2Thess #140

Only God can remove you from the thorns and thistles.

Open back up today in Hosea chapter ten and let us go over where we left off.

I did put a Geo-political, personal commentary on RUMBLE and BRIGHTEON. Feel free to share or ignore it…do with it as you like.

[/Hos 10:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/10/8/s_872008) Also **the high places of Aven**, **the sin of Israel,** will be destroyed; **Thorns and thistles will grow on their altars;** Then they will say to the mountains,“Cover us!” And to the hills, “Fall on us!”

The Hebrew noun - *'āven,* points to idolatry and wickedness, sorrow or evil.\

AH-VAN, it means vanity and false gods or wrongdoing and evil.

Notice the curse of thorns and thistles because they have dried up from the abundance GOD gave them.

They took for granted and destroy the blessings from GOD.

/This was a place in or near Bethel where the Israelites had sinned. Ironically, when the Israelites had entered the Promised Land, the Lord had commanded them to destroy such places as well as seeds of Satan (Num. 33:52; Deut. 12:2-3). Since they had not obeyed, the Lord would use the Assyrians to fulfill His command. Bethel - meaning a house of GOD, a place both Abraham and Jacob had encounters with YAHWEH.\

Bethel was about 10 miles north of Jerusalem. This was the spot where sacred meetings where GOD and his people had met before and it became a place of evil.

The rejection of BD over time will lead a Bel into a tangled web of thorns and thistles.

 In this case, GOD proclaimed this place would become overrun and abandoned where thorns and thistles will grow.

Much of this also points very prophetically, far ahead into the Tribulation period.

[Hos 10:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/10/9/s_872009) Since the days of Gibeah you have sinned, Israel;There they stand!Will the battle against the sons of injustice not overtake them in Gibeah?

The tribe of Benjaman were from the hill country of Gibeah and there is a story of a rape and murder of a concubine in Judges 19 into chapter 20 that this is pointing backward toward.

That was also a time of rebellion against the word of GOD as well.

[/Hos 10:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/10/10/s_872010) **When it is My desire, I will discipline them**;And the peoples will be gathered against themWhen they are bound for their double guilt.

The difficulties and misery of thorns are often related to divine discipline approaching on a Client Nation or a Bel.\

The choices we make outside the plan of GOD accumulate and when they are not washed clean we become entangled.

When they accumulate and we do not turn from the habitual practices of evil, there is going to be a drought in our life that can lead to severe discipline.

Simply naming and citing sins and then going right back to that same sin without any effort of repentance, such as bringing yourself back into a steady washing of BD - is almost useless.

 REPEAT

/[Hos 10:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/10/11/s_872011) Ephraim is a trained heifer that loves to thresh,And I passed over her lovely neck; **I will harness Ephraim, Judah will plow, Jacob will harrow for himself.**

The cattle would thresh as part of an unrestricted way for them to eat as well as crush the wheat or corn under their hooves. Sometimes a threshing hammer was attached but they were free to eat and work.\

Whether you want to hear this or not, we are all under a yoke – either that of GOD or that of Satan.

Now God will put the Assyrian yoke upon Israel, instead of freedom, part of the discipline was putting Israel under subservient work for the enemy.

We see the name JACOB used pointing backward to the flesh. Israel was the chosen name, a typology of being born again and walking with GOD – JACOB is often seen as the OSN being in control.

Both the Northern and Southern tribes would face captivity.

When you choose the flesh over the spirit often times GOD allows you to wallow in that OSN, it is part and partial of self-induced misery.

In this case it was a transition period into the 5th cycle of discipline.

/[Hos 10:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/10/12/s_872012) **Sow for yourselves, *with a view* to righteousness;** Harvest in accordance with kindness. **Break up your uncultivated ground,** For it is time to seek the LORDUntil He comes and rains righteousness on you.

This is a call to repentance, to turn back, confess and regather themselves back to GOD. They had not properly confessed and brought themselves back into truth in a long time (uncultivated ground).\

This is an exact reminder of what I mentioned in the Eternal Security lessons recently.

God’s prophets were always telling HIS people to turn back, confess sin and get back into fellowship.

Once saved always saved!

/It doesn’t matter if it is self-induced misery or divine discipline, GOD has given us freedom (free will) and expects us to take responsibility and turn back toward HIM. A curse can never be turned into a blessing until unconfessed sin is dealt with and steps have been taken to get yourself back on track indoctrinated into Bible Doctrine. Playing the Yo-Yo game with GOD, where the Bel confesses sin and willfully steps back into the same sin the next day, just prolongs misery and confusion in the Christian life.

 (Gal 6:7)\

God always forgives because the work was done upon the cross, but GOD is not to be mocked – that which you sow you also will reap.

/[Hos 10:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/10/13/s_872013) You have plowed wickedness, you have harvested injustice,You have eaten the fruit of lies. **Because you have trusted in your way, in your many warriors,**

When a nation or Bel has become so dark and dried up away from GOD, their defenses and protection has dwindled.\

This is important for America – when we pull so far back from the truth of GOD and the teaching of Christ, it weakens the nation, meaning the military will suffer, education suffers, law and order suffer.

