

Hosea 8:7 Sowing The Wind Aug 9 2020

Intro: In this “Final Warning” sermon series, God had Hosea marry a prostitute to give a living illustration of Israel’s unfaithfulness to God; and we saw how covetousness which is idolatry is at its essence our own rejection of God’s covenant love – we are looking to something else to satisfy us and telling

God that He is not enough – we are dating around while married.

Last week we studied chapters 4 and 5 and saw how the national decline had a leading indicator of a failure of leadership, spiritual leadership by the priests and prophets, and secular leadership by the princes and judges. Today we turn to the most famous phrase from the prophet Hosea.

Hosea 8:7 (KJV) ⁷ For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind: ...

Hosea 8:7 (NLT2) ⁷ “They have planted the wind and will harvest the whirlwind. The stalks of grain wither and produce nothing to eat. And even if there is any grain, foreigners will eat it.

1. How Israel had “Sown the Wind.”

1a. Idolatry. Hosea 8:4-6 (NLT2) ⁴ The people have appointed kings without my consent, and princes without my knowledge. By making idols for themselves from their silver and gold, they have brought about their own destruction.

⁵ “O Samaria, I reject this calf— this idol you have made. My fury burns against you. How long will you be incapable of innocence?

⁶ This calf you worship, O Israel, was crafted by your own hands! It is not God! Therefore, it must be smashed to bits.

(In the Southern Kingdom of Judah, King Hezekiah was leading a revival, including the destruction of “Nehushtah” and Judah was to be spared the Assyrian destruction that fell on Israel, see 2 Kings 18 and 19).

1b. Immorality. Hosea 10:13 (NLT2) ¹³ “But you have cultivated wickedness and harvested a thriving crop of sins. You have eaten the fruit of lies— trusting in your military might, believing that great armies could make your nation safe.

1c. Injustice. Hosea 10:4 (NLT2) ⁴ They spout empty words and make covenants they don’t intend to keep. So injustice springs up among them like poisonous weeds in a farmer’s field.

Hosea 12:6-8 (NLT2) ⁶ So now, come back to your God. Act with love and justice, and always depend on him.

⁷ But no, the people are like crafty merchants selling from dishonest scales— they love to cheat.

⁸ Israel boasts, “I am rich! I’ve made a fortune all by myself! No one has caught me cheating! My record is spotless!”

1d. Independence from God and dependence on worldly relationships.

Hosea 12:1-2 (NLT2) ¹ The people of Israel feed on the wind; they chase after the east wind all day long. They pile up lies and violence; they are making an alliance with Assyria while sending olive oil to buy support from Egypt.

² Now the LORD is bringing charges against Judah. He is about to punish Jacob for all his deceitful ways, and pay him back for all he has done.

2 Corinthians 6:14-18 (ESV) ¹⁴ Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers.

For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness?

Or what fellowship has light with darkness? ¹⁵ What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever?

¹⁶ What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, “I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

¹⁷ Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, ¹⁸ and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.”

2. God’s immutable laws of sowing and harvesting.

Galatians 6:7-10 (NLT2) ⁷ Don’t be misled—you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. ⁸ Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. ⁹ So let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith.

- The principle of sameness (same kind as sow)
- The principle of multiplication (Mt. 13:8; 100-fold, 60Xs, 30xs)
- The principle of satisfying sinful desires (decay and death)
- The principle of satisfying the Spirit (everlasting Zoe life)
- The principle of seasons and being steadfast
- The principle of seizing opportunities to serve

3. You cannot change your past, but when you repent and invest in the spiritual today, God will intervene to bless your future.

Hosea 10:12 (NLT2) ¹² I said, ‘Plant the good seeds of righteousness, and you will harvest a crop of love. Plow up the hard ground of your hearts, for now is the time to seek the LORD, that he may come and shower righteousness upon you.’

Hosea 6:1-3 (NLT2) ¹ “Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces; now he will heal us. He has injured us; now he will bandage our wounds.

² In just a short time he will restore us, so that we may live in his presence.

³ Oh, that we might know the LORD! Let us press on to know him. He will respond to us as surely as the arrival of dawn or the coming of rains in early spring.”

Hosea 14:1-7 (NLT2) ¹ Return, O Israel, to the LORD your God, for your sins have brought you down.

² Bring your confessions, and return to the LORD. Say to him, “Forgive all our sins and graciously receive us, so that we may offer you our praises.

³ Assyria cannot save us, nor can our war-horses. Never again will we say to the idols we have made, ‘You are our gods.’ No, in you alone do the orphans find mercy.”

⁴ The LORD says, “Then I will heal you of your faithlessness; my love will know no bounds, for my anger will be gone forever.

⁵ I will be to Israel like a refreshing dew from heaven. Israel will blossom like the lily; it will send roots deep into the soil like the cedars in Lebanon.

⁶ Its branches will spread out like beautiful olive trees, as fragrant as the cedars of Lebanon.

⁷ My people will again live under my shade. They will flourish like grain and blossom like grapevines. They will be as fragrant as the wines of Lebanon.

Closing song – Cochren and Co. – “Church, Take me back”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3eTOcrWu8mQ>