

Jeremiah's Prophecy Concerning the Nations: Egypt (early 605 BC)

Jeremiah 46

Introduction to Jeremiah's Messages Concerning the Nations

1 The word of Yahweh that came to Jeremiah the prophet concerning the nations.

Egypt's Defeat at Carchemish (605 BC)

2 Concerning Egypt: Concerning the army of Pharaoh Neco, the king of Egypt, which was by the Euphrates River at Carchemish, which Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon defeated in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, the king of Judah.

- 3 "Prepare small shield and shield,
and approach for the battle!
- 4 Harness the horses and mount the steeds!
And take your stand with helmets!
Polish the spears!
Put on the body armor!
- 5 Why do I see them terrified?
They are turning back
and their warriors are beaten down.
And they have fled *to* a place of refuge
and they do not turn *back*.
Terror *is* from all around," declares Yahweh.
- 6 The swift cannot flee,
and the warrior cannot escape.
They have stumbled and they have fallen,
by the bank of the Euphrates River.
- 7 Who *is* this that rises like the Nile,
like the rivers whose waters surge?
- 8 Egypt rises like the Nile,
even like the rivers *whose* waters surge.
And he says, "Let me rise,
let me cover *the* earth,
let me destroy cities,
and the inhabitants in them."
- 9 Go up, O horses,
and drive madly, O chariots,
and let the warriors go forth;
Cush and Put, who wield *the* small shield,
and Lud, who wield *and* bend *the* bow.
- 10 For that day *is* to the Lord Yahweh of hosts
a day of retribution,
to take revenge on his foes.
And *the* sword will devour and be satisfied,
and it will drink its fill of their blood,
for a sacrifice *is* for the Lord Yahweh of hosts
in the land of *the* north by the Euphrates River.
- 11 Go up *to* Gilead and take balm,
O virgin of the daughter of Egypt.
In vain you make use of many medicines;
there is no healing for you.
- 12 *The* nations have heard your shame,
and your cry of lament fills the earth.
For warrior has stumbled against warrior,
together they have fallen, the two of them.

Nebuchadnezzar's Future Invasion of Egypt (568/7 BC)

13 The word that Yahweh spoke to Jeremiah the prophet about the coming of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon to attack the land of Egypt:

- 14 “Declare in Egypt, and proclaim in Migdol,
and proclaim in Memphis and in Tahpanhes,
say, ‘Take your stand and be prepared,
for *the* sword will devour *those* all around you.’
- 15 Why are your bulls defeated?
He did not stand because Yahweh thrust him down.
- 16 He multiplied *the* ones stumbling.
Furthermore, each one fell to his neighbor,
and said, ‘Stand up, and let us return to our people
and to the land of our birth,
because of the presence of the sword of the oppressor.’
- 17 They will call there,
‘Pharaoh [Amasis], the king of Egypt *is but* a roar,
he missed the opportunity.’
- 18 As I live,” declares the king,
Yahweh of hosts *is* his name,
“one will come like Tabor among the mountains
and like Carmel by the sea.
- 19 Pack *your* baggage for exile,
O inhabitants of the daughter of Egypt,
for Memphis will become as a horror,
and it will be destroyed, without inhabitant.
- 20 Egypt *is* a beautiful heifer,
but a gadfly from *the* north *will* come against her.
- 21 Even her mercenaries in her midst *are* like calves of fattening,
for they also have turned away,
they have fled together.
They stand not,
for the day of their calamity has come,
the time of their punishment.
- 22 Her sound *is* like a snake *that* glides away,
for they march in force.
And with axes they come to her
like those who chop trees.
- 23 They will cut down her forest,” declares Yahweh,
“for it is impenetrable.
Yes, they are more numerous than locusts,
and they are without number.
- 24 The daughter of Egypt will be ashamed,
she will be given into the hand of *the* people of *the* north.”

A Word of Hope to Egypt

25 Yahweh of hosts, the God of Israel, said, “Look, I *am* going to punish Amon of Thebes, and Pharaoh, and Egypt, and her gods, and her kings, even Pharaoh and those who trust in him.

26 And I will give them into the hand of the seekers of their lives, and into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, and into the hand of his troops. But afterward it will *be* inhabited, as *in* days of old,” declares Yahweh.

Words of Assurance to Israel

- 27 “But *as for* you, my servant Jacob, you must not be afraid,
and Israel, you must not be dismayed,
for look, I *am* going to save you from far,
and your offspring from the land of their captivity.
And Jacob will return,
and he will be quiet,
and he will be at ease,
and without *one who* makes *him* afraid.
- 28 You must not be afraid, my servant Jacob,” declares Yahweh,
“for I *am* with you.

For I will make a complete destruction in all the nations where I scattered you,
but you I will not make a complete destruction,
though I will chastise you to the measure,
and I will certainly not leave you unpunished.”

