

"For three transgressions... even for four"

O House of Israel

There was a time when Ephraim, the leading house of the ten-tribe house of Israel, was well respected. The great warrior, **Joshua** from the tribe of Ephraim, led the Israelites into the Promised Land after Moses died; faithful and strong **Deborah** from the tribe of Ephraim, judged Israel and led the battle against Sisera; righteous and unwavering **Samuel** from the tribe of Ephraim, was the last judge of Israel, who kept Israel close to God and then, it was **Jeroboam** from the tribe of Ephraim, the first king to rule over the ten-tribe house of Israel, who took the whole house down the dangerous dark path of treachery and wickedness. The house never fully recovered from the faithless leadership of Jeroboam.

"When Ephraim spoke, there was trembling; he was exalted in Israel. But he incurred guilt through Baal, and he died" (Hosea 13:1).

The ten-tribe house of Israel enjoyed great numbers while the house of Judah comprised of only two tribes. This advantage worked against them because the great lesson for all mankind is the realization that the created need to trust and lean on the Creator for guidance and direction.

"Is not Ephraim my dear son, the child in whom I delight? Though I often speak against him, I still remember him, therefore, my heart yearns for him; I have great compassion for him" (Jeremiah 31:20).

Despite the pull for self-reliance, self-direction, and self-glory, God still loves His people. He chose them to be a holy nation of royal priests, trusting their God in everything, but they wanted to be like the nations around them. They saw their massive buildings, large armies, and the power they wielded and they lusted after that superpower status. They walked away from God and pursued what they craved and became corrupt turning into thieves, liars, and murderers.

"Israel is not hidden from me. Ephraim, you have now turned to prostitution; **Israel is corrupt**" (Hosea 5:1).

God promised Abraham that He would be a God to him and his descendants forever. The vow will not be broken. God will work with His people; they will learn that their choices and their cravings that have brought destruction. God will expose their sins to the whole world and they will be ashamed.

For three transgressions of Israel, even for four... "I will not relent. They sell the innocent for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals" (Amos 2:6.)

“A merchant, in whose hands are false balances, you love to oppress. And Ephraim said, ‘Surely I have become rich, I have found wealth for myself; In all my labors they will find in me no iniquity, which would be sin’” (Hosea 12:7-8).

“Hear this, you who trample the needy, to do away with the humble of the land, saying, ‘When will the new moon be over, so that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath, that we may open the wheat market, to make the bushel smaller and the shekel bigger, and to cheat with dishonest scale’” (Amos 8:4-5).

The City of London and Wall Street are their places of false balances and theft.

For three transgressions of Israel, even for four... “O you who turn justice into bitterness and cast down righteousness to the earth, you hate him who reproves in the gate, and you abhor him who speaks the truth” (Amos 5:7, 10).

“For I know how many are your offenses and how great your sins. There are those who oppress the innocent and take bribes and deprive the poor of justice in the courts. Therefore, the prudent keep quiet in such times, for the times are evil. I urge you to hate evil, love good; maintain justice in the courts. Perhaps the LORD God Almighty will have mercy on the **remnant of Joseph**” (Amos 5:12-15).

Wicked judges sit on the highest courts throughout their land, judging against the innocent and protecting the wicked.

For three transgressions of Israel, even for four... “I abhor the pride of Jacob and detest his fortresses” (Amos 6:8).

“Your land is full of bloodshed and the city is full of injustice. They say, ‘The LORD has forsaken the land; the LORD does not see.’ But as for Me, my eye will have no pity nor will I spare, but I will bring their conduct upon their heads” (Ezekiel 9:9-10).

Billions of dollars are poured into the military and billions more are secretly handed over to black operations hidden and heavily guarded.

For three transgressions of Israel, even for four... “I hate, I detest your festivals, and I cannot stand your assemblies” (Amos 5:21).

“Even though you offer up to Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept them; and I will not even look at the peace offerings of your fatlings. Take away from Me the noise of your songs; I will not even listen to the sound of your harps” (Amos 5:22-23).

