

When The Lord Strikes Down Rebellious People

When the Lord feels it necessary to strike-down a people, usually those with depraved hearts (people determined not to follow His will and His ways), it is ALWAYS with the hope of ultimate repentance & reconciliation. Those who do so will probably survive the correction. Those who do not probably won't.

Isaiah 19 (NASB)

Message to Egypt

The oracle concerning Egypt.

Behold, the LORD is riding on a swift cloud and is about to come to Egypt;
The idols of Egypt will tremble at His presence,
And the heart of the Egyptians will melt within them.

² "So I will incite Egyptians against Egyptians;
And they will each fight against his brother and each against his neighbor,
City against city *and* kingdom against kingdom.

³ "Then the spirit of the Egyptians will be demoralized within them;
And I will confound their strategy,
So that they will resort to idols and ghosts of the dead
And to mediums and spiritists.

⁴ "Moreover, I will deliver the Egyptians into the hand of a cruel master,
And a mighty king will rule over them," declares the Lord GOD of hosts.

⁵ The waters from the sea will dry up,
And the river will be parched and dry.

⁶ The canals will emit a stench,
The streams of Egypt will thin out and dry up;
The reeds and rushes will rot away.

⁷ The bulrushes by the Nile, by the edge of the Nile
And all the sown fields by the Nile
Will become dry, be driven away, and be no more.

⁸ And the fishermen will lament,
And all those who cast a line into the Nile will mourn,
And those who spread nets on the waters will pine away.
⁹ Moreover, the manufacturers of linen made from combed flax
And the weavers of white cloth will be utterly dejected.

¹⁰ And the pillars *of Egypt* will be crushed;
All the hired laborers will be grieved in soul.

¹¹ The princes of Zoan are mere fools;
The advice of Pharaoh's wisest advisers has become stupid.
How can you *men* say to Pharaoh,
"I am a son of the wise, a son of ancient kings"?

¹² Well then, where are your wise men?
Please let them tell you,
And let them understand what the LORD of hosts
Has purposed against Egypt.

¹³ The princes of Zoan have acted foolishly,
The princes of Memphis are deluded;
Those who are the cornerstone of her tribes
Have led Egypt astray.

¹⁴ The LORD has mixed within her a spirit of distortion;
They have led Egypt astray in all that it does,
As a drunken man staggers in his vomit.

¹⁵ There will be no work for Egypt
Which *its* head or tail, *its* palm branch or bulrush, may do.

¹⁶ In that day the Egyptians will become like women, and they will tremble and be in dread because of the waving of the hand of the LORD of hosts, which He is going to wave over them.

¹⁷ The land of Judah will become a terror to Egypt; everyone to whom it is mentioned will be in dread of it, because of the purpose of the LORD of hosts which He is purposing against them.

¹⁸ In that day five cities in the land of Egypt will be speaking the language of Canaan and swearing *allegiance* to the LORD of hosts; one will be called the City of Destruction.

¹⁹ 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 near its border. ²⁰ It will become a sign and a witness to the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt; for they will cry to the LORD because of oppressors, and He will send them a Savior and a Champion, and He will deliver them. ²¹ Thus the LORD will make Himself known to Egypt, and the Egyptians will know the LORD in that day. They will even worship with sacrifice and offering, and will make a vow to the LORD and perform it. ²² The LORD will strike Egypt, striking but healing; so they will return to the LORD, and He will respond to them and will heal them.

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

²⁴ In that day Israel will be the third *party* with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing in the midst of the earth, ²⁵ whom the LORD of hosts has blessed, saying, "Blessed is Egypt My people, and Assyria the work of My hands, and Israel My inheritance."

So when you find yourself going through a few things (hardships, etc.), ask the Lord to help you understand whatever it is He wants you to gain from the experience. He will, and then you can move-on to the next life-lesson (after a well-earned break of course).

I hope you have an amazing day!!

- Jack