Jeremiah's Prophecy Concerning the Nations: Philistia (early 605 BC)

Jeremiah 47

1 The word of Yahweh that came to Jeremiah the prophet concerning *the* Philistines before Pharaoh attacked Gaza.

2 Thus says Yahweh:

“Look, waters *are* rising from *the* north,
and they will become as a raging torrent,
and they will overflow *the* land,
and that which fills it,
the city and those who live in it.

And the people will cry out,
and every inhabitant of the land will wail,

3 from the sound of the stamping of the hoofs of his stallions,
from the clattering of his chariots,
the noise of their wheels.

Fathers do not turn to *their* children
because of *the* slackness of *their* hands.

4 Because of the day that is coming
to destroy all *the* Philistines,
to cut off from Tyre and from Sidon
every survivor *who could* help,
for Yahweh *is* destroying *the* Philistines,
the remnant of the coastland of Caphtor.

5 Baldness has come upon Gaza,
Ashkelon is destroyed.
O remnant of their valley,
how long will you cut yourself with a blade?

6 Ah, sword of Yahweh,
how long will you not be quiet?
Gather to your sheath,
keep quiet and stand still.

7 How can you be quiet
when Yahweh has given an order to it?
Against Ashkelon and against the shore of the sea,
there he has appointed it.”

Jeremiah's Prophecy Concerning the Nations: Moab (early 605 BC)

Jeremiah 48

The Destruction of Moab

1 Concerning Moab, thus says Yahweh of hosts, the God of Israel:

“Woe to Nebo,
for it is devastated.
It is ashamed,
Kiriathaim is captured.
Misgab is ashamed,
and it is filled with terror.

2 The glory of Moab is no longer.
In Heshbon they planned evil against her.
Come and let us cut her off from *being* a nation.

Also, Madmen, you will be silent.

After you will go *the* sword.

- 3 *The* sound of a cry of distress *arises* from Horonaim,
devastation and great destruction.
- 4 Moab is broken,
her little ones make heard a cry for help.
- 5 For the ascent of Luhith,
in weeping they go weeping,
For on the slope of Horonaim they have heard
the distresses of *the* cry of distress of *the* destruction.
- 6 Flee! Save your life!
For you must not be like the juniper tree in the desert.
- 7 For because of your trusting in your works and in your treasures,
even you yourselves will be taken,
and Chemosh will go out into the exile,
his priests and his officials together.
- 8 And *the* destroyer will come to every town,
and a town will not escape.
And the valley will be destroyed,
and the plain will be destroyed, as Yahweh has spoken.
- 9 Give salt for Moab,
for certainly she will go to ruin,
and her towns will become as a desolation,
without an inhabitant in them.
- 10 *The one who* does the work of Yahweh *with* slackness *is* cursed,
and *the one who* keeps away blood from his sword *is* cursed.

The Humbling of a Complacent Nation

- 11 Moab has been at ease from his youth,
and he has been quiet on his dregs,
and he has not been poured out from vessel to vessel,
and he has not gone into exile.
Therefore his taste has remained unchanged,
and his fragrance has not changed.
- 12 Therefore look, days *are* coming," declares Yahweh,
"and I will send to him decanters,
and they will decant him,
and his vessels they will empty out,
and their jars they will smash.
- 13 Then Moab will be ashamed of Chemosh,
just as the house of Israel were ashamed of Bethel, their trust.
- 14 How can you say, 'we *are* warriors,
and men of might for the battle.'
- 15 Moab is destroyed,
and his towns have gone up,
and the choice of his young men have gone down to the slaughtering,"
declares the King, Yahweh of hosts *is* his name.
- 16 "The disaster of Moab *is* near to come,
and his disaster approaches very quickly.
- 17 Mourn for him, all his surroundings,
and all those who knew his name.
Say, 'How *the* staff of might is broken,
the staff of glory.'

Judgment on Moab's Cities

- 18 Come down from glory and sit on the parched ground,
O inhabitant, daughter of Dibon,
for the destroyer of Moab has come up against you,

he has destroyed your fortifications.

- 19 Stand by *the* road and watch,
O inhabitant of Aroer.
Ask *the man who is fleeing* and *the woman who is escaping*,
say, ‘What has happened?’
- 20 Moab is ashamed,
for it is filled with terror.
Wail and cry out,
tell *it* by Arnon that Moab is devastated.

- 21 Judgment has also come to the land of the plain, to Holon, and to Jahaz, and on Mephaath,
22 and on Dibon, and on Nebo, and on Beth-diblathaim,
23 and on Kiriathaim, and on Beth-gamul, and on Beth-meon,
24 and on Kerioth, and on Bozrah, and on all the towns of the land of Moab, the far and the near.
25 The horn of Moab is cut off and his arm is broken,” declares Yahweh.

