EXEGESIS OF VERSES 24 – 26:

VERSE TWENTY-FOUR

"And I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon and I will put My sword in his hand but I will break the arms of Pharaoh and he will groan the groaning of a mortally wounded man before him".

וְחִזַּקְתִּי אֶת־זְרֹעוֹת מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל וְנָתַתִּי אֶת־חַרְבִּי בְּיָדוֹ
וְשָׁבַרְתִּי אֶת־זְרֹעוֹת פַּרְעֹה וְנָאַק נַאֲקוֹת חָלָל לְפָנָיו׃

(conj. ו/w **"and"** + verb-qal-perf-1st-c-s [waw consec] חָזַק/chazaq **"I will strengthen"** + sign d.o. אֵת/'eth [untranslated] + noun-f-pl זְרוֹעַ/z.roa' "arms" + noun-m-s const. מֶלֶךְ/melek **"king of..."** + proper noun בָּבֶל/babel "**Babylon"** + conj. ו/w **"and"** + verb-qal-perf-1st-c-s [waw consec] נָתַן/nathan **"I will give"** + sign. d.o. אֵת/'eth [untranslate] noun-f-s w/ suf-1st-c-s חֶרֶב/chereb "**my sword"** + prep. ב/B **"in"** + noun-f-s w/ suf-3rd-m-s יָד/yad **"his hand"** + conj. ו/w **"but"** + verb-qal-perf-1st-c-s [waw consec] שָׁבַר/shabar **"I will break**" + sign d.o. אֵת/'eth [untranslated] + noun-f-pl const. זְרוֹעַ/zeroa' **"arms of..."** proper noun פַּרְעֹה/par^{e}'oh **"Pharaoh"** + conj. ו/w "and" + verb-qal-perf-3rd-m-s [waw consec] + נָאַק/na'aq "he will groan" + noun-f-pl const. נַאֲקָה/n^{e}'aqah **"groaning of..."** + noun-m-s חָלָל/chalal **"wounded"** + prep. ל/L **"before"** + noun-f-pl w/ suf-3rd-m-s פָּנֶה/paneh **"his face**").

VERSE TWENTY-FIVE

"And I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon, but the arms of Pharaoh will fall and they will know that I am Yahweh when I put My sword in the hand of the king of Babylon and he extends it over the land of Egypt".

וְהַחֲזַקְתִּי אֶת־זְרֹעוֹת מֶלֶךְ בָּבֶל וּזְרֹעוֹת פַּרְעֹה תִּפֹּלְנָה
וְיָדְעוּ כִּי־אֲנִי יְהוָה בְּתִתִּי חַרְבִּי בְּיַד מֶלֶךְ־בָּבֶל וְנָטָה
אוֹתָהּ אֶל־אֶרֶץ מִצְרָיִם׃

(conj. ו/w **"and" +** verb-hiph-perf-1st-c-s [waw conec] חָזַק/chaqaq **"I will strengthen**" + sign. d.o. אֵת/'eth [untranslated] + noun-f-pl const. זְרוֹעַ/zero'a "**arms of..."** noun-m-s const. מֶלֶךְ/melek "**king of**..." + proper noun בָּבֶל/babel "**Babylon"** + conj. ו/w "**but"** + noun-f-pl const. zרוֹעַ/zero'a "**arms of..."** + proper noun-פַּרְעֹה/par^{e}'oh "**Pharaoh"** + verb-qal-imperf-3rd-f-pl נָפַל/naphal **"they will fall**" + conj. ו/w "**and"** + verb-qal-perf-3rd-c-pl יָדַע/yada' **"they will know"** + conj. כִּי/kiy **"that"** + pron-1st-c-s אֲנִי/'aniy **"I"** + to be verb [supplied] "am" +

proper noun יהוה/yhwh "Yahweh" + prep. בְּ/B **"in" +** verb-qal-inf. const. w/ suf-1st-c-s נָתַן/nathan **"my giving"** + noun-f-s w/ suf-1st-c-s חֶרֶב/chereb **"my sword"** + prep. בְּ/B "in" + noun-f-s const. יָד/yad **"hand of..."** + noun-m-s const. מֶלֶךְ/melek **"king of..."** + proper noun בָּבֶל/babel **"Babylon"** + conj. וְ/w **"and"** + verb-qal-perf-3rd-m-s [waw consec] נָטָה/natah "**he will stretch out**" + sign. d.o. w/ suf-3rd-f-s אֵת/'eth **"it"** + prep. אֶל/'el **"unto"** + noun-f-s const. אֶרֶץ/'erets "**land of...**" + proper noun מִצְרַיִם/mitsrayim **"Egypt**").

VERSE TWENTY-SIX

"And I will scatter Egypt among the nations and I will disperse them throughout the lands and they will know that I am Yahweh".

