

Hosea 7

King James Version (KJV)

7 When I would have healed Israel, then the iniquity of Ephraim was discovered, and the wickedness of Samaria: for they commit falsehood; and the thief cometh in, and the troop of robbers spoileth without. (Jeroboam led them to idolatry with his golden calves. He made Israel worship them instead of going to Jerusalem to worship God in the temple)

(They were perverted from within by their own king Jeroboam, and from without by the surrounding heathen tribes)

²And they consider not in their hearts that I remember all their wickedness: now their own doings have beset them about; they are before my face. (They ignorantly think that God doesn't see their idol worship. HE sees all. They aren't getting away with anything)

³They make the king glad with their wickedness, and the princes with their lies. (Politically correct leaders – there is no morality in them. The king is happy that they accepted his golden calves as gods)

⁴They are all adulterers, as an oven heated by the baker, who ceaseth from raising after he hath kneaded the dough, until it be leavened. (They are like a stupid baker who doesn't let his dough rise before baking his bread. He ends up with inferior bread because of his shortcuts)

(Israel is the same. It's quicker and easier to worship the golden calf than it is to travel to Jerusalem to worship God. The result is that a golden calf cannot bless them and prosper them. Only God can do that)

⁵In the day of our king the princes have made him sick with bottles of wine; he stretched out his hand with scorners. (Drunkards will always end up in the ditch. Then they blame someone else for their miseries)

⁶For they have made ready their heart like an oven, whiles they lie in wait: their baker sleepeth all the night; in the morning it burneth as a flaming fire. (bad translation -> baker should be anger)

⁷They are all hot as an oven, and have devoured their judges; all their kings are fallen: there is none among them that calleth unto me.

(Their stupidity and lack of repentance causes them frustration and anger. They cannot prosper without God, but they don't realize it)

⁸ Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned. (They are half baked – i.e. half-witted)

NOTE: (Today, most of their descendants don't even know they are descended from the 10 tribes. They call themselves Gentiles in their ignorance)

⁹ Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knoweth it not: yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not. (Even old age doesn't bring wisdom to them. Without God at their side, the world is devouring them, slowly but surely)

NOTE: (Look at the US today. Our leaders have stolen our national wealth; and have given it to other nations; while more and more Americans descend into poverty)

¹⁰ And the pride of Israel testifieth to his face: and they do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek him for all this. (They have forgotten all the gifts that God gave them. They believe in their own greatness; that they accomplished all of their feats by themselves. They have become egoistic and self centered)

¹¹ Ephraim also is like a silly dove without heart: they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria. (When there is trouble on the horizon, they seek men's council, instead of God's)

¹² When they shall go, I will spread my net upon them; I will bring them down as the fowls of the heaven; I will chastise them, as their congregation hath heard. (God will punish the preachers for fooling their congregations with false teaching. HE will punish the people by giving them what they are asking for – the aid of other men, instead of salvation from God)

¹³ Woe unto them! for they have fled from me: destruction unto them! because they have transgressed against me: though I have redeemed them, yet they have spoken lies against me. (They abandoned God after He brought them out of slavery in Egypt into the Promised Land. Now, He will abandon them. Without God's protection, the world will eat them up. They will lose their nation and become servants in other lands)

¹⁴ And they have not cried unto me with their heart, when they howled upon their beds: they assemble themselves for corn and wine, and they rebel against me. (They trust in their riches and in the ways of the world, instead of seeking God. They never even thought of repenting and returning to God. So now, they will lose everything)

¹⁵ Though I have bound and strengthened their arms, yet do they imagine mischief against me. (God gave them everything that they have, yet they refuse to stop the idol worship and repent)

¹⁶ They return, but not to the most High: they are like a deceitful bow: their princes shall fall by the sword for the rage of their tongue: this shall be their derision in the land of Egypt. (They will get what they asked for – at the hands of the Egyptians. Egypt will betray them; and they will fall to the Assyrians by their own doings)