

Hosea

1:1 Hosea's Wife and Children of Whoredom. 1:10 Restoration of Israel and Judah.

1 *The* word of Jehovah that came unto Hosea *the* son of Beeri, in *the* days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in *the* days of Jeroboam *the* son of Joash, king of Israel.

2 When Jehovah spake at *the* first ¹by Hosea, Jehovah said unto Hosea, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredom and children of whoredom; for the land doth commit great whoredom, *departing* from Jehovah. **3** So he went and took Gomer *the* daughter of Diblaim; and she conceived, and bare him a son. **4** And Jehovah said unto him, Call his name Jezreel; for yet a little *while*, and I will ²revisit the blood of Jezreel upon *the* house of Jehu, and will cause *the* kingdom of *the* house of Israel to cease. **5** And it shall come to pass at that day, that I will break the bow of Israel in *the* valley of Jezreel. **6** And she conceived again, and bare a daughter. And *Jehovah* said unto him, Call her name ³Lo-ruhamah; for I will no more have mercy upon the house of Israel, that I should in any wise pardon them. **7** But I will have mercy upon the house of Judah, and will save them by Jehovah their God, and will not save them by bow, nor by sword, nor by battle, by horses, nor by horsemen. **8** Now when she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived, and bare a son. **9** And *Jehovah* said, Call his name ⁴Lo-ammi; for ye *are* not my people, and I will not be ⁵your *God*.

10 Yet *the* number of *the* children of Israel shall be as *the* sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered; and it shall come to pass *that*, ⁶in *the* place where it was said unto them, Ye *are* not my people, it shall be said unto them, Ye *are* the sons of *the* living God. **11** And *the* children of Judah and *the* children of Israel shall be gathered together, and they shall appoint themselves one head, and shall go up from the land; for great *shall be the* day of Jezreel.

2 Say ye unto your brethren, ⁷Ammi; and to your sisters, ⁸Ruchamah.

2 Contend with your mother, contend; for she *is* not my wife, neither *am* I her husband; and let her put away her whoredoms from her face, and her adulteries from between her breasts; **3** lest I strip her naked, and set her as *in the* day that she was born, and make her as a wilderness, and set her like *a* dry land, and slay her

¹ *Or*, with

² *Or*, avenge *But see* 2Ki 9:21-37.

³ *That is*, That hath not obtained mercy;

⁴ *That is*, Not my people;

⁵ *Hb.* for you.

⁶ *Or*, instead of that which was said,

⁷ *That is*, My people;

⁸ *That is*, That hath obtained mercy.

with thirst. **4** Yes, upon her children will I have no mercy; for they *are* children of whoredom; **5** for their mother hath played *the* harlot; she that conceived them hath done shamefully; for she said, I will go after my lovers, that give *me* my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, mine oil and my ⁹drink. **6** Therefore, behold, I will hedge up thy way with thorns, and I will build a wall against her, that she shall not find her paths. **7** And she shall follow after her lovers, but she shall not overtake them; and she shall seek them, but shall not find *them*: then shall she say, I will go and return to my first husband; for then *was it* better with me than now.

8 For she did not know that I gave her the grain, and the new wine, and the oil, and multiplied unto her silver and gold, *which* they ¹⁰used for Baal. **9** Therefore will I ¹¹take back my grain in *the* time thereof, and my new wine in *the* season thereof, and will pluck away my wool and my flax *which* should have covered her nakedness. **10** And now will I uncover her ¹²lewdness in *the* sight of her lovers, and none shall deliver her out of my hand. **11** I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feasts, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her ¹³solemn assemblies. **12** And I will lay waste her vines and her fig-trees, whereof she hath said, These *are* my hire that my lovers have given me; and I will make them a forest, and *the* beasts of the field shall eat them. **13** And I will visit upon her the days of the Baalim, ¹⁴unto which she burned incense, when she decked herself with her ¹⁵earrings and her jewels, and went after her lovers, and forgot me, saith Jehovah.

14 Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak ¹⁶comfortably unto her. **15** And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of ¹⁷Troubling for a door of hope; and she shall ¹⁸make answer there, as *in the* days of her youth, and as *in the* day when she came up out of Egypt. **16** And it shall be in that day, saith Jehovah, *that* thou shalt call me ¹⁹Ishi, and shalt call me no more ²⁰Baali.