“Surely the eyes of the Sovereign LORD are on the sinful kingdom. I will destroy it from the face of the earth. Yet **I will not totally destroy the descendants of Jacob,**’ declares the LORD” (Amos 9:8).

“How did you turn against me into a corrupt, wild vine?” (Jeremiah 2:21)

“I gave faithless Israel her certificate of divorce and sent her away because of all her adulteries” (Jeremiah 3:8).

We may be considered a Christian nation, but our faith is superficial. Here today, gone tomorrow.

Jacob’s (Israel) trouble rests on the near horizon. The West has fallen so deep into the mire that without calling on God and beseeching Him, they will not get out. Wickedness is everywhere, holding positions of authority in every area of every country. Over the centuries, God has given superpower status to each of the nations of ten-tribe Israel. Now, in these last days, the house of Joseph has risen to the top, first Great Britain and then, the United States of America. Their ungodly rulership brought havoc to the nations.

“You say, ‘We want to be like the nations, like the peoples of the world, who serve wood and stone’. As for you, O house of Israel, go and serve your idols, every one of you! **But afterward you will surely listen to me**” (Ezekiel 20:32).

“In the latter days, Joseph [Ephraim and Manasseh] will be a fruitful vine near a spring, whose branches climb over a wall. With bitterness archers attacked him; they shot at him with hostility. But his bow remained steady, his strong arms stayed limber, **because of My hand**, the hand of the Mighty One of Jacob, **because of the Shepherd**, the Rock of Israel, **because of your father’s God** who helps you, **because of the Almighty**, who blesses you with blessings of the heavens above, blessings of the deep that lies below, blessings of the breast and womb. Your father’s blessings are greater than the blessings of the ancient mountains, than the bounty of the age-old hills. Let all these rest on the head of Joseph, on the brow of the prince among his brothers” (Genesis 49: 22-26).

“Where is God?” the people say. “He does not exist!” They shout. Have they considered that God has turned His face from His people because of their wickedness.

“I prophesied that you will forsake me and break the covenant I made with you. And **on that day, I will become angry with you and forsake you**; I will hide my face from you, and you will be destroyed” (Deuteronomy 31:16-17). “With an outstretched arm and with outpoured wrath, I will not allow you to remain like the Gentiles” (Ezekiel 20:33).

“Hear this word the Lord has spoken against you, O people of Israel—against the whole family I brought up out of Egypt: **You only have I chosen of all the families of the earth, therefore I will punish you for all your sins.** Proclaim to the fortresses of Ashdod and the fortresses of Egypt: Assemble yourselves on the mountains of Samaria; see the great unrest within her people. **They do not know how to do right** who hoard plunder and loot in their fortresses. Therefore, an enemy will overrun the land; he will pull down your strongholds and plunder your fortresses. **On that day, I will punish Israel for her sins**” (Amos 3:1, 9-14).

“I scattered them and wherever they went among the nations they profaned my holy name and it

was said of you ‘These are the Lord’s people, and yet you had to leave his land’. I had concern for my holy name, which **the house of Israel profaned among the nations where they had gone**” (Ezekiel 36:20-21).

In that day of great distress, the West and their Allies will call out to God. From a godless nation, they will become a humble, God-fearing, God-serving people forever thankful for the enduring love of their God—the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. God will hear their cry and He will rescue them.

“I am going to bring you out from the nations and gather you from the countries where I scattered you. In the desert of the nations, there face-to-face I will execute judgment. I will take note of each one of you as you pass under My staff. The evil doer will not be allowed to continue into the land” (Ezekiel 20:37).

“I will save you from your uncleanness and then you will remember your evil ways and wicked deeds, and **you will loathe yourselves for your sins and detestable practices**. I want you to know that **I am not doing this for your sake... Be ashamed and disgraced for your conduct, O house of Israel!**” (Ezekiel 36:31-32).

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God” (Matthew 5).

Compiled by Janette Andrejowich