The Futility of Moab’s Insolence

- 26 “Make him drunk,
because he magnified himself against Yahweh,
and let Moab wallow in his vomit.
And he also will become a laughingstock.
- 27 Now *was* not Israel the laughingstock to you?
Or was he found among thieves?
For as often as you spoke over him
you shook *your head*.
- 28 Leave *the* towns and dwell on the rock,
O inhabitants of Moab,
and be like *the dove*,
it nests on *the* sides of *the* mouth of a ravine.
- 29 We have heard *of* the pride of Moab
—*he is very proud*—
his height, and his pride, and his arrogance,
and the haughtiness of his heart.
- 30 I know his insolence,” declares Yahweh,
“and his boastings *are false*;
they act falsely.

Lament for Moab

- 31 Therefore over Moab I wail,
and for all of Moab I cry out,
for the people of Kir-heres I moan.
- 32 More than the weeping of Jazer
I weep for you, O vine Sibmah.
Your branches cross over *the* sea,
up to the sea of Jazer they reach.
Upon your summer fruit and upon your vintage
the destroyer has fallen.
- 33 And joy and rejoicing have been taken away from *the* fruitful land,
even from the land of Moab.
And *the* wine from *the* wine presses
I have caused to disappear.
He will not tread *with* exuberant shouts.
Exuberant shouts *will not be* exuberant shouts.
- 34 From the cry for help of Heshbon, up to Elealeh,
up to Jahaz, they give their voice,
from Zoar up to Horonaim, *up to* Eglath-shelishiyah,
for even the waters of Nimrim have become as a desolation.
- 35 And I will cause to disappear for Moab,” declares Yahweh,

“*the one who presents a sacrifice at a high place,*
and *the one who* burns a smoke offering to his gods.

- 36 Therefore my heart moans for Moab like the flute.
It moans for the people of Kir-heres like the flute.
Therefore *the* wealth they gained has perished.
- 37 For *on* every head *is* baldness,
and every beard is trimmed.
On all *the* hands, slashes,
and on *the* loins, sackcloth.
- 38 On all the roofs of Moab, and in its public squares,
there is wailing everywhere.
For I have broken Moab like a vessel,
there is no delight in it,” declares Yahweh.
- 39 “How it is filled with terror! *How* they wail!
How Moab has turned *his* back! He is disgraced!
So Moab has become as a derision,
and as a terror for all his surrounding *peoples*.”

Moab’s Punishment and Restoration

40 For thus says Yahweh,

“Look, like an eagle he will swoop down,
and he will spread out his wings against Moab.

- 41 Kerioth will be taken,
and the strongholds will be conquered,
and the hearts of the warriors of Moab will be on that day
like *the* heart of a woman *who* is in labor.
- 42 And Moab will be destroyed from *being* a people,
because against Yahweh he magnified himself.
- 43 Dread, and pit, and a trapping net *are* against you,
O inhabitant of Moab,” declares Yahweh.
- 44 “He *who* flees before the dread
will fall into the pit,
and the *one who* climbs up from the pit
will be caught in the trapping net,
for I will bring on Moab
the year of their punishment,” declares Yahweh.
- 45 “In the shadow of Heshbon
fugitives stand without strength,
for a fire has gone out from Heshbon,
and a flame from Sihon.
And it has eaten the forehead of Moab,
and the skulls of the people of tumult.
- 46 Woe to you, Moab!
The people of Chemosh have perished.
For your sons have been taken into captivity,
and your daughters into captivity.
- 47 Yet I will restore the fortunes of Moab
in the last of the days,” declares Yahweh.

Thus far *is* the judgment of Moab.

Jeremiah’s Prophecy Concerning the Nations: Ammon (early 605 BC)

Jeremiah 49:1–6

1 Concerning the Ammonites: Thus says Yahweh,

“Are there no sons for Israel?

- Or is there no heir for him?
Why has Milcom taken possession of Gad,
and his people dwelled in its towns?
- 2 Therefore look, days *are* coming,” declares Yahweh,
“and I will sound against Rabbah, the Ammonites,
the alarm of *the* war,
and it will become as a mound of desolation,
and its daughters will burn in the fire.
Then Israel will dispossess his dispossessors,” says Yahweh.
- 3 “Wail, Heshbon, for Ai is devastated.
Cry out, O daughters of Rabbah, put on sackcloth.
Lament and run back and forth among the walls.
For Milcom will go into exile,
his priests and his officials together.
- 4 Why do you boast in *your* valleys?
Your valleys *are* ebbing.
O unfaithful daughter, who trusted in her treasures,
who said, ‘Who will come against me?’
- 5 Look, I *am* going to bring dread on you,”
declares Lord Yahweh of hosts,
“from all your surrounding *neighbors*.
And you will be scattered,
each one before it,
and there is no *one who* gathers the fugitives.
- 6 Yet afterward I will restore
the fortunes of the Ammonites,” declares Yahweh.

