

Israel Missed Her Chance

A. Israel (*Ephraim*) Could **Escape** Judgment (Hosea 7–12)

1. Israel Turns to **Egypt** and Assyria, (Hosea 7:1-16)

a. God's plan revealed (**He was going to heal them**) (Hosea 7:1)

1 When I would have healed Israel, then the iniquity(**perversity**) of Ephraim was discovered, and the wickedness(**evil**) of Samaria: for they commit falsehood(**deception, lie**); and the thief cometh in, and the troop of robbers spoileth without.

b. Israel followed their evil heart (Hosea 7:2-3)

2 And they consider not **in their hearts** that I remember all their wickedness: now their own doings have beset them about; **they are before my face**.

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

c. A Two-fold Illustration (**bread & wine**) (Hosea 7:4-8)

4 They are **all adulterers**, as an oven heated by the baker, who ceaseth from raising after he hath kneaded the dough, until it be leavened(to be **sour**).

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 For they have made ready their heart like an oven, whiles they lie in wait: their baker sleepeth all the night; in the morning it burneth as a flaming fire.

7 They are all **hot as an oven**, and have devoured their judges; all their kings are fallen: **there is none among them that calleth unto me**.

8 Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim **is a cake not turned**.

***ONE ROTTEN APPLE ROTTENETH THE WHOLE BARREL!**

d. Following the **enemy** has an effect on Israel (Hosea 7:9-16)

1) **Weakness** - No more **strength** (Hosea 7:9)

9 **Strangers** have devoured his strength, and he knoweth it not: yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not.

2) **Wayward** - **Not willing to return to God** (Hosea 7:10)

10 And the **pride of Israel** testifieth to his face: and **they do not return** to the LORD their God, **nor seek him** for all this.

3) **Worried** - They lost **heart** (Hosea 7:11)

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

4) **Whipping** - God **must** respond (Hosea 7:12-16)

12 When they shall go, I will spread my net upon them; **I will bring them down** as the fowls of the heaven; **I will chastise them**, as their congregation hath heard.

13 Woe unto them! for they have fled from me: destruction unto them! because **they have**

transgressed against me: THOUGH I HAVE REDEEMED THEM, yet they have spoken lies against me.

14 And **they have not cried unto me with their heart**, when they howled upon their beds: they assemble themselves for corn and wine, and **they rebel against me**.

15 **THOUGH I HAVE BOUND AND STRENGTHENED THEIR ARMS**, yet do they imagine mischief against me.

16 **They return, but not to the most High**: they are like a deceitful bow: their princes shall fall by the sword for the rage of their tongue: this shall be their derision in the land of **Egypt**.

2. Israel Turns to Golden **Calves** and Altars of **Sin**, (Hosea 8:1-14)

a. God's **Frustration** stated (Hosea 8:1-2)

1 Set the trumpet to thy mouth. **He shall come as an eagle against the house of the LORD**, because they have **transgressed** my covenant, and **trespassed** against my law.

2 Israel shall cry unto me, My God, we know thee.

b. Israel chooses the ways of the **enemy** (without God) (Hosea 8:3-14)

3 Israel hath cast off **the thing that is good**: the **enemy** shall pursue him.

1) Bad **Leaders** (Hosea 8:4)

4 They have set up **kings**, but not by me: they have **made princes**, and I knew it not: of their silver and their gold have they made them **idols**, that they may be cut off.

2) Bad **Litergy** (Hosea 8:5)

5 Thy **calf**, O **Samaria**, hath cast thee off; mine anger is kindled against them: how long will it be ere they attain to **innocency**(free from **guilt**)?

6 For from Israel was it also: the workman made it; therefore it is not God: but the **calf of Samaria** shall be broken in pieces.

7 For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind: it hath no stalk: the bud shall yield no meal: if so be it yield, the strangers shall swallow it up.

8 **Israel is swallowed up**: now shall they be among the Gentiles as a **vessel wherein is no pleasure**.

9 For they are gone up to **Assyria**, a wild ass alone by himself: Ephraim hath hired lovers.

10 Yea, though they have hired among the nations, **now will I gather them**, and they shall sorrow a little for the burden of the king of princes.

3) Bad **Living** (Hosea 8:6)

11 Because **Ephraim hath made many altars to sin**, altars shall be unto him to sin.

12 **I have written to him** the great things of **my law**, but they were counted as a strange thing.

13 They sacrifice flesh for the sacrifices of mine offerings, and eat it; **but the LORD accepteth them not**; now **will he remember their iniquity, and visit their sins**: they shall return to **Egypt**.

14 For **Israel hath forgotten his Maker**, and buildeth temples; and Judah hath multiplied fenced cities: but **I will send a fire upon his cities**, and it shall devour the palaces thereof.