

HOSEA

Chapter 1

1 ¶ The word of the LORD that came to Hosea, the son of Beeri, in the days of ^aUzziah, ^bJotham, ^cAhaz and ^dHezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of ^eJeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.

Hosea's Family

2 The beginning of the word of the LORD through Hosea. And the LORD said to Hosea, ^f“Go, take for yourself a wife of harlotry and children of harlotry, for ^gthe land has committed great harlotry, *departing* from the LORD.”

3 So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim. She conceived and bore him a son.

4 ¶ And the LORD said to him, “Call his name Jezreel, for yet a little *while* and ^hI will avenge the blood of Jezreel on the house of Jehu and will ⁱbring to an end the kingdom of the house of Israel.

5 ^j“And it will come to pass in that day that I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.”

6 ¶ And she conceived again and bore a daughter. And *God* said to him, “Call her name Lo-Ruhamah, for ^kI will no longer have mercy on the house of Israel. But I will utterly take them away.

7 ^l“But I will have mercy on the

house of Judah and will save them by the LORD their God. And I ^mwill not deliver them by bow, sword, battle, horses or horsemen.”

8 ¶ Now when she had weaned Lo-Ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son.

9 Then *the Lord* said, “Call his name Lo-Ammi, for you *are* not My people and I will not be your *God*.”

10 Yet the ⁿnumber of the children of Israel will be as the sand of the sea that cannot be measured or numbered. And ^oit will come to pass *that* in the place where it was said to them, “You *are* not My ^ppeople,” it will be said to them, “You *are* the ^qsons of the living God.”

11 ^rThen the children of Judah and the children of Israel will be gathered together and appoint themselves one head. And they will come up out of the land, for great *will be* the day of Jezreel.

Chapter 2

1 ¶ “Say to your brethren, ‘Ammi,’ and to your sisters, ‘Ru-hamah.’”

Punishment and Restoration

2 ¶ “Contend with your mother. Contend, for ^sshe is not my wife, neither *am* I her husband. Therefore, let her put away her ^tharlotry out of her sight and her adultery from between her breasts,

Chapter 1: a Am 1:1 b 2 Ch 27 c 2 Ch 28 d 2 Ch 29:1–32:33 e 2 Kg 13:13; 14:23-29 f Hs 3:1 g Jr 2:13 h 2 Kg 10:11 i 2 Kg 15:8-10; 17:6; 23:18:11 j 2 Kg 15:29 k 2 Kg 17:6 l 2 Kg 19:29-35 m Zc 4:6 n Gn 22:17; 32:12 o 1 Pt 2:10 p Rm 9:26 q Jn 1:12 r Is 11:11-13 Chapter 2: a Is 50:1 b Ez 16:25

3 “lest ^cI strip her naked and set her as in the day that she was ^dborn and make her as a wilderness, and I set her like a dry land and slay her with ^ethirst.

4 “I will not have mercy on her children, for they *are* the ^fchildren of harlotry.

5 “For their mother has played the harlot. She who conceived them has practiced shameful things. For she said, ‘I will go after my lovers ^gwho give *me* my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.’

6 ¶ “Therefore, behold, ^hI will hedge up your way with thorns and make a wall so that she will not find her paths.

7 “And she will eagerly pursue after her lovers, but she will not overtake them. And she will seek them, but will not find *them*. Then she will say, ‘I will go and return to my ⁱfirst husband, for then *was it* better with me than now.’

8 “For she did not ^jknow that I gave her grain and wine and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold *which* they prepared for Baal.

9 ¶ “Therefore, I will return and take back My grain in its time and My wine in its season. And I will take back My wool and My flax, *given* to cover her nakedness.

10 “And now ^kI will uncover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers and no one will deliver her out of My hand.

11 ^l“I will also cause all her mirth

to cease, her feast days, her new moons, her sabbaths and all her solemn feasts.

12 “And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees, of which she has said, ‘These *are* my rewards that my lovers have given me.’ And I will make them a forest and the beasts of the field will eat them.

13 “And I will punish her for the days of the Baals when she burned incense to them and she decked herself with her earrings and her jewels, and went after her lovers and forgot Me,” says the LORD.

14 ¶ “Therefore, behold, I will allure her and bring her into the wilderness. And I speak kindly to her.