⁹ *Hb.* drinks.

¹⁰ *Or*, made into the *image* of Baal.

¹¹ *Or*, return, and take away my grain

¹² *Or*, shame

¹³ *Or*, appointed feasts.

¹⁴ *Or*, wherein she burned incense to them,

¹⁵ *Or*, noserings

¹⁶ *Hb.* to her heart.

¹⁷ *Hb.* Achor for Petach Tiqvah;

¹⁸ *Or*, sing there,

¹⁹ *That is*, My husband, *Lit.* My man,

²⁰ *That is*, My master.

17 For I will take away the names of the Baalim out of her mouth, and they shall no more be ²¹mentioned by their name. 18 And in that day will I make a covenant for them with *the* beasts of the field, and with *the* birds of the heavens, and with *the* creeping things of the ground: and I will break *the* bow and *the* sword and *the* battle out of the land, and will make them to lie down safely. 19 And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yes, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in justice, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies. 20 I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness; and thou shalt know Jehovah.

21 And it shall come to pass in that day, I will answer, saith Jehovah, I will answer the heavens, and they shall answer the earth; 22 and the earth shall answer the grain, and the new wine, and the oil; and they shall answer ²²Jezreel. 23 And I will sow her unto me in the ²³earth; and I will have mercy upon ²⁴her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to ²⁵them that were not my people, Thou *art* my people; and they shall say, *Thou art* my God.

3 And Jehovah said unto me, Go again, love a woman beloved ²⁶of *her* friend, and an adulteress, even as Jehovah loveth the children of Israel, though they turn unto other gods, and ²⁷love cakes of raisins. 2 So I bought her to me for fifteen *pieces* of silver, and a homer of barley, and a ²⁸half-homer of barley; 3 and I said unto her, Thou shalt abide for me many days; thou shalt not play *the* harlot, and thou shalt not be *any* man's wife; so will I also *be* toward thee. 4 For the children of Israel shall abide many days without king, and without prince, and without sacrifice, and without ²⁹pillar, and without ephod or teraphim: 5 afterward shall *the* children of Israel return, and seek Jehovah their God, and David their king, and shall come with fear unto Jehovah and to his goodness in the latter days.

4 Hear *the* word of Jehovah, ye children of Israel; for Jehovah hath a controversy with *the* inhabitants of the land, because *there is* no truth, nor goodness, nor knowledge of God in the land. 2 There is nought but swearing and breaking faith, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery; they break out, and blood toucheth blood. 3 Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with *the* beasts of the field and *the* birds of the heavens; yes, *the* fishes of the sea also shall be taken away. 4 Yet let no

²¹ *Or*, remembered

²² *That is*, Whom God soweth

²³ *Or*, land;

²⁴ *Hb.* Lo-ruhamah; *See* ch. 1:6.

²⁵ *Hb.* Lo-ammi, *See* ch. 1:9-10.

²⁶ *Or*, of *her* husband, yet an adulteress,

²⁷ *Or*, them that love cakes of raisins.

²⁸ *Hb.* lethech

²⁹ *Or*, obelisk,

man strive, neither let *any* man reprove; for thy people *are* as they that strive with *the* priest. 5 And thou shalt stumble *in* the day, and *the* prophet also shall stumble with thee *in* the night; and I will destroy thy mother.

6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, ³⁰I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten *the* law of thy God, I also will forget thy children. 7 As they were multiplied, so they sinned against me: ³¹They have changed my glory into shame. 8 They feed on *the* sin of my people, and ³²set their heart on their iniquity. 9 And it shall be, like people, like priest; and I will punish them for their ways, and will requite them their doings. 10 And they shall eat, and not have enough; they shall play *the* harlot, and shall not increase; because they have left off taking heed to Jehovah.

11 Whoredom and wine and new wine take away *the* ³³understanding. 12 My people ask counsel at their stock, and their staff declareth unto them; for *the* spirit of whoredom hath caused *them* to err, and they have played *the* harlot, *departing* from under their God. 13 They sacrifice upon *the* tops of the mountains, and burn incense upon the hills, under oaks and poplars and terebinths, because *the* shadow thereof *is* good: therefore your daughters play *the* harlot, and your ³⁴brides commit adultery. 14 I will not punish your daughters when they play *the* harlot, nor your brides when they commit adultery; for *the* men themselves go apart with harlots, and they sacrifice with the *temple* prostitutes; and the people *that* doth not understand shall be overthrown.

