

HOSEA – LESSON SEVEN

- I. ISRAEL'S APOSTASY IN CONTRAST TO GOD'S FAITHFULNESS AND LOVE (Chapters 12-14)**
- A. Ephraim's unfaithfulness to God and consequent weakness contrasted with their forefather Jacob's devotion and strength with God (12:1-6).
 - B. Instead of being God's people, Ephraim has become a deceitful trafficker (*Canaan*) (12:7-8).
 - C. From the same God, who has shown Israel love and issued warnings, will issue judgment which will humble Israel (12:9-11).
 - D. Ephraim's ingratitude to God's leading and preserving him has provoked God to anger who will bring the consequences of sin upon Him (12:12-14).
 - E. Ephraim once standing tall in honor died in his worship of Baal (13:1-3).
 - F. The same Jehovah that blessed Israel in the wilderness will tear them as a wild beast in the wilderness (13:4-8).
 - G. Ephraim's destruction will come as a consequence of sin and their king will not be able to prevent it (13:9-12).
 - H. Through travail and sorrow Israel's deliverance as determined by God will come (13:13-14).
 - I. Once fruitful Ephraim will become a dry waste due to rebellion against God (13:15-16).
 - J. As Israel comes to true repentance God pardons and restores (14:1-9).

QUESTIONS:

1. What is understood in Ephraim *feeding on the wind*?
2. What does Ephraim continue to *multiply*?
3. Why is the history of Jacob brought up for Ephraim to consider?
4. What *three* actions are connected with turning to God?
5. What dangers do you see in wealth by observing Ephraim's wealth?

6. How are Ephraim's altars depicted?
7. What point is Hosea making in reminding Israel of Jacob serving for a wife in the field of Aram?
8. Who is the prophet in 12:13?
9. Which direction does sinful reproach travel?
10. Why did Israel "tremble" when Ephraim spoke?
11. What happens to any people when we do not honor the true God?
12. What do the four similes of 13:3 say about the future of Ephraim?
13. What makes Ephraim "*forgetting God*" so sinful?
14. Of what had having a king blinded Israel?
15. What characteristic of sin do you observe in 13:12?
16. What two events surrounding child birth describes the pain and sorrow that will come upon Ephraim?
17. What is God's answer to the questions, " O death, where are thy plagues? O Sheol, where is thy destruction?"?