15 “And I will give her her vineyards from there and the ^mValley of Achor for a door of hope. And she will sing there as in the ⁿdays of her youth and ^oas in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt.

16 “And it will be at that day,” says the LORD, “*that* you will call me Ishi. And you will no longer call Me Baali.

17 “For ^pI will take away the names of the Baals out of her mouth and they will no longer be remembered by their name.

18 “And in that day I will make a ^qcovenant for them with the beasts of the field, and with the birds of heaven, and *with* the creeping things of the ground. And ^rI will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth. And I will make them ^slie down safely.

c Jr 13:22,26 d Ez 16:4-7,22 e Am 8:11-13 f Jn 8:41 g Hs 2:8,12 h Lm 3:7,9 i Lk 15:17,18 j Ez 16:8; 23:4 k Is 1:3 I Ez 16:37 m Am 5:21; 8:10 n Ja 7:26 o Ez 16:8-14 p Ex 15:1 q Ex 23:13 r Jb 5:23 s Is 2:4

19 “And I will betroth you to Me forever. Yes, I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and justice, and in lovingkindness and mercy.

20 “I will even betroth you to Me in faithfulness. And you will know the LORD.

21 ¶ “And it will come to pass in that day that I will hear,” says the LORD. “I will hear the heavens and they will hear the earth.

22 “And the earth will hear the grain and the wine and the oil, and they will hear Jezreel.

23 “Then I will sow her for Myself in the earth. And I will have mercy on her who had not obtained mercy. And I will say to those who were not My people, ‘You are My people.’ And they will say, ‘You are My God.’”

Chapter 3

Reconciliation

1 ¶ Then the LORD said to me, “Go again, love a woman who is loved by her friend, and an adulteress, according to the love of the LORD toward the children of Israel who look to other gods and love raisin cakes.”

2 So I bought her for myself for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a half of barley.

3 Then I said to her, “You will dwell with me many days. You will not play the harlot and you will not be for another man; so will I also be toward you.”

4 For the children of Israel will abide

many days without a king and without a prince, and without a sacrifice or sacred pillar, and without an ephod and without household idols.

5 Afterward, the children of Israel will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. And they will fear the LORD and His goodness in the latter days.

Chapter 4

Case Against Israel

1 ¶ Hear the word of the LORD you children of Israel, for the LORD has a case against the inhabitants of the land because there is no truth or mercy or knowledge of God in the land.

2 By swearing and lying and killing and stealing and committing adultery, they break all restraint and blood touches blood.

3 Therefore, the land will mourn, everyone who dwells in it will languish, along with the beasts of the field and with the birds of heaven. Yes, the fish of the sea will also be taken away.

4 Yet let no man find fault or reprove another, for your people are as those who bring charges against a priest.

5 Therefore, you will fall in the day, and the prophet also will fall with you in the night. And I will destroy your mother.

6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I will also reject you so that you will be no priest to

t Lv 26:5 u Jr 31:33,34 v Zc 8:12 w Jr 31:27 x Hs 1:6 y Hs 1:10 Chapter 3: a Jr 3:20 b Dt 21:13 c Hs 10:3 d Ex 28:4-12 e Jg 17:5; 18:14,17 f Jr 50:4 g Jr 30:9 h Is 2:2,3 Chapter 4: a Is 1:18 b Jr 4:22 c Am 5:16; 8:8 d Zp 1:3 e Dt 17:12 f Jr 15:8 g Is 5:13

Me. ^hSeeing you have forgotten the law of your God, I will also forget your children.

7 ¶ As they were increased, so they sinned against Me. *Therefore*, ⁱI will change their glory into shame.

8 They feed on the sin of My people and they set their heart on their iniquity.

9 And it will be: ^jlike people, like priest. And I will punish them for their ways and reward them for their deeds.

10 For ^kthey will eat and not have enough. They will commit harlotry and will not increase, because they have stopped obeying the LORD.

11 Harlotry and wine and new wine ^lenslave the heart.

12 ¶ My people ask counsel from ^mtheir idols, and their staff declares to them, for the ⁿspirit of harlotry has caused *them* to err and they have gone whoring from under their God.

13 ^oThey sacrifice on the tops of the mountains and burn incense on the hills, under oaks and poplars and elms, because its shadow *is* good. ^pTherefore, your daughters will commit harlotry and your spouses will commit adultery.