15 Though thou, Israel, play *the* harlot, yet let not Judah ³⁵offend; and come not ye unto Gilgal, neither go ye up to Beth-aven, nor swear, As Jehovah liveth. 16 For Israel hath behaved himself stubbornly, like a stubborn heifer: now will Jehovah feed them as a lamb in a large place. 17 Ephraim *is* joined to idols; let him alone. 18 ³⁶Their drink is become sour; they play *the* harlot continually; ³⁷her ³⁸rulers dearly love shame. 19 *The* wind hath wrapped her up in ³⁹its wings; and ⁴⁰they shall be put to shame because of their sacrifices.

³⁰ *Hb*^{mg} *reads*, I have rejected thee,

³¹ *Sopherim changed to* I will change their glory

³² *Hb.* lift up their soul to iniquity.

³³ *Hb.* heart.

³⁴ *Or*, daughters-in-law *And in* vs. 14.

³⁵ *Or*, become guilty;

³⁶ *Or*, Their carouse is over;

³⁷ *Or*, they are given up to love; her rulers *are* a shame.

³⁸ *Hb.* shields

³⁹ *Or*, her skirts;

⁴⁰ *Sept. (Aram.) read*, their altars shall be put to shame.

5 Hear this, O ye priests, and hearken, O house of Israel, and give ear, O house of the king; for ⁴¹unto you *pertaineth* the judgment; for ye have been a snare at Mizpah, and a net spread upon Tabor. **2** And *the* revolvers are gone deep ⁴²in making slaughter; but I *am* a ⁴³rebuker of them all. **3** I know Ephraim, and Israel is not hid from me; for now, O Ephraim, thou hast played *the* harlot, Israel is defiled. **4** ⁴⁴Their doings will not suffer *them* to turn unto their God; for *the* spirit of whoredom *is* ⁴⁵within them, and they know not Jehovah. **5** And *the* ⁴⁶pride of Israel doth testify to his face: therefore Israel and Ephraim shall stumble in their iniquity; Judah also shall stumble with them. **6** They shall go with their flocks and with their herds to seek Jehovah; but they shall not find *him*: he hath withdrawn himself from them. **7** They have dealt treacherously against Jehovah; for they have ⁴⁷borne strange children: now shall ⁴⁸*the* new moon devour them with their ⁴⁹fields.

8 Blow ye *the* cornet in Gibeah, and *the* trumpet in Ramah: sound an alarm at Beth-aven; ⁵⁰behind thee, O Benjamin. **9** Ephraim shall become a desolation in *the* day of rebuke: among *the* tribes of Israel have I made known that which shall surely be. **10** *The* princes of Judah are like them that remove a landmark: I will pour out my wrath upon them like water. **11** Ephraim *is* oppressed, *he is* crushed in judgment; because he was content to walk after *man's* command. **12** ⁵¹Therefore *am* I unto Ephraim as a moth, and to *the* house of Judah as rottenness. **13** When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah *saw* his wound, then went Ephraim to Assyria, and sent to ⁵²a king that should contend: but he is not able to heal you, neither will he cure you of your wound. **14** For I *will be* unto Ephraim as a lion, and as a young lion to *the* house of Judah: I, *even* I, will tear and go away; I will carry off, and there shall be none to deliver. **15** I will go and return to my place, till they ⁵³acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me ⁵⁴earnestly.

⁴¹ *Or*, against you *is* the judgment;

⁴² *Or*, in corruption;

⁴³ *Hb.* rebuke

⁴⁴ *Or*, They will not frame their doings to turn

⁴⁵ *Or*, in *the* midst of them,

⁴⁶ *Or*, excellency

⁴⁷ *Or*, begotten

⁴⁸ *Or*, a month devour them with their fields.

⁴⁹ *Or*, portions.

⁵⁰ *Or*, After thee, Benjamin!

⁵¹ *Or*, And I *was* unto Ephraim as a moth,

⁵² *Or*, king Jareb: *But see footnote on ch. 10:6.*

⁵³ *Or*, have borne their guilt,

⁵⁴ *Or*, earnestly, *saying*,

6 Come, and let us return unto Jehovah; for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. **2** After two days will he revive us: on the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live before him. **3** And let us know, let us follow on to know Jehovah: his going forth is sure as *the* morning; and he will come unto us as the rain, as *the* latter rain that watereth *the* earth.

4 O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your ⁵⁵goodness *is* as a morning cloud, and as the dew that goeth early away. **5** Therefore have I hewed *them* by the prophets; I have slain them by *the* words of my mouth: ⁵⁶and thy judgments *are as the* light that goeth forth. **6** For I desire goodness, and not sacrifice; and *the* knowledge of God more than burnt-offerings. **7** But they ⁵⁷like ⁵⁸Adam have transgressed *the* covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me. **8** Gilead *is* a city of them that work iniquity; *it is* stained with blood. **9** ⁵⁹And as troops of robbers wait for a man, *so the* company of priests murder in *the* way toward Shechem; yes, they have committed lewdness. **10** In *the* house of Israel I have seen a horrible thing: there whoredom *is found* in Ephraim, Israel is defiled. **11** Also, O Judah, there is a harvest appointed for thee, when I ⁶⁰bring back *the* captivity of my people.

7 When I would heal Israel, then is *the* iniquity of Ephraim uncovered, and *the* wickedness of Samaria; for they commit falsehood, and *the* thief entereth in, and *the* troop of robbers ⁶¹ravageth without. **2** And they consider not in their hearts *that* I remember all their wickedness: now have their own doings beset them about; 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; they are as an oven heated by *the* baker; he ceaseth to stir *the* fire, from *the* kneading of *the* dough, until it be leavened. **5** On *the* day of our king *the* princes made ⁶²*themselves* sick with *the* heat of wine; he stretched out his hand with scoffers. **6** For they have ⁶³made ready their heart like an oven, while 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 devour their judges; all their kings are fallen: *there is* none among them that calleth unto me.

⁵⁵ *Or*, kindness *And in vs. 6.*

⁵⁶ *So* Massoretic [רוא] כִּי־טַפְשָׁמוֹ. *Or with an alternative grouping of letters*, and my judgment *is as the* light [כִּאֹר] יִטְפְּשָׁמוֹ. *per* Sept., Aram., Targ.

⁵⁷ *Or*, *are* as men *that* have transgressed a covenant:

⁵⁸ *Or*, men

⁵⁹ *Or*, And as robbers lying in wait, *so etc.*

⁶⁰ *Or*, return to *the* captivity of my people.

⁶¹ *Or*, maketh a raid

⁶² *Or*, *him*

⁶³ *Hb.* brought near their heart

8 Ephraim, he mixeth himself among the peoples; Ephraim is a cake not turned. 9 Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knoweth *it* not: yes, gray hairs are ⁶⁴here and there upon him, and he knoweth *it* not. 10 And *the* ⁶⁵pride of Israel doth testify to his face: yet they have not returned unto Jehovah their God, nor sought him, for all this. 11 And Ephraim is like a silly dove, without ⁶⁶understanding: they call unto Egypt, they go to Assyria. 12 When they shall go, I will spread my net upon them; I will bring them down as a bird of the heavens; I will chastise them, ⁶⁷as their congregation hath heard. 13 Woe unto them! for they have wandered from me; destruction unto them! for they have trespassed against me: though I would redeem them, yet they have spoken lies against me. 14 And they have not cried unto me with their heart, but they howl upon their beds: they assemble themselves for grain and new wine; they rebel against me. 15 Though I have ⁶⁸taught *and* strengthened their arms, yet do they devise mischief against me. 16 They return, *but* not to *him that is* on 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.

8 ⁶⁹Set the trumpet to thy mouth. As *an eagle he cometh* against the house of Jehovah, because they have transgressed my covenant, and trespassed against my law. 2 They shall cry unto me, My God, we Israel know thee. 3 Israel hath cast off *that which is* good: *the* enemy shall pursue him. 4 They have set up kings, but not by me; ⁷⁰they 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. 5 He hath cast off thy calf, O Samaria; mine anger is kindled against them: how long *will it be* ere they attain to innocency? 6 For from Israel *is* even this; *the* workman made it, and it *is* no god; yes, *the* calf of Samaria shall be broken in pieces. 7 For they sow *the* wind, and they shall reap *the* whirlwind: ⁷¹he hath no standing grain; *the* blade shall yield no meal; if so be it yield, strangers shall swallow it up.

8 Israel is swallowed up: now are they among the nations as a vessel wherein none delighteth. 9 For they are gone up to Assyria, *like* a wild ass alone by himself: Ephraim hath hired ⁷²lovers. 10 Yes, though

⁶⁴ *Hb.* sprinkled upon him,

⁶⁵ *Or,* excellency

⁶⁶ *Hb.* heart:

⁶⁷ *Or,* when *the* report cometh to their congregation.

⁶⁸ *Or,* chastened *them and* strengthened their arms,

⁶⁹ *Or,* The trumpet to thy mouth! As the eagle against *the* house of Jehovah!

⁷⁰ *Or,* they have removed *them,*

⁷¹ *Or,* it hath no stalk;

⁷² *Hb.* loves.

they hire among the nations, now will I gather them; and they ⁷³begin to be diminished by reason of *the* burden of *the* king of princes.

11 Because Ephraim hath multiplied altars for sinning, altars have been unto him for sinning. 12 I wrote for him *the* ten thousand things of my law; *but* they are counted as a strange thing. 13 *As for the* sacrifices of mine offerings, they sacrifice flesh and eat *it; but* Jehovah 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 builded ⁷⁴palaces; and Judah hath multiplied fortified cities: but I will send a fire upon his cities, and it shall devour *the* ⁷⁵castles thereof.

9 Rejoice not, O Israel, ⁷⁶for joy, like the peoples: ⁷⁷for thou hast played *the* harlot, *departing* from thy God; thou hast loved hire upon every grain-floor. 2 *The* threshing-floor and *the* winepress shall not feed them, and *the* new wine shall fail her. 3 They shall not dwell in Jehovah's land; but Ephraim shall return to Egypt, and they shall eat unclean *food* in Assyria. 4 They shall not pour out wine-offerings to Jehovah, ⁷⁸neither shall they be pleasing unto him: their sacrifices *shall be* unto them as *the* bread of mourners; all that eat thereof shall be polluted; for their bread shall be for their soul; it shall not come into *the* house of Jehovah. 5 What will ye do in *the* day of solemn assembly, and in *the* day of *the* feast of Jehovah? 6 For, lo, they are gone away from destruction; *yet* Egypt shall gather them up, Memphis shall bury them; their pleasant *things* of silver, nettles shall possess them; thorns *shall be* in their tents. 7 The days of visitation are come, the days of recompense are come; Israel shall know *it:* the prophet *is* a fool, *the* man that hath the spirit *is* mad, for *the* abundance of thine iniquity, and because *the* enmity is great. 8 Ephraim ⁷⁹was a watchman with my God: *as for the* prophet, a fowler's snare *is* in all his ways, *and* enmity in *the* house of his god. 9 They have deeply corrupted *themselves,* as in the days of Gibeah: he will remember their iniquity, he will visit their sins.

⁷³ Sept. *reads,* shall sorrow a little by reason of *or,* shall sorrow for a little *while* by reason of Aram., Vg. *read* shall rest awhile from *the* burden... ESV *says,* the king and the princes shall soon writhe because of the tribute.

⁷⁴ *Or,* temples;

⁷⁵ *Or,* palaces

⁷⁶ *Or,* unto exultation,

⁷⁷ *Or,* that

⁷⁸ *Or,* neither shall their sacrifices be pleasing unto him: *their bread shall be* unto them as *the* bread of mourners;

⁷⁹ *Or,* watcheth against my God:

10 I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness; I saw your fathers as *the* first-ripe in *the* fig-tree at its first season: *but* they came to Baal-peor, and ⁸⁰consecrated *themselves* unto the ⁸¹shameful *thing*, and became abominable like that which they loved. 11 *As for* Ephraim, their glory shall fly away like *a* bird: there shall be no birth, and none with child, and no conception. 12 Though they bring up their children, yet will I bereave them, *so that* not a man *shall be left*: yes, woe also to them when I depart from them! 13 Ephraim, ⁸²like as I have seen Tyre, is planted in a pleasant place: but Ephraim shall bring out his children to *the* slayer. 14 Give them, O Jehovah: what wilt thou give? give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts. 15 All their wickedness *is* in Gilgal; for there I hated them: because of *the* wickedness of their doings I will drive them out of my house; I will love them no more; all their princes *are* revolvers. 16 Ephraim is smitten, their root is dried up, they shall bear no fruit: yes, though they bring forth, yet will I slay *the* beloved *fruit* of their womb. 17 My God will cast them away, because they did not hearken unto him; and they shall be wanderers among the nations.