Jeremiah’s Prophecy Concerning the Nations: Edom (early 605 BC)

Jeremiah 49:7–22

7 Concerning Edom, thus says Yahweh of hosts:

- “Is there no longer wisdom in Teman?
Has counsel become lost from *those who* understand?
Is their wisdom rotting?
- 8 Flee! Turn back! Get down low!
O inhabitants of Dedan.
For I will bring upon him the disaster of Esau
at the time when I will punish him.
- 9 If grape-gatherers come to you,
would they not leave gleanings?
If thieves in the night,
they destroy *only* enough for them.
- 10 But I have stripped Esau bare.
I have uncovered his hiding places,
and he is not able to hide himself.
His offspring are devastated, along with his brothers,
and his neighbors, and he is no more.
- 11 Leave your orphans. I will let *them* live.
And your widows, let them trust in me.”

12 For thus says Yahweh, “Look, those who are not condemned to drink the cup must certainly drink *it*. And *are* you the one who will go entirely unpunished? You will not go unpunished, for you must certainly drink *it*.”

13 For I have sworn by myself,” declares Yahweh, “that Bozrah will become as a horror, as a disgrace, as a waste, and as a curse. And all her towns will be everlasting sites of ruins.”

- 14 I have heard a message from Yahweh,
and a messenger has been sent among the nations.

- “Gather and come against her,
and rise for the battle.”
- 15 “For look, I will make you small among the nations,
despised by the humankind.
- 16 Your terror has deceived you,
the pride of your heart,
*O you who dwell in the clefts of the rock,
you who seize the height of the hill.*
Though you make your nest high like the eagle,
from there I will bring you down,” declares Yahweh.
- 17 “And Edom will become as a horror,
everyone who passes by it will be appalled,
and will hiss because of all its blows.
- 18 As the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah
and their neighbors,” says Yahweh,
“no one will live there,
and the son of humankind will not dwell as an alien in it.
- 19 Look, like a lion he comes up from the thickets of the Jordan
to a pastureland by a constantly flowing stream.
So I will chase him away hurriedly from it.
And whoever *is* chosen I will appoint over it.
For who *is* like me, and who can summon me?
And who *is* this, *the* shepherd who can stand before me?”
- 20 Therefore hear the plan of Yahweh that he has planned against Edom,
and his plans that he has planned against the inhabitants of Teman.
Surely they will drag them away,
the little *ones* of the flock.
Surely he will cause to be desolated over them
their grazing place.
- 21 The earth will quake from the sound of their falling.
A cry of distress! Their voice will be heard at the Red Sea.
- 22 Look, like an eagle he will go up and he will swoop down,
and he will spread out his wings against Bozrah.
And the heart of the warriors of Edom will be in that day
like *the* heart of a woman *who* is in labor.

Jeremiah's Prophecy Concerning the Nations: Damascus (early 605 BC)

Jeremiah 49:23–27

23 Concerning Damascus:

- “Hamath and Arpad are ashamed,
for they have heard bad news;
they melt.
There is concern in the sea.
It is not able to keep quiet.
- 24 Damascus has grown slack.
She has turned away to flee and panic.
Anxiety has seized *her*,
and labor pains have grasped her,
like a woman in labor.
- 25 How *the* city of praise has not been abandoned!
The city of my joy!
- 26 Therefore her young men will fall in her public squares,
and all the soldiers will perish in that day,” declares Yahweh of hosts.
- 27 “And I will kindle a fire at the wall of Damascus,
and it will devour the citadel fortresses of Ben-hadad.”

Jeremiah's Prophecy Concerning the Nations: Kedar and Hazor (early 605 BC)

Jeremiah 49:28–33

28 Concerning Kedar and concerning the kingdoms of Hazor that Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon defeated. Thus says Yahweh:

“Rise up, go up against Kedar
and destroy *the* people of *the* east.

29 They will take their tents, and their flocks,
their tent curtains, and all their equipment,
and their camels they will carry away for themselves,
and they will call to them, ‘Terror *is* from all around.’

30 Flee! Wander far away! Get down low!
O inhabitants of Hazor,” declares Yahweh.
“For Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, has planned a plan against you.
And he has schemed a scheme against you.

31 Rise up, go up against a nation *which is* at ease,
living securely,” declares Yahweh.
“*There are* no gates and *there are* no bars for them,
they dwell alone.

32 And their camels will become as plunder,
and the multitude of their livestock as spoil.
And I will scatter to every wind *those who* are trimmed to *the* side,
and from every side I will bring their disaster,” declares Yahweh.

33 “And Hazor will become as a lair of jackals,
a waste forever;
no one will live there,
and no son of humankind will dwell as an alien in it.”

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