14 I will not punish your daughters when they commit harlotry, nor your spouses when they commit adultery, for they themselves are separated with whores and they ^qsacrifice with harlots. Therefore, the people *who* do not understand will fall.

15 ¶ Though you, Israel, play the harlot, *yet* do not let Judah offend.

And ^rdo not come to Gilgal, nor go up to ^sBethaven, ^tnor swear, "As the LORD lives."

16 For Israel ^uslides back as a back-sliding heifer. Can the LORD now feed them as a lamb in a large pasture?

17 Ephraim *is* joined to idols. ^vLet him alone.

18 Their drink is sour. They have committed harlotry continually. ^wTheir rulers dearly love shame.

19 ^xThe wind has bound her up in her wings, and ^ythey will be ashamed because of their sacrifices.

Chapter 5

Judgment of Israel

1 ¶ "Hear this, O priests, and hearken, O house of Israel. Give ear, O house of the king, for judgment applies to you because ^ayou have been a snare on Mizpah and a net spread on Tabor.

2 "And the rebels are ^bdeeply involved in slaughter, though I rebuke them all.

3 "I know Ephraim, and Israel is not hidden from Me. For now, O Ephraim, ^cyou commit harlotry *and* Israel is defiled.

4 "They will not direct their deeds to turn to their God, for the ^espirit of harlotry *is* in the midst of them and they have not known the LORD.

5 "And the ^fhaughtiness of Israel testifies to his face. Therefore, Israel and Ephraim will fall in their iniquity. Judah also will fall with them.

h Ez 22:26 i 1 Sm 2:30 j Is 24:2 k Lv 26:26 l Is 5:12; 28:7 m Jr 2:27 n Is 44:19,20 o Is 1:29; 57:5,7 p Am 7:17 q Dt 23:18 r Hs 9:15; 12:11 s 1 Kg 12:29 t Am 8:14 u Jr 3:6; 7:24; 8:5 v Mt 15:14 w Mc 3:11 x Jr 51:1 y Is 1:29 **Chapter 5:** a Hs 6:9 b Is 29:15 c Am 3:2; 5:12 d Hs 4:17 e Hs 4:12

6 ^s“They will go with their flocks and with their herds to seek the LORD, but they will not find *Him*. He has withdrawn Himself from them.

7 “They have ^hdealt treacherously against the LORD, for they have begotten foreign children. Now a new moon will devour them with their heritage.

8 ¶ ⁱ“Blow the cornet in Gibeah *and* the trumpet in Ramah. ^jCry out aloud at ^kBethaven, ‘Behind you, Benjamin!’

9 “Ephraim will be desolate in the day of rebuke. Among the tribes of Israel I have made known that which will surely be.

10 “The princes of Judah were like those who ^lremove the boundary. *Therefore*, I will pour out My wrath on them like water.

11 “Ephraim *is* ^moppressed *and* broken in judgment because he willingly walked after the ⁿcommandment of men.

12 “Therefore, I *will be* to Ephraim as a moth, and to the house of Judah ^oas rottenness.

13 “When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah *saw* his ^pwound, then Ephraim went ^qto the Assyrian and sent to King Jareb. However, he could not heal you, nor cure you of your wound.

14 ^r“For I *will be* to Ephraim as a lion, and as a young lion to the house of Judah. ^sI, *even* I, will tear and go

away. I will take away and no one will rescue *him*.

15 “I will go *and* return to My place until they acknowledge their offense and seek My face. In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me.”

Chapter 6

Defiant Israel

1 ¶ ^aCome, and let us return to the LORD, for ^bHe has torn us and ^cHe will heal us. He has smitten and He will bind us up.

2 ^dHe will revive us after two days. In the third day He will raise us up and we will live in His sight.

3 ^eThen we will know *if* we press on to know the LORD. His going forth is prepared ^fas the morning, and ^gHe will come to us ^has the rain, as the latter *and* former rain to the earth.

4 ¶ “O Ephraim, what will I do to you? O Judah, what will I do to you? For your goodness *is* as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goes away.

5 “Therefore, I have hewn *them* by the prophets. I have slain them by ⁱthe words of My mouth, and the judgments on you *are as* the light *that* goes forth.

6 “For I desired ^jmercy and ^knot sacrifice, and the ^lknowledge of God more than burnt offerings.

7 “But they like men have transgressed the covenant. There they have dealt treacherously with Me.

8 ^m“Gilead *is* a city of those who

f Hs 7:10 g Pv 1:28 h Jr 3:20 i Jl 2:1 j Is 10:30 k Ja 7:2 l Dt 19:14; 27:17 m Dt 28:33 n Mc 6:16 o Pv 12:4 p Jr 30:12-15 q 2Kg 15:19 r Lm 3:10 s Ps 50:22 Chapter 6: a Is 1:18 b Dt 32:39 c Jr 30:17 d Lk 24:46; At 10:40; 1 Co 15:4 e Is 54:13 f 2 Sm 23:4 g Ps 72:6 h Jb 29:23 i Jr 23:29 j Mt 9:13; 12:7 k Mc 6:6-8 l Jn 17:3 m Hs 12:11

work iniquity *and* defiled with blood.

9 “And as gangs of raiders wait for a man, *so* the company of ⁿpriests ^omurder in the way by consent, for they commit ^plewdness.

10 “I have seen a horrible thing in the house of Israel. There *is* the harlotry of Ephraim. Israel is defiled.

11 “Also, O Judah, there is a harvest appointed for you, when I returned the captives of My people.

Chapter 7

1 ¶ “When I would have healed Israel, then the iniquity of Ephraim was uncovered, and the wickedness of Samaria. For ^athey commit falsehood, and the thief comes in, *and* the gang of raiders plunders outside.

2 “And they do not consider in their hearts *that* ^bI remember all their wickedness. Now their own deeds have engulf them. They are before My face.

3 “They make the ^cking glad with their wickedness and the princes ^dwith their lies.

4 ¶ ^e“They *are* all adulterers as an oven heated by the baker, *who* ceases from stirring after he has kneaded the dough until it is leavened.

5 “In the day of our king the princes have made *him* sick with bottles of ^fwine. He stretched out his hand with scoffers.

6 “For they have made ready their heart like an oven, while they lie in wait. Their baker sleeps all night, in the morning it burns as a flaming fire.

7 “They are all hot as an oven and have devoured their judges. All their kings are fallen. *There is* ^gno one among them who calls to Me.

8 ¶ “Ephraim has ^hmixed himself among the people. Ephraim is a cake not turned.

9 ⁱ“Foreigners have devoured his strength, and he does not know *it*. Yes, gray hairs are here and there on him, yet he he does not know.

10 “And the ^jhaughtiness of Israel testifies to his face. And ^kthey do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek Him for all this.

11 ¶ ^l“Ephraim also is like a silly dove without a heart. ^mThey call to Egypt. They go to ⁿAssyria.

12 “When they go, I will ^ospread My net over them. I will bring them down as the birds of the heaven. I will chastise them ^paccording to what their assembly has heard.

13 ¶ “Woe to them, for they have fled from Me. Destruction to them because they have transgressed against Me. Though ^qI have redeemed them, yet they have spoken lies against Me.

14 ^r“And they have not cried out to Me with their heart when they wailed on their beds. They assemble themselves for grain and ^swine. They rebel against Me.

15 “Though I have bound *and* strengthened their arms, yet they imagine mischief against Me.

16 “They return, *but* not to the Most High. ^tThey are like a deceitful bow.

n Hs 5:1 o Jr 7:9,10 p Ez 22:9; 23:27 Chapter 7: a Hs 5:1 b Jr 14:10; 17:1 c Hs 1:1 d Rm 1:32 e Jr 9:2; 23:10 f Is 28:1,7 g Is 64:7 h Ps 106:35 i Hs 8:7 j Hs 5:5 k Is 9:13 l Hs 11:1 m Is 30:3 n Hs 5:13; 8:9 o Ez 12:13 p Lv 26:14 q Mc 6:4 r Jb 35:9,10 s Am 2:8 t Ps 78:57

Their princes will fall by the sword for the ^ucursings of their tongue. This *will be* their derision ^vin the land of Egypt.

Chapter 8

Reaping Consequences of Sin

1 ¶ [¶]“Put the trumpet to your mouth. *He will come* ^aas an eagle against the house of the LORD because they have transgressed My covenant and trespassed against My law.

2 ^b“Israel will cry out to Me, ‘My God, ^cwe know You.’

3 “Israel has cast off *the thing that is good*. The enemy will pursue him.

4 ^d“They have set up kings, but not by Me. They have made princes, and I did not know *it*. With their silver and their gold they have made idols for themselves so that they might be cut off.

5 “Your calf, O Samaria, has cast you off. My anger is kindled against them. ^eHow long *will it be* until they attain innocence?

6 “For from Israel *is* even this. The ^fcraftsman made it, therefore it *is* not God. So the calf of Samaria will be broken in pieces.

7 ¶ [¶]“For they have sown the wind and they will reap the whirlwind. It has no stalk. The bud will yield no meal. If it should yield, the ^gforeigners will swallow it up.

8 ^h“Israel is swallowed up. Now they will be among the nations ⁱas a vessel wherein *is* no pleasure.

9 “For they have gone up to Assyria, a ^kwild donkey alone by himself. Ephraim ^lhas hired lovers.

10 “Yes, though they have hired among the nations, now ^mI will gather them and they will begin to waste away under the oppression of the ⁿmighty king.

11 ¶ “Because Ephraim has made many altars to sin, they have become for him altars to sin.

12 “I have written to him the ^ogreat things of My law, *but* they were counted as a foreign thing.

13 “They sacrifice meat *for* the ^psacrifices of My offerings, and eat *it*. ^qBut the LORD does not accept them. ^rNow He will remember their iniquity and visit their sins. They will return to Egypt.

14 ^s“For Israel has forgotten ^this Maker and built temples, and Judah has multiplied ^ufortified cities. But ^vI will send fire on his cities, and it will devour its palaces.”

Chapter 9

Punishment of Israel

1 ¶ ^a“Do not rejoice for joy, O Israel, as *other* people. For you have gone whoring from your God. You have loved *harlots*’ ^bhire on every threshing floor.

2 The threshing and the winepress will not feed them and the new wine will fail them.

3 ¶ They will not dwell in the ^cLORD’S land. ^dBut Ephraim will

u Ps 73:9 v Hs 8:13; 9:3 **Chapter 8:** a Dt 28:49 b Ps 78:34 c Ti 1:16 d 2 Kg 15:23,25 e Jr 13:27 f Is 40:19 g Pv 22:8 h Hs 7:9 i 2 Kg 17:6 j Jr 22:28; 25:34 k Jr 2:24 l Ez 16:33,34 m Ez 16:37; 22:20 n Is 10:8 o Dt 4:6-8 p Zc 7:6 q Jr 14:10 r Am 8:7 s Dt 32:18 t Is 29:23 u Nm 32:17 v Jr 17:27 **Chapter 9:** a Is 22:12,13 b Jr 44:17 c Lv 25:23 d Hs 7:16; 8:13

return to Egypt and they ^ewill eat unclean *things* in Assyria.

4 They will not offer wine *offerings* to the LORD, ^fnor will their ^gsacrifices be pleasing to Him. Their sacrifices *will be* to them as the bread of mourners. All who eat of it will be polluted. For their bread for their soul will not come into the house of the LORD.

5 What will you do in the solemn day and in the day of the feast of the LORD?

6 For behold, they are gone because of destruction. Egypt will gather them up. Memphis will bury them. ^hWeeds will take over their treasures of silver. Thorns *will be* in their tents.

7 ¶ The ⁱdays of visitation have come. The days of repayment have come. Israel will know *it*. The prophet *is* a ^jfool *and* the ^kspiritual man mad, for the multitude of your iniquity and the great hatred.

8 The ^lwatchman of Ephraim *was* with my God. The prophet *is* a snare for the bird in all his ways, *and* hatred in the house of his God.

9 ^mThey have deeply corrupted *themselves* as in the days of ⁿGibeah. *Therefore*, He will remember their iniquity. He will visit their sins.

10 ¶ “I found Israel like grapes in the ^owilderness. I saw your fathers as the ^pearliest fruit in the fig tree in its first *season*. *But* they went to ^qBaal-peor and separated themselves to *that* shame, ^rand *their* abominations were as the thing they loved.

11 “*As for* Ephraim, their glory will fly away like a bird, from the birth and from the womb and from the conception.

12 “Though they bring up their children, yet I will bereave them *so that there will not be* a man left. ^sYes, woe also to them when I depart from them!