/Under the 4 Divine Establishment principles the nation develops a strong and lawful culture. The majority of men and woman follow God and in doing so, they produce great leaders, warriors and intellects. When these Divine Institutions are compromised everything else suffers. God will withdraw HIS wall of fire after a long period of rejecting HIS word.\

Within a godly military we have need for women in many roles, yet combat and front-line service is not one of them. A godly military is a masculine and righteous, as well as fierce military force.

I do not care about political correctness, in fact, that is one of several avenues that have decimated our country over the last 50 years.

 REPEAT

[Hos 10:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/10/14/s_872014) An uproar will arise among your people,And all your fortresses will be destroyed,As Shalman destroyed Beth-arbel on the day of battle, *when*mothers were slaughtered with *their*  children.

"Shalman" may refer to King Shalmaneser III, an Assyrian who conducted campaigns in the West in the ninth century B.C. - One battle in particular before the time of Hosea, was when whole families of Israelites were slaughtered…woman and children.

Many Israelites would recall that massive and painful battle.

The only time we see God’s people take on mass causalities is when they have been in reversionism.

[Hos 10:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/10/15/s_872015) So it will be done to you at Bethel because of your great wickedness.At dawn the king of Israel will be completely destroyed.

The siege on the northern tribe starting with Samaria would begin the very next day.

Now jump over to Isaiah chapter 34 RF.

/The Doctrine of Thorns, speaks to the Christian about our own poor decisions and becoming a responsible soldier for Christ. It teaches us that GOD is not mocked and discipline is real. It gives us the truth that once we separate from God, we are then entangling ourselves into the devil’s world. \

Now Isaiah became a prolific prophet for the kingdom of Judah (southern tribe) starting around 740 BC.

He witnessed the Assyrian march across the landscape. He kept warning of the coming troubles.

Isaiah warned that the Northern Tribe would be plundered and the southern tribe would follow.

 He was often ridiculed and ignored. This caused him great grief, because he was a serious follow of Yahweh, he knew the word of GOD and he had powerful communication through God the HS.

In this chapter it is a highlight of prophecy related to what was about to happen, but it really revolves around the future Tribulation period.

Remember prophecy is often multi-layered – this one certainly is!

/Isa 34:1 Come near, **you nations**, to hear; and listen, **you peoples**! **Let the earth and all it contains hear**, and **the world** and all that springs from it.

Nations (plural -peoples, world) this is referencing the whole world about to come under judgement.\

Though we recognize from prophecy studies such as the book of Daniel, that teaches us the 7 years of Tribulation is a completion of the 5th cycle of discipline for Israel.

It is very clear right here among a handful of other OT scriptures, that the whole world will be due for GOD’s wrath at some point in the future.

The Tribulation serves more than one purpose – it completes a cycle of discipline for Israel. It allows Satan his final, full unadulterated run on earth.

Then it deals with the overall wickedness of mankind who refuse to accept TLJC.

[Isa 34:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/2/s_713002) For the LORD’S anger is against all the nations, And *His*wrath against all their armies. He hasutterly destroyed them,He has turned them over to slaughter.

There has never been a time in human history other than the time of the flood that the whole of the earth, faced the wrath of GOD.

The terms used for destruction, slaughter and wrath - tells us this is very unique, even beyond the washing of the earth in Genesis chapter 7.

This is speaking very prophetically about something that has never happened… yet!

/[Isa 34:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/3/s_713003) So **their slain will be thrown out**,And **their corpses will give off their stench**, And the mountains **will be drenched** with their blood.

This is all written in a future tense – pointing us to a time at the end of the Tribulation; the Battle of Armageddon and the 2nd Advent of Christ.\

When Christ returns as the warrior-King it is not a time of peace, love and mercy.

The earth itself will shift on its axis once again as it did at the flood.

It will be a supernatural set of events leading up to the day TLJC steps down on the Mount of Olives.

/[Isa 34:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/4/s_713004) And all **the heavenly lights will wear away**,And **the sky will be rolled up like a scroll**;All its **lights will also wither** awayAs a leaf withers from the vine,Or as *one* withers from the fig tree.

The 2nd Advent of Christ is marked by a supernatural set of events, like never before which culminates at battle of Armageddon. (Mat 24, Mark 13, Act 2) \

We will close today with the next two scriptures because there is a lot wrapped up in these next two that needs greater details explained.

/[Isa 34:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/5/s_713005) For My sword has drunk its fill in heaven; **Behold it shall descend for judgment upon Edom, And upon the people whom I have designated for destruction.**

My sword is full of the righteousness of heaven, it will be used to begin the judgment upon enemies of the CROSS, seeds of Satan and Unbelievers.\

Edom points to descendants of Esau, yet it was always used for the polar opposite of the people of GOD – the antithesis to Israel.

A common enemy living in the same land.

Tares among the Wheat.

How often did the TLJC and the apostles mention, sometimes the enemies are those in our own circle of family and friends.

[Isa 34:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/6/s_713006) The sword of the LORD is filled with blood,It drips with fat, with the blood of lambs and goats,With the fat of the kidneys of rams.For the LORD has a sacrifice in Bozrah,

And a great slaughter in the land of Edom.

[Isa 34:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/7/s_713007) Wild oxen will also fall with themAnd young bulls with strong ones;So their land will be soaked with blood,And their dust become greasy with fat.

[Isa 34:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/isa/34/8/s_713008) For the LORD has a day of vengeance,A year of retribution for the cause of Zion.