

"And now therefore hear the Word of the LORD, ye remnant of Judah; Thus Saith the LORD of Hosts, the God of Israel; 'If ye wholly set your faces to enter into Egypt, and go to sojourn there; Then it shall come to pass, that the sword, which ye feared, Shall Overtake You There In The Land Of Egypt, and the famine, whereof ye were afraid, shall follow close after you there in Egypt; and there ye shall die. So shall it be with all the men that set their faces to go into Egypt to sojourn there; they shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence: and none of them shall remain or escape from the evil that I will bring upon them.'" *Jeremiah 42:15-17 KJV*



The Chaldeans were attacking. The people were afraid of the terrors of war and the disease and famine which surely follow. Some had a mind to escape into Egypt, but God told them to stay and be unafraid; that He would protect and provide for them if they obeyed Him. He would make sure, if they went to Egypt, all they sought to escape would befall them! This story parallels evil's attack on believer's finances, health, faith, and families. We're often tempted to defend with worldly wisdom; which is a type of escaping to Egypt. It may seem all is lost by standing firm upon Truth in the face of evil, but if we obey God, our Defense and Provision Are Sure. "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you. My Sheep hear my voice, and I Know them, and they follow Me: And I Give unto them Eternal Life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My Hand." An Omnipotent Invisible Force-Field Surrounds believers that can only be breached from within. Reaching out to sin invites the minions of hell to enter! Satan dances all around the outside needing only the slightest hint of invitation to come roaring in! "When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD Shall Lift Up A Standard Against him." We remain in the Hand of God, but we often open the windows and let in the stinging hornets and biting flies of sin's evil by applying worldly wisdom. We'll reap worldly crops of evil fruit instead of "the Peaceable Fruit of Righteousness." I don't need to know *HOW* God is going to do it; I only need to know *THAT* He's going to do it! The God Who Created all there is, and Sustains it, is Quite Capable of all my upkeep and protection. I need but obey His Word.

Don't set your face t'wards Egypt's land,  
 But turn your face to God's own hand,  
 He knows before, your ev'ry need,  
 And evil ne'er will dare impede! –CGP

We only find trouble if we set our face towards Egypt! Our greatest protection is found in the midst of Right; right next to God. God will not follow us down to Egypt, but stands right beside us if we trust and obey Him! "Draw nigh to God and He Will Draw Nigh to you. If God Be For us, who can be against us?"

*"He that dwelleth in the Secret Place of the Most High shall abide under the Shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, 'He Is my Refuge and my Fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.' Surely He Shall Deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He Shall Cover thee with His Feathers, and under His Wings shalt thou trust: His Truth Shall Be thy Shield and Buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee." Psalms 91:1-7 KJV*