13 “Ephraim, ^tas I saw Tyre, *is* planted in a pleasant place. But Ephraim will bring forth his children to the murderer.”

14 ¶ Give them, O LORD—what will You give? Give them a ^umiscarrying womb and dry breasts.

15 ¶ “All their wickedness *is* in ^vGilgal, for there I hated them. For the wickedness of their deeds I will drive them out of My house. I will love them no more. ^wAll their princes *are* rebels.

16 Ephraim is ^xsmitten. Their root is dried up. They will bear no fruit. Yes, though they bring forth, yet I will slay *even* the beloved *fruit* of their womb.”

17 ¶ My God will ^ycast them away because they did not hearken to Him. And they will be ^zwanderers among the nations.

Chapter 10

1 ¶ Israel *is* a ^aspreading vine. He brings forth fruit for himself. According to the multitude of his fruit ^bhe has increased the altars. According to the goodness of his land, they have made *his* sacred pillars.

e Ez 4:13 f Jr 6:20 g Hs 8:13 h Is 5:6; 7:23 i Is 10:3 j Lm 2:14 k Mc 2:11 l Ez 3:17; 33:7 m Hs 10:9 n Jg 19:22 o Jr 2:2 p Is 28:4 q Nm 25:3 r Ps 81:12 s Dt 31:17 t Ez 26–28 u Lk 23:29 v Hs 4:15; 12:11 w Is 1:23 x Hs 5:11 y Zc 10:6 z Lv 26:33 **Chapter 10:** a Nh 2:2 b Jr 2:28

2 Their heart is ^cdivided. Now they will be found guilty. He will break down their altars. He will plunder their sacred pillars.

3 ¶ For now they will say, “We have no king because we did not fear the LORD. What then would a king do for us?”

4 They have spoken words, swearing falsely in making a covenant. Thus judgment springs up as a ^dpoisonous weed in the furrows of the field.

5 The inhabitants of Samaria will fear because of the ^ccalves of Beth-aven. Indeed, its people will mourn for it. And its idolatrous priests will cry out over it, over its ^fglory, because it has departed from it.

6 It will also be carried to Assyria for a present to ^gKing Jareb. Ephraim will receive shame and Israel will be ashamed of its own counsel.

7 As for Samaria, her king is cut off as the foam on the water.

8 The ^hhigh places also of Aven, the ⁱsin of Israel, will be destroyed. The thorn and the thistle will come up on their altars, and ^jthey will say to the mountains, “Cover us,” and to the hills, “Fall on us.”

9 ¶ “O Israel, you have sinned from the days of ^kGibeah. There they stood in the ^lbattle in Gibeah against the children of iniquity *who* did not overtake them.

10 “*It is* in My desire that I should chastise them. And the ^mpeople will be gathered against them when they

are bound for their double iniquity.

11 “Ephraim *is as a* ⁿheifer that is taught, *and loves to tread out the grain.* But I will come over her fair neck *with a yoke.* I will make Ephraim plow. Judah will plow *and Jacob will break his clods.*”

12 ¶ Sow to yourselves in righteousness. Reap in mercy. ^oBreak up your fallow ground. For *it is* time to seek the LORD until ^pHe comes and rains righteousness on you.

13 ^qYou have plowed wickedness. You have reaped iniquity. You have eaten the fruit of lies, because you trusted in your way, in the multitude of your mighty men.

14 Therefore, a tumult will arise among your people and all your fortresses will be plundered as Shalman plundered Beth-arbel in the day of battle. The mother was dashed in pieces with *her* children.

15 So will Bethel do to you because of your great wickedness. At dawn the king of Israel will be cut off utterly.

Chapter 11

God's Abiding Love

1 ¶ “When Israel *was a child,* I loved him and ^acalled ^bMy son out of Egypt.

2 “As they called them, so they ^cwent from them. They sacrificed to the Baals and burned incense to graven images.