וְהֵפִצוֹתִי אֶת־מִצְרַיִם בַּגּוֹיִם וְזֵרִיתִי אוֹתָם בָּאֲרָצוֹת וְיָדְעוּ
כִּי־אֲנִי יְהוָה׃ ס

(conj. וְ/w **"and"** + verb-hiph-perf-1st-c-s [waw consec] פּוּץ/puts **"I will scatter"** + sign. d.o. אֵת/'eth [untranslated] + proper noun מִצְרַיִם/mits^{e}rayim **"Egypt"** + prep. בְּ/B **"among"** + noun-m-pl w/ d.a. גּוֹי/goy **"the nations"** + conj. וְ/w **"and"** + verb-piel-perf-1st-c-s [waw consec] זָרָה/zarah **"I will disperse"** + sign d.o. w/ suf-3rd-m-pl אֵת/'eth **"them"** + prep. בְּ/B **"among"** + noun-f-pl w/ d.a. אֶרֶץ/'erets **"the lands"** + conj. וְ/w **"and"** verb-qal-perf-3rd-c-pl [waw consec] יָדַע/yada' **"they will know"** + conj. כִּי/kiy **"that"** + pron-1st-c-s אֲנִי/'aniy **"I"** + to be verb [supplied] **"am"** + proper noun יהוה/yhwh **"Yahweh**").

ANALYSIS OF VERSES 24 – 26:

1. Yahweh brings the prophecy to a close in vv. 24 – 26 with a series of summary statements.
2. He states in verse twenty-four, **"And I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon and I will put my sword in his hand but I will break the arms of Pharaoh and he will groan the groaning of a mortally wounded man before him".**
3. Recall that the previous passage viewed the Pharaoh as having a broken arm with God vowing to break the other arm as well.
4. Here God states that He will strengthen the arm of Nebuchadnezzar, referred to here merely as "the king of Babylon".
5. Such indicates that Nebuchadnezzar will have the strength and logistical support to wage war against Egypt. He will have all the advantages and the way will be paved for him to affect a great victory.
6. Realize that God controls history to include military endeavors as He is "Lord of the Armies" (Rom. 9:29; James 5:4 cp. II Kings 6:17; Zech 1:10; 6:7; Rev. 6:1ff).

7. While Pharaoh may think he is prepared to go to war with Nebuchadnezzar, he couldn't be more wrong.
8. Nebuchadnezzar will be strengthened and Pharaoh is going to lose his empire as his broken arms fall to the ground unable to be lifted.
9. Recall that Nebuchadnezzar is God's servant and war-club (Jer. 27:6-8; 51:20 cp. Isa. 45:1-5).
10. He does not merely possess his own sword, but God's sword, indicating that he is functioning as God's agent to affect His will on earth.
11. We can glean from this that the Pharaoh is not going to survive as he is said to "groan the groaning of a mortally wounded man".
12. Our word translated as "mortally wounded man" is the masculine, singular noun, חָלָל/chalal, "one who is slain, mortally wounded, pierced".
13. He is said to grown literally "before the face" of Nebuchadnezzar. Hence, such envisions an occasion where the king of Babylon walks the battle field to find the pharaoh of Egypt writhing in pain, having been mortally wounded.
14. He continues in verse twenty-five where He states **"And I will strengthen the arms of the king of Babylon, but the arms of Pharaoh will fall and they will know that I am Yahweh when I put My sword in the hand of the king of Babylon and he extends it over the land of Egypt".**
15. When God chooses a leader to do His will on earth militarily He is said to put His sword in such a one's hand (Deut. 32:41, 42 cp. Psa. 17:13; Zeph. 2:12).
16. God has already determined to put His sword in the hand of Nebuchadnezzar earlier when he was on his way to attack Jerusalem and then Rabbah (Ezek. 21:20).
17. Here he puts the sword into his hand to attack Egypt. He will be successful as seen in the fact that "he extends it over the land of Egypt". Hence total conquest is in view.
18. He continues in verse twenty-six where He states **"And I will scatter Egypt among the nations and I will disperse them throughout the lands and they will know that I am Yahweh".**
19. Such is a repeat of what was uttered earlier regarding Egypt's forty-year dispersion to the land of Babylon.
20. Such will be the grand finale of Nebuchadnezzar's conquest, which he had begun way back when his father, Nabopollassar, was still on the throne.
21. Beginning with the utter destruction of the Assyrian Empire, he then moved to solidify his ruler over the entire Near East.
22. He has marched on and defeated Judah, Ammon, Moab, Edom, Philistia, Tyre Sidon and now Egypt.
23. At the end of his conquest all of these nations find themselves flat on their back and their people deported to various parts of the Babylonian Empire.
24. It has been a forty-year juggernaut of Yahweh issuing out the 5th Cycle of Discipline to various nations of the Near East culminating with Egypt which will never fully recover from her defeat.
25. Yahweh has not issued the 5th cycle merely to one nation but to the entire region of the world, hence this event too is given the title "the Day of the Lord" (Ezek. 13:5; 30:3).

26. It is of interest that the Assyrians and Egyptians are the bookends of Nebuchadnezzar's conquest and yet those two nations, along with Israel, will be brought back into existence and prominence in the Millennial Kingdom, the next "Day of the Lord" (Isa. 19:18-25 cp. Zech. 10:11, 12).
27. When the Egyptians are defeated it will be in such an immense way that they will realize in the end, when it is too late, that they have been fighting against God and He has accomplished all of this as seen I the twice repeated phrase "they will know that I am Yahweh".

The End of Ezekiel Chapter 30
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