

Hosea 11 **God Never Gives Up** (on His children)

2/5/2020

I. God's Call

v 1 - 4

v 1 hx: Ex 4:22, Deu 7:7-8

doct: Mt 2:15

spir truth : God often uses the past tense when speaking prophecy, because God's prophecies are history written in advance. Isa 48:5-6

In this passage God frequently uses the pronouns in a *parabolic* manner.
The pronouns switch back and forth; so we must read carefully.

v 2 As they (the prophets - 6:5, 12:10) ... *called them* (the people - 4:12),
 ~ Jer 35:15

so they (the people) ... *went from them* (the prophets) :
 they (the people) *sacrificed unto Baalim and burned incense to graven images.*

~ Acts 7:51-52

The end of this behavior is described in 2 Kings 17:11, 13 & 17

v 3 God's instruction (*I taught*) *heals* broken people, because He gives it in love (v1).

v 4 God removed their *yoke* of Egyptian bondage and fed them with manna in the wilderness for 40 years. He *drew them with the cords of a man* (hx: Moses; doct: Jesus) *with bands of love* : Jesus removed the yoke of sin with the greatest act of love : he laid down his life for us (John 15:13).

The call of God to both Israel and the Church was made in love. And that love comes through the man Christ Jesus, the one mediator between God and men.

II. Israel's Callousness

v 5 - 7

The issue is *backsliding* (v 7); the cause here is twofold :

(i) v 5 *they refuse to return* - to the Lord and His word, 8:12

(ii) v 6 *their own counsels* - 10:4 & 13

God made this charge many times through many prophets.
Isa 1:4, Jer 3:6-8; 8:5; Hos 4:16; Mal 3:7

It's effect : Proverbs 14:14

The cure : Hosea 14:4

III. God's Compassion

v 8 - 12

v 8 The heart cry of God for his children: *How shall I give thee up ?*

Jesus wept over Jerusalem, Luke 19:41

God loves like a Father, Ps 103:13; and a mother, Isa 66:13.

Admah, Zeboim - examples of God's wrath, Deu 29:23, Jude 7

mine heart is turned...my repentings are kindled

God heart is turning back and forth (repenting) trying to decide what to do with his nation, see Rom 11:22 - *goodness and severity*.

God's Holiness turns between mercy (*goodness*) and judgment (*severity*).

The *goodness of God* is extended for a period of time to *lead to repentance*, Rom 2:4.

But when the hardened sinner ignores the *space to repent* (Rev 2:21), God's compassion is turned (i.e. He repents) is turned to judgment. Ecc 3:17 2 Tim 4:1

v 9 God cannot undo that which he has *spoken* Num 23:19.

The Holy One - (48x in HB; 9 OT 4 NT)

I will not enter into the city : (a) - to destroy it

(b) - until it is purged of its sin

v 10 - 11 *roar like a lion* - Joel 3:16 ; Amos 1:2 = Rev 5:5

doctr - Psalm 110:3 Isa 65:18-25 & Eze 28:26

v 12 *Ephraim...lies* = Jer 9:3-8

house of Israel ... deceit note: 2 Tim 3:13

Judah ... faithful i.e. - for now, with King Hezekiah on the throne, but notice 12:2

references :

Minor Prophets, vol 1, Dr Peter Ruckman, 1979 Bible Baptist Bookstore

Common Man's Reference Bible, David Hoffman, 2004 Bible Baptist Church