10 Israel *is* a luxuriant vine, that putteth forth his fruit: according to *the* abundance of his fruit he hath multiplied *his* altars; according to *the* ⁸³goodness of their land they have made goodly ⁸⁴pillars. 2 ⁸⁵Their heart is ⁸⁶divided; now shall they be found guilty: he will smite their altars, he will destroy their pillars. 3 Surely now shall they say, We have no king; for we fear not Jehovah; and the king, what can he do for us?

4 They speak *vain* words, ⁸⁷swearing falsely in making covenants: therefore judgment ⁸⁸springeth up as ⁸⁹hemlock in *the* furrows of *the* field. 5 *The* inhabitants of Samaria shall be in terror for *the* calves of Beth-aven; for *the* people thereof shall mourn over it, and ⁹⁰*the* black *priests* thereof *that* rejoiced over it, for *the* glory thereof, because it is departed from it. 6 It also shall be carried unto Assyria *for* a present to ⁹¹a king that should contend: Ephraim shall receive shame, and Israel shall be ashamed of his own counsel. 7 ⁹²*As for*

⁸⁰ Or, separated

⁸¹ Hb. shame,

⁸² Or, as I have seen, *is* like Tyre, *that is* planted in

⁸³ Or, prosperity

⁸⁴ Or, obelisks. *And in vs. 2.*

⁸⁵ Or, he hath divided their heart;

⁸⁶ Or, smooth;

⁸⁷ Or, they swear falsely, they make covenants:

⁸⁸ Or, shall spring up as the hemlock

⁸⁹ Hb. rosh *See* Dt 29:18.

⁹⁰ Hb. Kemarim *See* 2Ki 23:5; Zp 1:4.

⁹¹ Or, king Jared: *Possibly* Sin-ahhe-eriba [Sennacherib], *though he was not king until 17 years after the fall of Samaria.*

⁹² Or, Samaria is cut off *with* her king,

Samaria, her king is cut off, as ⁹³foam upon *the* water. 8 *The* high places also of Aven, *the* sin of Israel, shall be destroyed: *the* thorn and *the* thistle shall come up on their altars; and they shall say to the mountains, ⁹⁴Cover ye us; and to the hills, Fall ye over us.

9 O Israel, thou hast sinned ⁹⁵from *the* days of Gibeah: ⁹⁶there they stood; ⁹⁷*the* battle against *the* children of iniquity doth not overtake them in Gibeah. 10 When *it is* my desire, I will chastise them; and *the* peoples shall be gathered against them, when they are ⁹⁸bound ⁹⁹to their two transgressions. 11 And Ephraim *is* a heifer *that is* taught, that loveth to tread out *the* grain; but I have passed over upon her fair neck: I will set a rider on Ephraim; Judah shall plow, Jacob shall break his clods.

12 Sow for yourselves to righteousness, reap according to kindness; break up your fallow ground; for *it is* time to seek Jehovah, till he come and ¹⁰⁰rain righteousness upon you. 13 Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity; ye have eaten *the* fruit of ¹⁰¹lies; for thou didst trust in thy way, in *the* multitude of thy mighty men. 14 Therefore shall a tumult arise ¹⁰²among thy ¹⁰³people, and all thy fortresses shall be destroyed, as Shalman destroyed Beth-arbel in *the* day of battle: *the* mother was dashed in pieces with *her* children. 15 ¹⁰⁴So shall Beth-el do unto you because of your great wickedness: at daybreak shall *the* king of Israel be utterly cut off.

11 When Israel *was* a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt. 2 *The more the prophets* called them, *the* more they went from them: they sacrificed unto the Baalim, and burned incense to the graven images. 3 Yet I taught Ephraim to walk; ¹⁰⁵I took them on my arms; but they knew not that I healed them. 4 I drew them with cords of a man, with bands of love; and I was to them as they that lift up *the* yoke on their jaws; and I laid food before them.

5 They shall not return into *the* land of Egypt; but *the* Assyrian shall be their king, because they refused to return *to me*. 6 And *the* sword shall ¹⁰⁶fall upon their cities, and shall consume their bars, and devour *them*,

⁹³ Or, twigs

⁹⁴ Or, Conceal ye us; ..., Fall ye up above us.

