

## "I Am God"

Hosea 11: 1 - 11

August 11, 2010

### God Demonstrates His Sovereign Love For Those Who Are His, (vs. 1 - 11)

- *God Demonstrates His Sovereign Love In Exercising His Merciful Patience, (vs. 1 - 4)*
- God Demonstrates His Sovereign Love In Disciplining Wanton Rebellion, (vs. 5 - 7)
  1. God's discipline is not regressive, (vs. 5a); *"Because this people has refused the waters of Shiloah that flow gently... behold, the Lord is bringing up against them the waters of the River, mighty and many, the king of Assyria and all his glory. And it will rise over all its channels and go over all its banks..." (Isaiah 8:6-8)*
  2. God's discipline is consistent with the nature of the rebellion, (vs. 5b); *"They shall not remain in the land of the Lord, but Ephraim shall return to Egypt, and they shall eat unclean food in Assyria." (Hosea 9:3)*
  3. God's discipline is not unexpected, (vs. 5c); *"Yet the Lord warned Israel and Judah by every prophet and every seer, saying, "Turn from your evil ways and keep my commandments and my statutes, in accordance with all the Law that I commanded your fathers, and that I sent to you by my servants the prophets." (2 Kings 17:13)*
  4. God's discipline strips away all "hiding" places, (vs. 6)
    - "Hiding" in a crowd, (vs. 6a); *"Then they said to him, "Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?" And he said to them, "I am a Hebrew, and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." Then the men were exceedingly afraid and said to him, "What is this that you have done!" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them." (Jonah 1:8-10)*
    - "Hiding" in sources of security, (vs. 6b); *"Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit? The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it." (Psalm 80:12-13)*
    - "Hiding" in reason, (vs. 6c); *"Ah, stubborn children," declares the Lord, "who carry out a plan, but not mine, and who make an alliance, but not of my Spirit, that they may add sin to sin;" (Isaiah 30:1)*
  5. God's discipline works in conjunction with God's greater will, (vs. 7a); *"And I thought, 'After she has done all this she will return to me,' but she did not return, and her treacherous sister Judah saw it. She saw that for all the adulteries of that faithless one, Israel, I had sent her away with a decree of divorce. Yet her treacherous sister Judah did not fear, but she too went and played the whore." (Jeremiah 3:7-8)*
  6. God's discipline is resolute & steadfast in the moment, (vs. 7b-c); *"For thus says the Lord to the house of Israel: "Seek me and live; but do not seek Bethel, and do not enter into Gilgal or cross over to Beersheba; for Gilgal shall surely go into exile, and Bethel shall come to nothing." Seek the Lord and live, lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and it devour, with none to quench it for Bethel," (Amos 5:4-6)*

- God Demonstrates His Sovereign Love In Bestowing Unmerited Grace, (vs. 8 - 9)
- God Demonstrates His Sovereign Love In Restoring Genuine Humility, (vs. 10 - 11)