14</sup> To the thirsty bring water;  
meet the fugitive with bread,  
O inhabitants of the land of Tema.  
<sup>15</sup> For they have fled from the swords,  
from the drawn sword,  
from the bent bow,  
and from the press of battle.  
  
<sup>16</sup> For thus the Lord said to me, “Within a year, according to the years of a hired worker,  
all the glory of Kedar will come to an end. <sup>17</sup> And the remainder of the archers of the

mighty men of the sons of Kedar will be few, for the LORD, the God of Israel, has spoken.”

## Cross References

**Exodus 12 v 12:** <sup>12</sup> For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD.

**Revelation 18 v 1 to 3:** After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was made bright with his glory. <sup>2</sup> And he called out with a mighty voice,

“Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great!

She has become a dwelling place for demons,  
a haunt for every unclean spirit,  
a haunt for every unclean bird,  
a haunt for every unclean and detestable beast.

<sup>3</sup> For all nations have drunk

the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality,  
and the kings of the earth have committed immorality with her,  
and the merchants of the earth have grown rich from the power of her luxurious living.”

**Revelation 18 v 19, 20:** <sup>19</sup> And they threw dust on their heads as they wept and mourned, crying out,

“Alas, alas, for the great city  
where all who had ships at sea  
grew rich by her wealth!

For in a single hour she has been laid waste.

<sup>20</sup> Rejoice over her, O heaven,

and you saints and apostles and prophets,  
for God has given judgment for you against her!”

**Genesis 25 v 12 to 15:** <sup>12</sup> These are the generations of Ishmael, Abraham's son, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's servant, bore to Abraham. <sup>13</sup> These are the names of the sons of Ishmael, named in the order of their birth: Nebaioth, the firstborn of Ishmael; and Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam,

<sup>14</sup> Mishma, Dumah, Massa, <sup>15</sup> Hadad, Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah.