

Hosea 9

Hosea 9.1-6 – This seems to have been preached at harvest time (many references to the harvest)

V 1 – **Time for v 1?** Harvest (threshing floor)

-but they should not have been rejoicing (because they had forsaken God)

V 2 – Their harvest would fail them

V 3 – **Did Ephraim literally return to Egypt?** No, to Assyria

-**What was Egypt a symbol for?** Slavery (in the book of *Exodus*)

-**Meaning?** They would go back into slavery

V 4 – **Their situation while in exile?** No temple (no "house of the Lord"); no sacrifices, etc., to please the Lord – bread would not be used as showbread

V 5 – No Old Testament feasts would be celebrated during the exile

V 6 – A very ominous verse

-**What would happen to their silver?** Weeds would grow through it

-**Their tents?** Thorns to grow through them

Hosea 9.7-9

V 7 – Punishment was near

-**What was their attitude toward the prophet Hosea?** A fool

-**Attitude toward the inspired man?** Demented

V 8 – **In what sense had Ephraim been a watchman?** A symbol of righteousness to all the surrounding nations (it was supposed to be anyway)

-But they had failed – like the snare of a bird-catcher

V 9 – **How bad were they?** Like in the days of Gibeah

-Remember *Judges 19* (when the concubine was cut into 12 parts and sent throughout the 12 tribes of Israel)

Hosea 9.10-14

V 10 – **How had God viewed Israel at first?** With great joy, like finding grapes growing out in the woods

-They were the first fruit on the fig tree

-But now they were worshipping Baal

V 11 – **The worst thing that could happen to an Israelite woman?** To be childless

-God: No birth, no pregnancy, no conception (notice the reverse order)

V 12 – Their children would be taken away from them

- "Ephraim" means "fruitfulness" – so just the opposite was going to happen

V 13 – Children would be slaughtered (as happened with the Assyrian captivity)

V 14 – This seems to be the Hosea speaking: "Let 'em have it, Lord!"

Hosea 9.15-17

V 15 – Gilgal was the location of one of the shrines to Baal (*Hosea 4.14, 12.11*)

-Remember: Gilgal was the first stop after crossing the Jordan River under Joshua (they worshipped there)

-Very sad now: it was the center of Baal worship

V 16 –No more children

V 17 – "Wonderers" = taken far away into Assyrian captivity

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