

(v7) "SOW THE WIND, AND REAP THE WHIRLWIND"

(Hosea 8:1 – 9)

INTRODUCTION - Why tell an O.T story? (Romans 15:4 and 1 Corinthians 10:11)
"were written for our learning ... as examples ... written for our admonition"

The background, setting, for Hosea's preaching to God's people in the northern kingdom, Israel.
Hosea preaches for approximately 30 years, 752 BC - 722 BC. Israel is taken captive and carried away to Assyria in 722 BC (2 Kings 18:11-12). His message becomes a warning to the southern kingdom, Judah, and it becomes a lesson for us today.

In chapter 8, Hosea reveals 4 of Israel's sins: (v1) "they have transgressed My covenant and rebelled against My law" (v4) "they set up kings, but not by Me" (v4) "they made idols for themselves" (v11) "made many altars for sin, they have become altars for sinning"

Sowing and reaping in other verses: (Deuteronomy 28:15 and Galatians 6:7-8)

1. WHAT DID ISRAEL "SOW" THAT WAS SO WRONG?

- 1) (Hosea 4:6) "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge"
Note also (v1, v6, v10)
- 2) (Hosea 4:12) "My people ask counsel from their wooden idols"
Note in (Isaiah 44:9-17 and 45:20-22)
- 3) (Hosea 5:13) "... went to Assyria and sent to King Jereb, yet he cannot cure you"
(8:9) "they have gone up to Assyria, like a wild donkey alone by itself"
Israel tried to negotiate with the enemy, and the enemy took them captive.
- 4) (Hosea 10:13) "You have plowed wickedness; you have reaped iniquity ... you trusted in your own way, in the multitude of your mighty men"
Hosea gives ample warning about putting your trust in the wrong places.
- 5) (Hosea 6:4) "... your faithfulness is like a morning cloud,
and like the early dew it goes away."
Israel had fickle-faith; meaning, now you have it, now you don't.
- 6) (Hosea 7:8) "Ephraim has mixed himself among the peoples, Ephraim is a cake unturned"
Ephraim was a dominant tribe in the northern kingdom of Israel.
Hosea says, "Israel is half-baked," wishy-washy, undesirable, two-faced.
- 7) (Hosea 7:11-13) "Ephraim also is like a silly dove, without sense ..."
Being like a silly-bird is not a compliment; meaning, your relationship to God is not on the solid foundation of His word.
You will be easily trapped.

2. HOSEA OFFERS HOPE TO ISRAEL: (Hosea 14:1-2 and v4)

CLOSE: (Hosea 14:9) "Who is wise? Let him understand these things.
Who is prudent? Let him know them. For the ways of the Lord are right;
the righteous walk in them, but transgressors stumble in them."