

12/30/15

Hosea 8-10

Hosea continues on with a solemn warning of judgment in view of Israel's unfaithfulness.

8:1-14 The apostasy of Israel from God.

* The departure of Israel from God.

8:1-6 The sounding of the alarm in view of judgment.

8:1 The prophet Hosea is the watchman.

1) The trumpet "ahawphat" was used for many things, the breaking of camp, feast days, war and warning the city of invading danger, now he was to put it to his mouth and blow it for the coming judgment. vs. 1a

* Hosea was the last prophet to Israel, Amos had already warned them, both watchmen to sound the alarm and warn the people. Ezk. 33:1-11

2) The manner of the judgment coming is very sudden and swift "like an eagle against its prey, so for the house of the LORD." vs. 1b

* The date is close to the end, 724, this is the King of Assyria was Shalmaneser, 727-722 B. C.

3) The reason for the judgment is given in a formal charge of having transgressed "My covenant And rebelled against My law." vs. 1c

a) God made a covenant with Abraham and his descendants, through David. Gen. 12:1-3; 1Sam. 16:12-13; 2Sam. 7

6) New and eternal covenant, a better one. Heb. 7:20, 22; 8:13

b) Israel had violated two things.

1)) Transgressed the covenant that bound them as one.

* The word transgressed "abar", means to pass or cross over by willful disobedience.

2)) Rebelled against the particulars of the covenant "My law". Ex. 24; 34

* The word rebelled "pasha" means to revolt, rise up against.

8:2-3 The hypocrisy of Israel.

1) Israel claimed to know God "My God, we know You!" contradicting the charges. vs. 2

a) "This reveals the destructiveness of sin in one's life not able to detect the sad condition of syncretism. one's life by pride and arrogance." Hos. 5:5

- b) Pride and arrogance results in spiritual blindness from hard-hearted callousness.
- 2) The judgment is confirmed by adding insult to injury by casting off the good God intended for them, turning them to their enemy. vs. 3
 - a) They rejected “zanach”, cast off as repulsive and odious the good “towb”, the pleasant, agreeable and excellent things for life.
 - b) God was going to use Assyria the rod of His wrath. Is. 10:5

8:4-6 The foundational elements that brought the fall of the nation.

- 1) Ungodly leaders, kings and princes God did not set up by many assassinations, but God did not approve of them. vs. 4a-b
 - a) God chose the first Rehoboam I, but he rebelled against God, trusting in himself, setting up the idol centers of Dan and Bethel. 1Kings 12:28-33
 - b) Israel had 19 kings from Jeroboam I to Hoshea, a period of 253 years, all evil walking after their own human precepts and ways. Hos. 5:11; Hos. 10:13
- 2) Israel replaced the worship of God with idols, only to be cut off. vs. 4c-f

- a) Using silver and gold to represent the invisible God, a contradiction,, violating the First and Second commandments. Ex. 20; Deut. 5
- b) This is not indicating the purpose of the people who made the idols, but rather the statement of the consequences of making idols.
- 3) The denunciation by God of the pagan idols. vs. 5-6
 - a) God addressed Himself to the idolatrous capital of Israel, “Your calf is rejected, O Samaria!” vs. 5a-b
 - * The word rejected “zanach”, means cast off as repulsive and odious.
 - b) God indicated the violation of His holiness by His anger, knowing in spite of His patience they would not turn. vs. 5c
 - * God is a jealous God. Ex. 34:14; Ja. 4:5b
 - c) God provided the proof by their making of idols that were not God. vs. 6
 - 1)) They had idolatrous hearts and the calf of Samaria would be broken to pieces God rejected it. vs. 6c
 - 2)) Israel died spiritually in their worship of Baal, teaching all to kiss the calf. Hos. 13:1d-e, 2f-g

8:7-10 The self-inflicted consequences of sin.

The climax of sure impending judgment, sowing and reaping. Key verse

- 1) A person has the freedom to sow a life of sin or evil, but they cannot and will not reap the destruction of the storm it brings, the Assyrians would take them into captivity. vs. 7
 - a) “Ephraim feeds on the **wind.**” Hos. 12:1
 - b) This is another key verse and also applies to Christians who, though repentant, often meaningful relations and their marriage is destroy, due to lies, deceit or unfaithfulness. Gal. 6:7-8
 - c) The affirmation of the castigating judgment is confirmed by the meager harvest and if it produce God would have the enemy take it.
- 2) Their judgment could not be averted, Israel is already swallowed up. vs. 8
 - a) Literally, “they have been swallowed”, like wheat, seeking help from their enemies, trusting and depending on them for help.
 - b) Turning into a useless, worthless vessel, despised by God, literally, “a vessel for which there is not desire”, dishonor. 2Tim. 2:19-21

