

Hosea 8

No Peace – No Mercy

1. Review...

- a. The LORD gave Israel law, mercy, king, but has a controversy with the land.
- b. Mic 6:8 - What does Lord require? *“do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with thy God”*
- c. Hos 4:1 – The controversy (charge/law suit): *“no truth, no mercy, no knowledge of God”*

<u>Controversy Explained</u>	<u>Judgment Explained</u>
ii. Hos 4:6 = No knowledge (forgot the law)	No place (not my people) Hos 9
iii. Hos 5:4-6 = No repentance (not seeking mercy)	<u>No peace (no mercy) Hos 8</u>
iv. Hos 6-7 = No truth (kings are fallen)	No king (no kingdom) Hos 10

2. 8:1-4 – No Peace – Judgment Comes

- a. Hos 8-10 speaks of judgment on Israel/Ephraim: their plant/tree/vine is cut off.
 - i. vs 2-4 speaks to no help (ch. 8), no place (ch. 9), no more king (ch 10)
- b. 1 - *“Trumpet”* - time to sound the alarm, *“eagle against”* judgment comes, not Ex 19:4
 - i. This all part of the covenant – Deu 28:49
- c. 2 - *“My God, we know thee”* – A lie to his face: Hos 4:6, 5:4, 5:6, 7:13-14
 - i. The same as Matt 7:15-23, religious Israel rejected for a lack of fruit. (No mercy)
- d. 3 - *“hath cast off”* - God was their good/protection. *“enemy shall pursue”* - God lets him.
- e. 4 - Kings, princes, worship were not of God – 1 Kings 13:33-34

3. 8:5-7 – No Mercy – A Vessel of Displeasure

- a. 5 - *“Thy [idol] ...hath cast thee off”* - He does not come to your aid, nor do I. John 4:22
 - i. *“mine anger is kindled”* - a phrase in Judges, too (anger of the Lord is hot)
 - ii. *“how long will it be ere”* - Ere ~def. (in time) before, til, sooner than. See ear-ly.
 - iii. Jesus asked this of a faithless generation. It is time to reap what they have sown.
- b. 6 - *“workman made it”* - any invented god, imagined god, is not truly God. John 4:23-24
- c. 7 - *“sown the wind”* - worship was vain, selfish, “sound and fury” - John 3:8, 1Cor 9:26
“reap the whirlwind” - chaos, storm, no growth, fruit taken ← cursed Prov 22:8
 God appears in a whirlwind in Eze 1:4, Nahum 1:3, Isa 66:15
- d. 8 - *“Israel is swallowed up”* by the strangers in v7 – who will be Assyrian
 - i. *“be among the Gentiles”* – among, but not the nations (like 1 Pet 1:1, 2:12)
 - ii. *“as a vessel wherein is no pleasure”* not a vessel of blessing (sorry Anglo-Israel)
 - iii. God can pluck and pull down a nation as a vessel broken - Jer 18, Rom 9:18, 22
- e. 9 - *“they are gone up to Assyria”* – There are alone, off the path, stubborn, unruly.
- f. 10 - *“they shall sorrow a little”* – Their burden under the Assyrians.

4. 8:11-14 – No Acceptance of their Worship

- a. 11 - *“altars to sin”* = their altars shall be sin (their worship is sinful in Bethel)
- b. 12 - When the word of God becomes strange, then you know truth is lost.
- c. 13 - *“but the LORD accepteth them not”* – it is not what men accept, but what God does.
 - i. *“now will he remember”* – The time of mercy is over - Hos 7:2, Amos 8:7
- d. 14 - “Maker” of Israel, “temples” not to God, “multiplied fenced cities” not trusting God
 - i. Hos 8 was all according to his covenant - Deu 28:48-52
 - ii. *“I will send a fire”* – see Amos 1-2:5, 2 Kings 18:11-13, Jer 17:27

Finding the Northern Tribes

Where did they go after the Assyrian invasion/captivity? Were they lost?

1. The invasion did not remove all the people. Some were still there in desolation.
 - a. Hezekiah wrote letters to the northern tribes after Assyria came to hold a national Passover gathering. Some from the tribes of Asher, Issachar, Ephraim, Manasseh, and Zebulun came to Jerusalem – 2 Chron 30:1, 10-11, 18
 - b. Josiah had the greatest Passover where there were people of Israel and Judah present (decades after the Assyrian captivity of the north) – 2 Chron 35:18
2. Some returned from captivity.
 - a. When Ezra returned to the land and the house was built, 12 goats were offered for the 12 tribes of Israel – Ezra 6:17
 - b. Simeon and Anna (of the tribe of Asher) were in Jerusalem - Luke 2:25-36
 - c. Samaritans were from the northern tribes and existed at the time of Jesus. He called them their neighbors – John 4, Luke 10:29-37
 - d. Jesus passed through Samaria and Galilee and healed ten lepers (one returned to him) – Luke 17:11-19
3. Some returned annually for feast days like Pentecost.
 - a. The northern tribes were taken captive to Halah, Habor, Gozan, and Medes (2 Kings 17:6), men from these places show up at Pentecost in Acts 2:8-11

The northern tribes do not have a government (fulfilling God's condemnation of them in Hosea), but they were not lost after captivity. God promised their return to the land. Any association of Israel's kingdom with the wealth of western nations denies the literal and dispensational interpretation of scripture.

“God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.” – Matt 3:9

Many people have claimed the identity of the northern tribes in trying to be the fulfillment of God's covenants with them (Anglo-Israel, Mormons, WWCoG). This fails to recognize what prophets like Hosea has said about their fallen condition, and fails to understand God's will for this present dispensation of grace (which is not the fulfillment of Israel's prophecy).

- Hos 4:17 – Ephraim is joined to idols: let him alone.
- Hosea 5:9 - Ephraim shall be desolate in the day of rebuke: among the tribes of Israel have I made known that which shall surely be.
- Hosea 6:10 - I have seen an horrible thing in the house of Israel: there is the whoredom of Ephraim, Israel is defiled.
- Hosea 8:8-9 – Now shall they be among the Gentiles as a vessel wherein is no pleasure.
- Hosea 9:16-17 - Ephraim is smitten, their root is dried up, they shall bear no fruit: yea, though they bring forth, yet will I slay even 8 the beloved fruit of their womb. My God will cast them away, because they did not hearken unto him: and they shall be wanderers among the nations.