Not necessarily in a destructive sense. Cf. Rv 6:16.

⁹⁵ Or, more than *in the* days of Gibeah:

⁹⁶ Or, there have they continued;

⁹⁷ Or, shall not *the* battle against *the* children of iniquity overtake them in Gibeah?

⁹⁸ Or, yoked

⁹⁹ Or, for

¹⁰⁰ Or, teach you righteousness.

¹⁰¹ Or, faithlessness;

¹⁰² Or, against

¹⁰³ Hb. peoples,

¹⁰⁴ Or, So shall it be done unto you at Beth-el because

¹⁰⁵ Hb. he took them on his arms;

¹⁰⁶ Or, rage against their cities,

because of their own counsels. 7 And my people are bent on backsliding from me: though they call them to *him that is* on high, none at all will ¹⁰⁷exalt *him*.

8 How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? *how* shall I cast thee off, Israel? how shall I make thee as ¹⁰⁸Admah? *how* shall I set thee as Zeboiim? my heart is turned within me, my compassions are kindled together. 9 I will not execute *the* fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I *am* God, and not man; *the* Holy One in *the* midst of thee; and I will not ¹⁰⁹come in wrath. 10 They shall walk after Jehovah, who will roar like a lion; for he will roar, and *the* children shall come trembling from *the* west. 11 They shall come trembling as a bird out of Egypt, and as a dove out of *the* land of Assyria; and I will make them to dwell in their houses, saith Jehovah.

12 Ephraim compasseth me about with falsehood, and *the* house of Israel with deceit; ¹¹⁰but Judah yet ruleth with God, and is faithful with *the* Holy Ones.

12 Ephraim feedeth on wind, and followeth after *the* ¹¹¹east wind: he continually multiplieth lies and desolation; and they make a covenant with Assyria, and oil is carried into Egypt. 2 Jehovah hath also a controversy with Judah, and will ¹¹²punish Jacob according to his ways; *and* according to his doings will he recompense him. 3 In the womb he took his brother by *the* heel; and in his ¹¹³manhood he ¹¹⁴had power with God: 4 yes, he had power over an angel, and prevailed; he wept, and made supplication unto him: he found him *at* Beth-el, and there he spake with us, 5 ¹¹⁵even Jehovah, the God of hosts; Jehovah *is* his memorial *name*. 6 Therefore turn thou to thy God: keep kindness and justice, and wait for thy God continually.

7 ¹¹⁶He *is* ¹¹⁷a trafficker, *the* balances of deceit *are* in his hand: he loveth to ¹¹⁸oppress. 8 And Ephraim said, Surely I am become rich, I have found me wealth: *in* all my labors they shall find in me no iniquity that were sin. 9 But I *am* Jehovah thy God from *the* land of Egypt; I will yet *again* make thee to dwell in tents, as in *the* days of *the* solemn feast. 10 I have also spoken unto the prophets, and I have multiplied visions; and

¹⁰⁷ Or, lift himself up.

¹⁰⁸ Admah and Zeboiim were destroyed with Sodom.

¹⁰⁹ Or, enter into the city.

¹¹⁰ Or, and Judah is yet unstedfast with God, and with *the* Holy One who is faithful.

¹¹¹ An east wind in Israel is usually hot and dry.

¹¹² Hb. visit upon Jacob according to his ways;

¹¹³ Or, strength

¹¹⁴ Or, strove with God:

¹¹⁵ Or, for Jehovah *is* the God of hosts;

¹¹⁶ Or, As for Canaan, *the* balances of deceit *are*

¹¹⁷ Or, a Canaanite, Hb. Canaan,

¹¹⁸ Or, defraud.

¹¹⁹by *the* ministry of the prophets have I used similitudes. 11 *Is* Gilead iniquity? they are altogether false; in Gilgal they sacrifice bullocks; yes, their altars *are* as heaps in *the* furrows of *the* field. 12 And Jacob fled into *the* field of Aram, and Israel served for a wife, and for a wife he kept *sheep*. 13 And by a prophet Jehovah brought Israel up out of Egypt, and by a prophet was he ¹²⁰preserved. 14 Ephraim hath provoked to anger most bitterly: therefore shall his blood be left upon him, and his reproach shall his Lord return unto him.