- 3) Their rejection of God was complete trusting Assyria, as a donkey in heat. vs. 9
 - * The account. 2Kings 15:19; 17:4; Jer. 2:24
- 4) They were going into captivity. vs. 10
 - a) Their foreign alliances were futile. Hos. 5:13; 7:11
 - b) Their executioner was Shalmaneser, King of Assyria.
 - * “Ephraim has encircled Me with **lies**, And the house of Israel with deceit.” Hos. 11:12

8:11-14 The unavoidable consequences for continued sin.

- 1) The people multiplied their altars of sexual rites promoting sin enslaving them, rather than holiness. vs. 11
 - * Gomer a cult prostitute married to Hosea and committed adultery against him, a parallel to Israel the wife of Yahweh. Hos. 1:2; 2:2; 9:; 10:1; 1Kings 16:30-32
- 2) God's word had become unfamiliar and unattractive to the hearer of Israel, too restrict and narrow. vs. 12
 - * The phrase consider strange “chashab zuwr”, to think or account as foreign.

- 3) They partook as if they had fellowship with God, but God was not in fellowship with them and judge them. vs. 13
 * They had forgotten their bondage of Egypt and returned to bondage, from which they had been redeemed. Hos. 9:3, 6
- 4) The reason for all this, Israel forgot her Maker and replaced Him with materialism, He had to judge them.
- a) Moses warned them about forgetting God. Deut, 4:23; 6:10-12; 8:10-14,19-20
- b) The word Forgotten “shakah” the root word means to cease to care, to be oblivious of God from want of memory, found three times in Hosea. Hos. 4:6; 13:6

9:1-17 The false confidence of Israel will result in her destruction.

* The sin of Israel is judged, God departs from Israel.

9:1-9 The joy of Israel would turn to gloom.

9:1-2 The standard of Israel was not that of other nations.

- 1) The nation is rebuked by God through Hosea. vs. 1

- a) For her joy over her corrupt and vile life-style, one with the nations. vs. 1a-c
- b) They are charged of being spiritually unfaithful to Yahweh, playing the harlot. vs. 1d
- c) Her spiritually unfaithfulness was carried out also in literal sexual rites, as hire on the threshing floor. vs. 1e
- 2) Their false and deceptive security prosperity would fall apart. vs. 2
- a) The threshing of wheat and wine credited to their sexual fertility rites to Baal and others, God would take it away.
- b) Shame should mark her feast not joy.

9:3-4 Their captivity would prevent them from their feast and sacrifice that God detested.

- 1) Yahweh would remove them from His land. vs. 3a
- 2) Ephraim is used as the head of the Northern Kingdom would return to captive bondage, represented “Egypt”. vs. 3b
- 3) Israel would eat defile food in Assyria. vs. 3c
- 4) Any drink offerings or sacrifices in Assyria would be unpleasing to God,

there being no temple to offer them. vs. 4a-b

- 5) The offerings would be like bread of mourners, defiled and unacceptable by Yahweh. vs. 4c-e
* Num. 19:22; Deut. 26:14

9:5-6 The devastating reality would strike them in captivity.

- 1) What were they going to do in the appointed day of judgment and captivity? vs. 5
a) A rhetorical question with only one answer, nothing!
b) Amos 4:12; 5:18
- 2) Their captivity was due to everything having been destroyed. vs. 6a
- 3) Some would die in Egypt and buried in Memphis. vs. 6b-c
* The has to be for Judah as Jeremiah prophesied. Jer. 43-45
- 4) The overgrowth would hide their valuables of silver and thorns in their dwellings. vs. 6d

9:7-9 The awareness of the judgment of God were evident.

- 1) The days of punishment and recompense were upon them and Israel knew things to be so, Assyria was in the land. vs. 7a-c

- 2) Israel knew the prophet was a fool and spiritual man is insane or crazy. vs. 7d-e
* The words of their false prophets, were proven to be untrue.
- 3) Israel knew this was all due to the multitude of their sins and hostility towards God. vs. 7f
a) Some interpret what the false prophets called the true prophets, due to their sin and hostility.
b) Told not to prophecy anymore. Amos 7:10-13
- 4) Hosea identified himself as one of the true prophets, a watchmen of Ephraim. vs. 8a
* Ezk. 38:1-11
- 5) The false prophets were no watchmen at all, but were a snare and an enemy to the house of God, Israel. vs. 8b-c
* Snare and enmity is parallelism to emphasize their corrupt destruction.
- 6) Their corruption of Israel is compared to the days of Gibeah, homosexuality, which God would remember and punish. vs. 9
a) A Levite and his concubine came to Gibeah and lodge in the house of an old man, then the homosexuals demanded the old man to hand over the Levite that they have sexual

relations with the Levite. Judges 19-21

- b) The host offered his daughters, but gave them the concubine to abuse all night, in the morning she was dead.
- c) The levite cut her up in to 12 pieces and sent the pieces to the tribes, all responded except Benjamin.
- d) Benjamin sided with Gibeah and almost became extinct, reduced to 600 men.

