

{28} Hosea

(6) They will go with their flocks and with their herds to seek the LORD {Jehovah}; but they will not find *Him*; He has withdrawn Himself from them.

(7) They have dealt treacherously against the LORD {Jehovah}: because they have given birth to illegitimate children: now a month will devour them with their portions.

(8) Blow the cornet in Gibeah, *and* the trumpet in Ramah: cry aloud *at* Bethaven, after you, O Benjamin.

(9) Ephraim will be desolate in the day of rebuke: among the tribes of Israel I have made known that which will surely be.

(10) The princes of Judah were like those who remove the boundaries:^c *therefore* I will pour out My wrath {anger; judgment} upon them like water.

(11) Ephraim *is* oppressed *and* broken in judgment, because he willingly walked after the commandment.

(12) Therefore I *will be* to Ephraim as a moth, and to the house of Judah as rottenness.

(13) When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah *saw* his wound, then Ephraim went to the Assyrian, and sent to king Jareb: yet he could not heal you, nor cure you of your wound.

(14) Because I *will be* to Ephraim as a lion, and as a young lion to the house of Judah: I, *even* I, will tear and go away; I will take away, and no one will rescue *him*.

(15) I will go *and* return to My place, until they acknowledge their offense, and seek My face: in their affliction they will seek Me early.

Chapter 6

(1) Come, and let us return to the LORD {Jehovah}: because He has torn, and He will heal us; He has stricken, and He will bind us up.

(2) After two days He will revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we will live in His sight.

(3) Then we will know, *if* we continue to know the LORD {Jehovah}: His going forth is prepared as the morning; and He will come to us as the rain, as the latter *and* former rain to the earth.

(4) O Ephraim, what shall I do to you? O Judah, what shall I do to you? because your goodness *is* as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goes away.

(5) Therefore I have cut *them* down by the prophets; I have killed them by the words of My mouth: and your judgments *are as* the light *that* goes forth.

(6) Because I desired mercy, and not sacrifice;^a and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.

(7) But they like men have sinned against the covenant: there they have dealt treacherously against Me.

(8) Gilead *is* a city of those who do evil, *and is* polluted with blood.

5:10c - those who remove boundaries - boundaries were markers which showed where one person's property started and another's ended. Those who removed boundaries were guilty of stealing land that did not belong to them.

6:6a - mercy - Mat. 5:7; Mat. 9:13; Mat. 12:7

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(9) And as troops of robbers wait for a man, so the company of priests murder in the way by consent: because they commit shameful acts.

(10) I have seen a horrible thing in the house of Israel: there is the prostitution of Ephraim, Israel is defiled.

(11) Also, O Judah, he has set a harvest for you, when I returned the captivity of My people.

Chapter 7

(1) When I would have healed Israel, then the evil of Ephraim was uncovered, and the wickedness of Samaria: because they commit falsehood; and the thief comes inside, *and* the troop of robbers spoils outside.

(2) And they do not consider in their hearts *that* I remember all their wickedness: now their own deeds have come upon them; they are before My face.

(3) They make the king glad with their wickedness, and the princes with their lies.

(4) They *are* all adulterers, as an oven heated by the baker, *who* ceases from raising after he has kneaded the dough, until it is leavened.

(5) In the day of our king the princes have made *him* sick with bottles of wine; he stretched out his hand with scorners.

(6) Because they have made their hearts ready like an oven, while they lie in wait: their baker sleeps all the night; in the morning it burns as a flaming fire.

(7) They are all hot as an oven, and have devoured their judges; all their kings are fallen: *there is* no one among them who calls to Me.

(8) Ephraim, he has mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned.

(9) Strangers have devoured his strength, and he does not know *it*: yes, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he does not know.

(10) And the pride of Israel testifies to his face: and they do not return to the LORD {Jehovah} their God, nor for all this do they seek Him.

(11) Ephraim also is like a silly dove without heart: they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria.

(12) When they shall go, I will spread My net upon them; I will bring them down as the birds of the heaven; I will chastise them, as their congregation has heard.

(13) Woe to them! because they have fled from Me: destruction to them! because they have sinned against Me: though I have redeemed them, yet they have spoken lies against Me.