

## ~TAHPANES (236)

[Tah'pan-es, also Tahpanhes, Tah'pan-hes, Tehaphnehes, Tehaph'ne-hes]

### .. Remnant Flee There

### .. Suggested Origin Of Name

- A city in Egypt regularly mentioned with other cities of northern or Lower Egypt, such as **Noph** or **Memphis**, **On** or **Heliopolis**, and **Pibeseth** or **Bubastis**.
- During the last years of the Judean kingdom, the prophet Jeremiah consistently warned his people against political alliances with Egypt or reliance on Egypt for help against the rising power of Babylon.
- Noph, Memphis, the Egyptian capital, and **Tahpanhes** are spoken of as, feeding on Judah and Jerusalem at the crown of the head as a result of the apostasy of the Jews.
- Any support from Egypt was doubtless obtained at a high cost to the royal leaders of Judah, but they would become ashamed of Egypt, even as they had become ashamed of Assyria.
- And the word of Yehowah proceeded to occur to me, saying; (**Jeremiah 2:1**)
- Go, and you must call out in the ears of Jerusalem, saying; This is what Yehowah has said; I well remember, on your part, the loving-kindness of your youth, the love during your being engaged to marry, your walking after me in the wilderness, in a land not sown with seed. (**Jeremiah 2:2**)
- Is Israel a servant, or a slave born in the household? Why is it that he has come to be for plunder? (**Jeremiah 2:14**)
- Against him maned young lions roar, they have given out their voice. And they went making his land an object of astonishment. His own cities have been set afire, so that there is no inhabitant. (**Jeremiah 2:15**)
- Even the sons of Noph and **Tahpanes** themselves kept feeding on you at the crown of the head. (**Jeremiah 2:16**)

- **Is not this what you proceeded to do to yourself by your leaving Yehowah your God during the time of his walking you in the way? (Jeremiah 2:17)**
- **And now what concern should you have for the way of Egypt in order to drink the waters of Shihor? And what concern should you have for the way of Assyria in order to drink the waters of the River? (Jeremiah 2:18)**
- **Your badness should correct you, and your own acts of unfaithfulness should reprove you. Know, then, and see that your leaving Yehowah your God is something bad and bitter, and no dread of me has resulted to you, is the utterance of the Sovereign Lord, Yehowah of armies. (Jeremiah 2:19)**
- **Why do you treat as very insignificant the changing of your way? Of Egypt, too, you will become ashamed, just as you became ashamed of Assyria. (Jeremiah 2:36)**

#### **·· Remnant Flee There**

- **Following the Babylonian conquest of Judah in 607 B.C.E. and the subsequent assassination of Gedaliah, the remnant of Jews went down to Egypt, taking the prophet Jeremiah with them. The first place mentioned at which they arrived, or settled, in Egypt is Tahpanhes.**
- **So Johanan the son of Kareah and all the chiefs of the military forces took all the remnant of Judah that had returned from all the nations to which they had been dispersed, in order to reside for a while in the land of Judah. (Jeremiah 43:5)**
- **Even the able-bodied men and the wives and the little children and the daughters of the king and every soul that Nebuzaradan the chief of the bodyguard had let stay with Gedaliah the son of Ahikam the son of Shaphan, and Jeremiah the prophet and Baruch the son of Neriah. (Jeremiah 43:6)**
- **And they finally came into the land of Egypt, for they did not obey the voice of Yehowah, and they came gradually as far as Tahpanhes. (Jeremiah 43:7)**

- This would evidently locate **Tahpanhes** in the eastern Delta region, that is, the Northeast corner of Lower Egypt. Some of the refugees settled in **Tahpanhes**.
- The word that occurred to Jeremiah for all the Jews that were dwelling in the land of Egypt, the ones dwelling in Migdol and in **Tahpanhes** and in Noph and in the land of Pathros, saying; (**Jeremiah 44:1**)
- And now this is what Yehowah, the God of armies, the God of Israel, has said; Why are you causing a great calamity to your souls, in order to cut off from yourselves man and woman, child and suckling, out of the midst of Judah, so that you do not leave over for yourselves a remnant. (**Jeremiah 44:7**)
- By offending me with the works of your hands by making sacrificial smoke to other gods in the land of Egypt, into which you are entering to reside as aliens, for the purpose of causing a cutting off of yourselves and for the purpose of your becoming a malediction and a reproach among all the nations of the earth? (**Jeremiah 44:8**)
- On arrival at **Tahpanhes**, Jeremiah enacted a prophetic scene directed by Yehowah, placing stones in the mortar of the terrace of bricks that is at the entrance of the house of Pharaoh in **Tahpanhes** in the presence of the other Jews.
- Then he made the proclamation that Nebuchadnezzar would come and place his throne and extend his state tent right over those very stones.
- Then the word of Yehowah occurred to Jeremiah in Tahpanhes, saying; (**Jeremiah 43:8**)
- Take in your hand great stones, and you must hide them in the mortar in the terrace of bricks that is at the entrance of the house of Pharaoh in Tahpanhes before the eyes of the Jewish men. (**Jeremiah 43:9**)
- And you must say to them; This is what Yehowah of armies, the God of Israel, has said; Here I am sending and I will take Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and I will place his throne right above these stones that I have hidden, and he will certainly extend his state tent over them. (**Jeremiah 43:10**)