3 “I ^dtaught Ephraim also to walk, taking them by their arms. But they did not know that ^eI healed them.

c 1 Kg 18:21 d Am 5:7 e Hs 8:5,6; 13:2 f Hs 9:11 g Hs 5:13 h Hs 4:15 i 1 Kg 13:34 j Lk 23:30 k Hs 9:9 l Jg 20 m Jr 16:16 n Mc 4:13 o Jr 4:3 p Hs 6:3 q Pv 22:8 Chapter 11: a Mt 2:15 b Ex 4:22,23 c 2 Kg 17:13-15 d Dt 1:31; 32:10,11 e Ex 15:26

4 “I led them with cords of a man, with bonds of love. And ^fI was to them as those who take off the yoke from their jaws. And I ^glaid food before them.

5 ¶ “He will not return to the land of Egypt, but the Assyrian will be his king because they refused to repent.

6 “And the sword will abide on his cities and will consume his branches and devour *them* because of their own counsels.

7 “And My people are bent on ^hbacksliding from Me. Even if they call to the Most High, He will by no means exalt them.

8 ¶ “How will I give you up, Ephraim? *How* will I deliver you, Israel? How will I make you as ⁱAdmah? *How* will I set you as Zeboim? My heart is turned within Me. My heart is changed within Me.

9 “I will not execute the fierceness of My anger. I will not return to destroy Ephraim. ^jFor I *am* God and not a man, the Holy One in the midst of you. And I will not come in wrath.

10 “They will walk after the LORD. ^kHe will roar like a lion. When he roars, then the children will tremble from the west.

11 “They will tremble as a bird out of Egypt, and ^las a dove out of the land of Assyria. ^mAnd I will place them in their houses,” says the LORD.

Israel's Sin

12 ¶ “Ephraim surrounds Me with

lies, and the house of Israel with deceit. But Judah is unruly against God, even against the faithful Holy One.”

Chapter 12

1 ¶ Ephraim ^afeeds on wind and follows after the east wind. He daily increases lies and desolation. And they ^bmake a covenant with the Assyrians, and ^coil is carried into Egypt.

2 ^dThe LORD has also a controversy with Judah and will punish Jacob according to his ways, according to his deeds He will repay him.

3 He took his brother ^eby the heel in the womb, and by his strength he ^fstruggled with God.

4 Yes, he struggled with the angel and prevailed. He wept and made supplication to him. He found him *in* ^gBethel and there he spoke with us,

5 even the LORD God of armies. The LORD *is* his ^hmemorial name.

6 ⁱTherefore, turn to your God. Keep mercy and justice and wait on your God continually.

7 ¶ A merchant, in whose hands are ^jdishonest balances, loves to oppress.

8 And Ephraim said, ^k“Surely I have become rich. I have found for myself wealth. *In* all my labors they will find no iniquity in me that *would be* sin.”

9 ¶ “But I *am* the LORD your God since the land of Egypt *and* ^lwill again make you dwell in tents as in the days of the solemn feast.

10 ^m“I have also spoken by the

f Lv 26:13 g Ps 78:25 h Jr 3:6,7; 8:5 i Jr 9:7 j Gn 14:8; 19:24,25 k Nm 23:19 l Jl 3:16 m Is 11:11; 60:8 n Ez 28:25,26; 34:27,28 Chapter 12: a Jb 15:2,3 b 2 Kg 17:4 c Is 30:6 d Mc 6:2 e Gn 25:26 f Gn 32:24-28 g Gn 28:12-19; 35:9-15 h Ex 13:15 i Mc 6:8 j Am 8:5 k Rv 3:17 l Lv 23:42 m 2 Kg 17:13

prophets and I have multiplied visions and used parables through the ministry of the prophets.”

11 ¶ *Is there iniquity in* ⁿGilead? Surely they are vanity. They sacrifice bulls in ^oGilgal. Yes, their altars *are* as heaps in the furrows of the fields.

12 Now Jacob ^pfled into the country of Syria and ^qIsrael served for a wife, and for a wife he kept *sheep*.

13 ^rAnd by a prophet the LORD brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet he was preserved.

14 Ephraim ^sprovoked *Him* to anger most bitterly. Therefore, the Lord will leave his blood on him and ^tbring back his reproach to him.

Chapter 13

God's Anger Against Israel

1 ¶ When Ephraim spoke, men trembled. He was exalted in Israel. But when he offended in Baal, he died.

2 And now they sin more and more, and have made for themselves molten images with their silver *and* idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen. They say of them, “Let the men who sacrifice kiss the calves.”

3 Therefore, they will be as the morning cloud and as the early dew that passes away, ^uas the chaff *that* is driven with the whirlwind out of the threshingfloor, and as the smoke out of the chimney.