9:10-17 The delight of God in Israel was turned to disgust.

9:10-14 The loyal early days of Israel with God were turned to unfaithfulness.

- 1) God found Israel, He always initiates not man. vs. 10a-b
 - a) Like grapes or vine, a common symbol for Israel. Is. 5:1-7
* Ex. 19:4-6; Deut. 32:10; Jer. 2:2-3; Hos. 11:1
 - b) The fathers, the Patriarchs, as its first season on the fig tree, another symbol for Israel. Is. 28:4; Jer. 24:2; Mic. 7:1; Joel
- 2) But Israel separated themselves to the sexual shame and became abominable like the thing they they loved. vs. 10c-e
- 3) Ephraim would be humbled. vs. 11

- a) Ephraim means fruitful, but became unfruitful.
- b) Ephraim's glory would disappear like a bird flies away.
 - 1)) Ichabod, the glory of the Lord has departed. 1Sam 4:21
 - 2)) Ezekiel saw the God's glory depart from the temple. Ezk. 10:18
- c) Ephraim would be reduced in population, no birth, no pregnancy and no conception.
- 4) Israel would not be able to thwart the judgment of God. vs. 12
 - a) God would kill their descendants, even if they grew up to the last man. vs. 12a-b
 - b) The stern warning, "Yes, woe to them when I depart from them!" vs. 12c
- 5) Though Ephraim had been given a advantageous location for commerce of the sea, her children would go out to be murdered, due to her sin. vs. 13
- 6) Hosea intercedes against Israel, for a miscarrying womb and dry breasts. vs. 14

9:15-17 The wickedness of Israel repeated.

- 1) Judah was not to go to the pagan shrines for Gilgal had been a center for the school of the prophets under Elijah, now the center of idolatry. vs. 15a

* 2Kings 2:1; 38; Hos. 4:15d-e; 12:11; Amos 5:5

- a) This was the first place of worship after crossing the Jordan. Josh 4:19-20
- b) They were circumcised, their reproach rolled away and the manna ceased and kept the first Passover.
- 2) God would no longer love them for their evil and drive them into captivity with all their rebellious leaders. vs. 15b-e
- 3) The dye is cast, judgment is inevitable, they are dried up and God will kill their children. vs. 16
- 4) The summary statement of their judgment, due to not obeying God, so they would wander among the nations. vs. 17
 - a) Assyria and Babylon. Deut. 28:65
 - b) Like Cain refusing to repent. Gen 4:14

10:1-15 The sin and captivity of Israel.

* The departure of Israel from the land.

10:1-8 The sins of Israel would result in their captivity.

- 1) Israel became a luxurious vine but self-serving not God. vs. 1
 - a) God had planted her. Is. 5:1-7, Ps. 80:8

b) Israel multiplied the sinful alters and sacred pillars, as God had blessed them, rather than acknowledging the fruit from God.

* She is a backslidden heifer, treacherous, sick, adulterous, a silly dove, now an empty vine. Hos. 4:16; 5:7, 13; 7:4, 11

- 2) The reason was a divided heart, guilt and God would destroy their shrines. vs. 2
 - a) A divided heart leads to double mindedness and instability.
 - b) Circumcise your hearts. Deut. 10:16:30:6
- 3) The words of the people acknowledge the judgment of God against the kings of Israel. vs. 3
 - a) Due to the fact they did not fear Yahweh. vs. 3a-b
 - * The fear of the Lord brings obedience!
 - b) They acknowledged their kings were self-serving, did nothing for them. vs. 3c-d
 - * They feared the Lord, yet served their own gods.... 2Kings 17:33
- 3) The kings spoke falsely so God would judge their sin. vs. 4
 - a) Words swearing falsely in covenants.
 - * Hoshea the king of Israel had become a vassal paying tribute to

Shalmaneser, but he discovered Hoshea's conspiracy against him by seeking help from Egypt.