- And he must come in and strike the land of Egypt. Whoever is due for deadly plague will be for deadly plague, and whoever is due for captivity will be for captivity, and whoever is due for the sword will be for the sword. (**Jeremiah 43:11**)
- And I will set a fire ablaze in the houses of the gods of Egypt, and he will certainly burn them and lead them captive and wrap himself up in the land of Egypt, just as a shepherd wraps himself up in his garment, and he will actually go out from there in peace. (**Jeremiah 43:12**)
- And he will certainly break to pieces the pillars of Beth-shemesh, which is in the land of Egypt, and the houses of the gods of Egypt he will burn with fire. (**Jeremiah 43:13**)
- The word that Yehowah spoke to Jeremiah the prophet as regards the coming of Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon to strike down the land of Egypt. (**Jeremiah 46:13**)
- Tell it in Egypt, O men, and publish it in Migdol, and publish it in Noph and in **Tahpanhes**. say; Station yourself, making preparation also for yourself, for a sword will certainly devour all around you. (**Jeremiah 46:14**)
- In faraway Babylon in the 27th year of the first exile, that is, **591 B.C.E.**, the prophet Ezekiel also foretold that Nebuchadnezzar would conquer Egypt and in **Tehaphneh** the day will actually grow dark, for Yehowah would there break the yoke bars and the pride of Egypt's strength.
- This statement and Ezekiel's reference to the **dependent towns** of **Tahpanhes** indicate that the city was one of importance and size.
- Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Here I am giving to Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon the land of Egypt, and he must carry off its wealth and make a big spoil of it and do a great deal of plundering of it, and it must become wages for his military force. (**Ezekiel 29:19**)
- And the word of Yehowah continued to occur to me, saying; (**Ezekiel 30:1**)
- Son of man, prophesy, and you must say; This is what the

**Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Howl, you people, Alas for the day! (Ezekiel 30:2)**

- **This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; I will also cause the crowd of Egypt to cease by the hand of Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon. (Ezekiel 30:10)**
- **He and his people with him, the tyrants of the nations, are being brought in to reduce the land to ruin. And they must draw their swords against Egypt and fill the land with the slain. (Ezekiel 30:11)**
- **And I will make the Nile canals dry ground and will sell the land into the hand of bad men, and I will cause the land and its fullness to be desolated by the hand of strangers. I myself, Yehowah, have spoken. (Ezekiel 30:12)**
- **This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; I will also destroy the dungy idols and cause the valueless gods to cease out of Noph, and there will no more prove to be a chieftain out of the land of Egypt, and I shall certainly put fear in the land of Egypt. (Ezekiel 30:13)**
- **And I will bring Pathros to desolation and set a fire in Zoan and execute acts of judgment in No. (Ezekiel 30:14)**
- **And I will pour out my rage upon Sin, the fortress of Egypt, and cut off the crowd of No. (Ezekiel 30:15)**
- **And I will set a fire in Egypt. Sin will without fail be in severe pains, and No itself will come to be for capture by breaches, and as regards Noph, there will be adversaries during the daytime! (Ezekiel 30:16)**
- **As for the young men of On and Pibeseth, by the sword they will fall, and into captivity the cities themselves will go. (Ezekiel 30:17)**
- **And in **Tehaphnehes** the day will actually grow dark, when I break there the yoke bars of Egypt. And in her the pride of her strength will actually be made to cease. As for her, clouds themselves will cover her, and into captivity her own dependent towns will go. (Ezekiel 30:18)**

## · Suggested Origin Of Name

- Some translators understand the name **Tahpanhes** to mean, in Egyptian, the Fortress of Penhase, Penhase being a general from the southern city of Thebes who overcame rebellious elements in the Delta region of Egypt, apparently in the latter part of the **Second Millennium B.C.E.**
- The **Greek Septuagint** renders **Tahpanhes** as *Taph'nas*, and it is generally believed that this name coincides with that of an important fortified city on Egypt's eastern border called Daphnae by the Greek writers of the classical period.
- For this reason some geographers identify Tahpanhes with Tell Defneh, nearly 50 kilometers (30 miles) South-Southwest of Port Said and about 45 kilometers (28 miles) West-Southwest of Pelusium, the suggested site of Sin.