

HOSEA

– THE PROPHET OF GOD'S HEART –

The Crime Scene

HOSEA 5:1 Hear ye this, O priests; and hearken, ye house of Israel; and give ye ear, O house of the king; for judgment is toward you, because ye have been a snare on Mizpah, and a net spread upon Tabor.² And the revolters are profound to make slaughter, though I have been a rebuker of them all.

ROMANS 3:1 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.² Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.³ For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same.⁴ For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.

1 TIMOTHY 2:1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,² for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

GOD'S CORRECTION

First, sin is unleashed.

HOSEA 5:4 (MEV) Their deeds do not permit them to return to their God, for the spirit of harlotry is within them and they know not the Lord.

GOD'S CORRECTION

Second, pride works.

HOSEA 5:5 The pride of Israel testifies to his face; therefore Israel and Ephraim stumble in their iniquity; Judah also stumbles with them.

GOD'S CORRECTION

Third, God withholds His presence.

HOSEA 5:6 With their flocks and herds they shall go to seek the LORD, But they will not find Him; He has withdrawn Himself from them.

GOD'S CORRECTION

Fourth, they raise pagan children.

HOSEA 5:7 They have dealt treacherously with the LORD, for they have begotten pagan children. Now a New Moon shall devour them and their heritage.

GOD'S CORRECTION

Fifth, they are plunged into war.

HOSEA 5:8 Blow ye the cornet in Gibeah, and the trumpet in Ramah: cry aloud at Bethaven, after thee, O Benjamin.

⁹Ephraim shall be desolate in the day of rebuke: among the tribes of Israel have I made known that which shall surely be.

¹⁰The princes of Judah were like them that remove the bound: therefore I will pour out my wrath upon them like water.

GOD'S CORRECTION

Sixth, God personally works against them.

HOSEA 5:11 Ephraim is oppressed and broken in judgment, because he willingly walked after the commandment.¹² Therefore will I be unto Ephraim as a moth, and to the house of Judah as rottenness.¹³ When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah saw his wound, then went Ephraim to the Assyrian, and sent to king Jareb: yet could he not heal you, nor cure you of your wound.¹⁴ For I will be unto Ephraim as a lion, and as a young lion to the house of Judah: I, even I, will tear and go away; I will take away, and none shall rescue him.

GOD'S CURE

HOSEA 5:15 I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early.

First, we admit our sin.

Second, we seek God's face.

Third, we approach Him in repentance.

ISAIAH 58:4 “Indeed you fast for strife and debate, and to strike with the fist of wickedness. You will not fast as you do this day, to make your voice heard on high.⁵ Is it a fast that I have chosen, a day for a man to afflict his soul? Is it to bow down his head like a bulrush, and to spread out sackcloth and ashes? Would you call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD?⁶ Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke?”