4 ¶ “Yet ^vI *am* the LORD your God

from the land of Egypt and you will know no god but Me. For *there is* ^wno savior besides Me.

5 ^x“I did know you in the wilderness, ^yin the land of great drought.

6 ^z“According to their pasture, so were they filled. They were filled and their heart was exalted. Therefore, they have forgotten Me.

7 “Therefore, ^{aa}I will be to them as a lion. As a ^{ab}leopard by the way I will observe *them*.

8 “I will meet them ^{ac}as a bear *that is* bereaved *of her whelps*, and will tear open their chests. And there I will devour them like a lion. The wild beast will tear them.

9 ¶ “O Israel, you have destroyed yourself, but in Me ^{ad}is your help.

10 ^{ae}“Where now is your king that he may save you in all your cities, and your judges of whom ^{af}you requested, “Give me a king and princes”?

11 ^{ag}“I gave you a king in My anger and took *him* away in My wrath.

12 ¶ “The ^{ah}iniquity of Ephraim *is* bound up. His sin *is* kept in store for him.

13 ^{ai}“The sorrows of a travailing woman will come on him. He *is* an unwise son, for it is not the time that he should delay at the opening of the womb.

14 “I will ransom them from the power of the grave. I will redeem them from death. ^{aj}O death, I will be your plagues. O grave, I will be your destruction. ^{ak}Compassion will be hidden from My eyes.

n Hs 6:8 o Hs 9:15 p Gn 28:5 q Gn 29:20,28 r Ex 12:50,51; 13:3 s Ez 18:10-13 t Dn 11:18 **Chapter 13:** a Dn 2:35 b Is 43:11 c Is 43:11; 45:21,22 d Dt 2:7; 32:10 e Dt 8:15 f Dt 8:12,14; 32:13-15 g Lm 3:10 h Jr 5:6 i 2 Sm 17:8 j Dt 32:38 k 1 Sm 8:5,6 l 1 Sm 8:7; 10:17-24 m Dt 32:34,35 n Is 13:8 o 1 Co 15:54,55

15 ¶ “Though he is fruitful among his brethren, ^aan east wind will come. The wind of the LORD will come up from the wilderness and his spring will become dry, and his fountain will be dried up. He will plunder the treasure of all pleasant vessels.

16 “Samaria will become desolate, for she has ^rrebelled against her God. They will fall by the sword. Their infants will be dashed in pieces and their women with child will be ^rripped up.”

Chapter 14

Repentance Brings Blessing

1 ¶ O Israel, ^areturn to the LORD your God, for you have fallen by your iniquity.

2 Take with you words and turn to the LORD. Say to Him, “Take away all iniquity and receive *us* graciously so that we render the ^bfruit of our lips.

3 “Asshur will ^cnot save us. ^dWe will not ride on horses. Neither will we say anymore to the work of our

hands, ‘*You are our gods.*’ ^eFor in You the fatherless find mercy.”

4 ¶ “I will heal their ^fbacksliding. I will ^glove them freely. For My anger has turned away from him.

5 “I will be as the ^hdew to Israel. He will grow as the lily and cast forth his roots as Lebanon.

6 “His branches will spread and ⁱhis beauty will be as the olive tree, and his ^jsmell as Lebanon.

7 ^k“Those who dwell under his shadow will return. They will revive *as* the grain and grow *as* the vine. Its scent *will be* as the wine of Lebanon.

8 ¶ “O Ephraim, what more have I to do with idols? It is I who answer and look after you. I am like a green cypress tree. ^lFrom Me comes your fruit.”

9 ¶ Who *is* wise and will understand these *things*? Who *is* prudent and will know them? For the ^mways of the LORD *are* right and the just will walk in them. But the transgressors will fall in them.

p Jr 15:6 q Jr 4:11,12 r 2 Kg 18:12 s 2 Kg 15:16 Chapter 14: a Jl 2:13 b Hb 13:15 c Hs 7:11; 10:13; 12:1 d Ps 33:17 e Ps 10:14; 68:5 f Jr 14:7 g Ep 1:6 h Pv 19:12 i Ps 52:8; 128:3 j Gn 27:27 k Dn 4:12 l Jn 15:4 m Pv 10:29