

"Forever Yours, Faithfully"

Hosea 12: 7 - 11

September 8, 2010

God Has Sovereignly Decreed The Season Of Election; We Must Wait For That Season, (vs. 1 - 14)

- God Has Sovereignly Decreed To Save The Thief; We Must Look For That Season, (vs. 7 - 11)
 - The Thief Relies On His Own Plans To Provide Security, (vs. 7 - 8)
 - Sordid gain is the goal; *"saying, "When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?""* (Amos 8:5-6)
 - Injustice is the tool; *"They covet fields and seize them, and houses, and take them away; they oppress a man and his house, a man and his inheritance."* (Micah 2:2)
 - ✚ *"You shall have just balances, just weights, a just ephah, and a just hin: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt."* (Leviticus 19:36)
 - Arrogance is the result; *"Those who BUY them SLAUGHTER them and go UNPUNISHED, and those who SELL them SAY, 'BLESSED be the Lord, I have become RICH,' and their own SHEPHERDS have no PITY on them."* (Zechariah 11:5)
 - ✚ *"Beware lest there be among you a man or woman or clan or tribe whose heart is TURNING away today from the Lord our God to go and serve the gods of those nations. Beware lest there be among you a root BEARING poisonous and bitter fruit, one who, when he hears the words of this sworn covenant, blesses himself in his heart, saying, 'I SHALL BE safe, though I WALK in the stubbornness of my heart.' This will lead to the sweeping away of moist and dry alike."* (Deuteronomy 29:18-19)
 - God Declares That He Is The Source Of Any Lasting Security, (vs. 9 - 10)
 - God has demonstrated a history of lasting security, (vs. 9a); *"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery."* (Exodus 20:2)
 - God's idea of security is materially different from the worlds, (vs. 9b); *"If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Whoever does not LOVE me does not keep my words. And the word that you hear is not mine but the Father's who SENT me."* (John 14:23-24)
 - ✚ God has proclaimed His decrees to those who abide in Him, (vs. 10a); *"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)
 - ✚ God has confirmed His decrees to those who abide in Him, (vs. 10b); *"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions."* (Joel 2:28)
 - ✚ God continues to instruct those who abide in Him, (vs. 10c); *"This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says: "You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive. For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.' But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear."* (Matthew 13:13-16)
 - God's Judgment Falls On The Heart That Prompts The Wicked Hands, (vs. 11)