2Kings 17:4

- b) The outcome is like hemlock, a poison weed given to Socrates, resulting in their own destruction.
 - * Amos says they had turned judgment into gull and righteousness into hemlock. Amos 6:12
- 4) The people feared and mourned over the fact that their gods had not been able to protect and save them. vs. 5a-b
 - a) The calf of Beth Aven, house of wickedness, was really Bethel, house of God.
 - b) They should of feared God.
- 5) The priest shriek in horror for being conquered and the glory of their gods departed "galah" removed. vs. 5c-d
-Hoshea 2Kings 17:4
- 6) The aftermath of their conquest. vs. 6
 - a) The idols were to be carried to Assyria as a present for King Jareb "Yareb" contender, refers to Shalmaneser.
 - b) Ephraim shall receive shame "boshnah", a shameful thing, humbled and humiliated.

- c) Israel would be ashamed of his own counsel of departing from Yahweh and following the evil of idolatry.
- 7) The conquest of Samaria and king Hoshea came with ease, as Hoshea is compared to a twig cut of and transported by water. vs. 7
- 8) The conquest would be complete and thorough. vs. 8
 - a) The idolatrous high places of Aven, the very sin of Israel would be destroyed. vs. 8a-b
 - * A corruption of Bethel, house of God.
 - b) Their idolatrous altars would have no worshippers, being abandoned and desolate covered with thorn and thistle. vs. 8c
 - c) They would be overwhelmed and in total despair telling on the mountains, "Cover us!" And to the hills, "Fall on us!" vs. 8d-f
 - 1)) Shalmaneser went through the land and Samaria for three years and took captive the people and transported them to various location in Assyria. 2Kings 17:4-6
 - 2)) This will be the cry of those in the Great-Tribulation. Rev. 6:16

10:9-15 The sins of Israel would be punished.

10:9-11 The sinful bent of Israel.

- 1) The days of Gibeah, there they stood, in other words, they are still a Gibeah in their sin of sexual perversion by the homosexuals and idolatry. vs. 9a
* Judges 19-20; Hos. 9:9
- 2) The battle was against the children of iniquity, the tribe of Benjamin who defended the evil deed. vs. 9b-c
- 3) God would equally chasten Israel at His own time, “When it is My desire”. vs. 10
* Two transgression could refer to the two main idol center, Dan and Bethel or Assyria and Babylon?
- 4) The carefree life of Israel would soon become burdensome. vs. 11
 - a) God in His mercy and patience had given Israel an easy yoke and had eaten while threshing. vs. 11a
 - b) But now Israel would pull a plow and have a hard life, “I will make Ephraim pull a plow”. vs. 11b-c
 - c) Judah would not learn from Israel and follow in captivity. vs. 11d-e
* Judah. 1:11; 4:15; 5:5, 10, 12, 13, 14; 6:4, 11; 8:14; 10:11; 11:12; 12:2

10:12-15 The call to repentance in view of their sins.

- 1) The call to repent. vs. 12
* A triplet declared.
 - a) Invitation to sow **righteousness**, like a farmer sparingly that which pleased God. vs. 12a
 - b) Invitation to reap **mercy**, less than they deserved. vs. 12b
 - c) The instruction on how to do it, **break up your hollow ground**, hard and unyielding soil of the heart. vs. 12c
* Jeremiah says the same. Jer. 4:3-4
 - d) The reason, for it is time to seek the Lord through repentance. vs. 12d
 - e) The purpose and plan of God was for God to forgive and bless, “till He comes and rains righteousness on you.” vs. 12e
- 2) The summary statement of the sinful life of the people. vs. 13
* The triplets balance the ones in the previous verse.
 - 1) They had plowed wickedness. vs. 13a
 - 2) They had reaped iniquity. vs. 13b
 - 3) They had eaten the fruit of lies. vs. 13c
 - 4) The reason is two-fold. vs. 13d-e
 - a) They had trusted in your own way.
 - b) They had trusted in the multitude of your might men.

10:14-15 The certainty of the judgment and captivity.

- 1) The people and fortresses would be conquered and destroyed. vs. 14
 - a) Shalman is Shalmaneser who captured and imprisoned Hoshea in Assyria, 727-22 B.C. 2Kings 17:1-16
 - b) Arbel-believed to be in North Galilee, as he began in the north and worked his way south.
 - c) The horrors of war are described, “a mother dashed in pieces upon her children.”
- 2) The same would be done to Bethel, due to her great wickedness and the king of Israel would be cut off utterly at dawn. vs. 15
 - a) Hoshea was taken by Shalmaneser to Assyria in the early hours.
 - b) Shalmaneser after that sieged Samaria.