

# The Voices of God to Israel: The Minor Prophets

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## 5 – THE CHARGES AGAINST ISRAEL - PART 2 (HOSEA 6:4-11:11)

### I. The First Case of Israel's Guilt and Punishment (Hosea 6:4-8:14)

#### A. Israel's Lack of Commitment (Hosea 6:4-7:16)

- The Lord describes Israel's faithfulness as momentary like the morning fog.
- The Lord is bringing the judgment which was forewarned by the prophets.
- The Lord expressed his desire in that he longed for mercy and loyalty from Israel.
- Rejecting the Lord, the people broke the covenant and became unfaithful.
- Israel's unfaithfulness resulted in rampant violence that involved all levels of society.
- The Lord has seen that Israel is defiled because of its harlotry/idolatry.
- The Lord also announces that a harvest/judgment has been appointed for Judah.
- The Lord wanted to heal his people, but they continued to lie and sin.
- The rulers of the nation delighted in the people's sin.
- The Lord states that they are adulterers and their sinful desire was like a low burning fire.
- The kingship of Israel frequently changed hands and no one called upon the Lord.
- Israel sought to make alliances with foreigners, but did not see that she weakened herself.
- Israel is like a silly dove who seeks help from Egypt and Assyria.
- Because they rebelled against the Lord, he will bring judgment upon them.

#### B. Israel's Rebellion (Hosea 8:1-14)

- An enemy will come quickly against Israel because they rebelled against the Lord.
- Israel will cry out to the Lord, but they had rejected what is good and will be judged.
- Without the Lord, they set up their rulers and their idols.
- The Lord proclaims that their golden calf image is rejected and will be destroyed.
- Israel is reaping what it has sown and is now living among the Gentiles.
- They consider the great things of God's law to be strange.

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- They will make sacrifices to the Lord, but he will reject them.
- Israel has forgotten his maker and Judah will be devoured by fire.

## II. The Second Case of Israel's Guilt and Punishment (Hosea 9:1-11:7)

### A. Punishment is Coming (Hosea 9:1-17)

- Unlike the other nations, Israel will have no joy during the upcoming harvest.
- Israel will be sent into exile and find themselves eating unclean things in Assyria.
- Israel will no longer be able to celebrate the festival days as they had before.
- The day of judgment has come since they were hostile to the Lord's prophets.
- Israel is deeply corrupted as she was in the days of Gibeah (Judges 19:30).
- The Lord found delight in the nation until they gave themselves to sin at Baal Peor (Numbers 25).
- Israel's glory will depart and they have now become the object of God's wrath.
- Israel is judged as the Lord casts them away and they become wanderers.

### B. Israel's Idolatry (Hosea 10:1-15)

- Even though the Lord blessed Israel, she attributed the blessing to her idols.
- Israel's heart is divided and they will be held guilty as the Lord breaks down their idols.
- Israel's will lose its king, as they recognize that they did not fear the Lord.
- The people will mourn when golden calf at Beth Aven will be carried away by the Assyrians.
- At the time of the Lord's choosing, he will punish Israel with the nations gathered against her.
- The prophet calls Israel to seek the Lord till he comes and brings righteousness.
- Instead, Israel has planted wickedness and reaped iniquity.
- They will also experience the tumult of war in their midst as judgment comes.

### C. Israel's Rejection of the Lord (Hosea 11:1-7)

- When Israel was a child, the Lord loved him and called his son out of Egypt.
- Instead, Israel sacrificed to the Baals and burned incense to idols.

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- The Lord's goodness established and sustained Israel.
- However, Israel refused to repent and will experience judgment brought the Assyrians.
- Israel is determined to backslide, even though they call to the Most High God.

## III. The Promise (Hosea 11:8-11)

### A. The Lord's Love (Hosea 11:8-9)

- As the Lord reflects on Israel's judgment, he expresses that he cannot give up on them.
- In his compassion, the Lord states that Israel will never again experience judgment.

### B. Israel's Return (Hosea 11:10-11)

- Israel will walk after the Lord and will come trembling before him.