13 When Ephraim ¹²¹spake, there was trembling; he exalted himself in Israel; but when he ¹²²offended in Baal, he died. 2 And now they sin more and more, and have made them molten images of their silver, *even* idols according to their own understanding, all of them *the* work of the craftsmen: they say of them, Let ¹²³*the* men that sacrifice kiss *the* calves. 3 Therefore they shall be as *the* morning cloud, and as the dew that passeth early away, as *the* chaff *that is* driven with *the* whirlwind out of *the* threshing-floor, and as *the* smoke out of *the* chimney.

4 Yet I *am* Jehovah thy God from *the* land of Egypt; and thou ¹²⁴shalt know no god but me, and besides me *there is* no saviour. 5 I did know thee in the wilderness, in *the* land of great drought. 6 According to their pasture, so were they filled; they were filled, and their heart was exalted: therefore have they forgotten me. 7 Therefore am I unto them as a lion; as a leopard will I watch by *the* way; 8 I will meet them as a bear *that is* bereaved of *her* whelps, and will rend *the* caul of their heart; and there will I devour them like a lioness; the wild beast shall tear them.

9 ¹²⁵It is thy destruction, O Israel, ¹²⁶that *thou art* against me, against thy help. 10 Where now is thy king, that he may save thee in all thy cities? and thy judges, of whom thou saidst, Give me a king and princes? 11 I have given thee a king in mine anger, and have taken *him* away in my wrath. 12 *The* iniquity of Ephraim is bound up; his sin *is* laid up in store. 13 *The* sorrows of a travailing woman shall come upon him: he *is* an unwise son; ¹²⁷for it is time he should not tarry in *the* place of *the* breaking forth of children.

¹¹⁹ Hb. by the hand of the prophets

¹²⁰ Or, kept.

¹²¹ Or, spake with trembling, he exalted himself in

¹²² Or, became guilty in the Baal, he died.

¹²³ Or, *the* sacrificers of man kiss *the* calves.

¹²⁴ Or, knowest

¹²⁵ Or, Thou art destroyed, O Israel; for *thou art*

¹²⁶ Or, for in me, in thy help - *or*, but in me *is* thy help -

¹²⁷ Or, when it is time, he standeth not in *the* place of

14 I will free them from *the* ¹²⁸power of Sheol; I will ransom them from death: O death, ¹²⁹where are thy plagues? O Sheol, where is thy destruction? repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.

15 Though he be fruitful among *his* brethren, an east wind shall come, *the* ¹³⁰breath of Jehovah coming up from *the* wilderness; and his spring shall become dry, and his fountain shall be dried up: ¹³¹he shall make spoil of *the* treasure of all goodly vessels. 16 Samaria shall ¹³²bear her guilt; for she hath rebelled against her God: they shall fall by the sword; their infants shall be dashed in pieces, and their women with child shall be ripped up.

14 O Israel, return unto Jehovah thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity. 2 Take with you words, and return unto Jehovah: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and ¹³³accept *that which is* good: so will we render *as* bullocks *the offering of* our lips. 3 Assyria shall not save us; we will not ride upon horses; neither will we say any more to *the* work of our hand, *Ye are* our gods; for in thee *the* fatherless findeth mercy.

4 I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely; for mine anger is turned away from him. 5 I will be as the dew unto Israel; he shall blossom as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon. 6 His branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive-tree, and his smell as Lebanon. 7 They that dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive *as the* grain, and blossom as the vine: ¹³⁴*the* scent thereof *shall be as the* wine of Lebanon. 8 ¹³⁵Ephraim *shall say*, What have I to do any more with idols? I have answered, and will regard him: I *am* like a green fir-tree; from me is thy fruit found.

9 Who *is* wise, that he may understand these *things*? prudent, that he may know them? for *the* ways of Jehovah *are* right, and *the* just shall walk in them; but transgressors shall fall therein.

End of the Book of Hosea

¹²⁸ *Hb.* hand

¹²⁹ *Or*, I will be (*both times*)

¹³⁰ *Or*, wind *or*, spirit

¹³¹ *Or*, it

¹³² *Or*, become desolate;

¹³³ *Or*, receive *us* graciously:

¹³⁴ *Or*, his memorial *shall be*

¹³⁵ *Or*, O Ephraim, what have I to do any more