Hosea 10

King James Version (KJV)

10 Israel is an empty vine, he bringeth forth fruit unto himself: according to the multitude of his fruit he hath increased the altars; according to the goodness of his land they have made goodly images. (Jesus said - I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing)John-15:5

(The fruit is the harvest of souls that receive God's salvation at the end of this Age)

(Their altars were to idols, not to God. Today, most Christian churches teach traditions of men, instead of God's Word. Example: Easter "services" instead of Passover; rapture doctrine instead of standing against antichrist; allowing abortion to exist as "a woman's right to choose")

- ²Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty: he shall break down their altars, he shall spoil their images. (When their idol worship does not profit or benefit them, they turn to atheism. They go from bad to worse)
- ³ For now they shall say, We have no king, because we feared not the LORD; what then should a king do to us? (They abandoned God; HE didn't abandon them. Their leaders are ignorant. They lead the nations into sin and perversion)
- ⁴They have spoken words, swearing falsely in making a covenant: thus judgment springeth up as hemlock in the furrows of the field. (They swore an oath to God, but they didn't honor it. Poison springs up in the furrows, where crops should be growing instead. They stopped planting crops and grow opium and marijuana instead)
- The inhabitants of <u>Samaria</u> shall fear because of <u>the calves</u> of <u>Bethaven</u>: for the people thereof shall mourn over it, and <u>the priests</u> thereof that rejoiced on it, for the glory thereof, because it is departed from it. (Samaria- the 10 tribes; the calves- the golden calves made by Jeroboam; Bethaven- house of emptiness or vanity; Priests- the priests who serve false gods, like Jeroboam's calves, Baal and many other heathen gods)

(The people will fear when they finally realize that without God's blessings, their quality of life is getting worse and worse with each generation. They have become so selfish that – they didn't care when they were offending God; but they care when it affects their life)

It shall be also carried unto Assyria for a present to king Jareb: Ephraim shall receive shame, and Israel shall be ashamed of his own counsel. (Jareb= adversary; scholars believe this is Senachareb's son, Sargon II)

(Israel became a shameful example to the other nations. They went from blessings to cursing – because of their decisions. The Christian nations today are doing the same thing)

- ⁷As for Samaria, her king is cut off as the foam upon the water. (When a wave breaks on the shore, it creates foam. The foam is just air bubbles. It dissipates quickly and amounts to nothing)
- The high places also of <u>Aven</u>, the sin of Israel, shall be destroyed: the thorn and the thistle shall come up on their altars; and they shall say to the mountains, Cover us; and to the hills, Fall on us. (Aven = emptiness, vanity)

Revelation-9 (When they finally realize that they have been deceived by antichrist, they will pray that mountains fall on them, to cover their shame)

- O Israel, thou hast sinned from the days of <u>Gibeah</u>: there they stood: the battle in Gibeah against the children of iniquity did not overtake them. Judges-19 (Gibeah In Benjamin, where the homosexuals wanted to rape the man but couldn't get to him. Instead, they raped and killed his concubine. Israel rose up and attacked Benjamin and almost wiped out the whole tribe)
- ¹⁰ It is in my desire that I should chastise them; and the people shall be gathered against them, when they shall bind themselves in their two furrows. (They bind themselves together in false teachings and sin; as two oxen yoked together are bound for plowing a field for planting crops)
- ¹¹ And Ephraim is as an heifer that is taught, and loveth to tread out the corn; but I passed over upon her fair neck: I will make Ephraim to ride; Judah shall plow, and Jacob shall break his clods. (Ephraim lives the easy life in their sin. God will take away their ease, in trying to

wake them up to repentance. Pulling a plow is much harder work than treading out the corn)

¹² Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you. (Repent and be saved. God forgives all who truly repent. It's not too late, but the clock is ticking. We are rapidly coming up to the end of this Age)

¹³ Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity; ye have eaten the fruit of lies: because thou didst trust in thy way, in the multitude of thy mighty men. (Your mighty men can't save you, if you abandon God. Learn from your mistakes and return to God)

(The left has been hard at work; turning a righteous nation away from God; into sin, perversion and atheism. They did the work, but the right let them succeed; by not doing anything about it. We are also guilty)

¹⁴Therefore shall a tumult arise among thy people, and all thy fortresses shall be spoiled, as <u>Shalman</u> spoiled <u>Betharbel</u> in the day of battle: the mother was dashed in pieces upon her children. (<u>Shalman</u> – fire worshippers; Betharbel – House of ambush of God – i.e. Judgment day)

¹⁵ So shall <u>Bethel</u> do unto you because of your great wickedness: in a morning shall the king of Israel utterly be cut off. (Bethel= house of God)

(Jeroboam put a golden calf there for people to worship, instead of going to Jerusalem to worship God. The 10 tribes never recovered from this idolatry. They sank further and further into idolatry and perversion and were eventually taken captive by the Assyrians)