

# The Book of Hosea

## Chapter Eight

### I. Review

- A. Hosea was a prophet to the Northern Kingdom of Israel who prophesied of its fall to Assyria.
- B. Chapters 4-14 contain messages of the coming judgment upon Israel
- C. God's indictment against Israel is across three groups: Israel, the nation and people; Ephraim, the ruling class or princes; and the priests. All these have failed in their duties to serve God.
- D. In this chapter we have the vain hopes of Israel against judgment: idols (vs. 5), hired allies (vs. 9), heartless worship (vs. 11).

### II. Chapter Seven

- A. vs. 1 - the eagle represents Assyria. John Gill says it speaks of "of Shalmaneser, king of Assyria, compared to this creature for his swiftness in coming, his strength, fierceness, and cruelty; this creature being swift in flight, and a bird of prey."
- B. vs. 2 - It seems the only time people look up is when they are lying flat on their backs.
- C. vs. 3 - good - that which is holy, righteous, and by extension God Himself
- D. vs. 4 - they were trusting in their plans and riches, not in God
- E. vs. 5-6 - I love it when God mocks idols.
- F. vs. 7 - ever heard that phrase?
- G. vs. 9 - a picture of their vain attempts at foreign alliance
- H. vs. 10 - "sorrow a little" - probably refers to tribute payment to Assyria
- I. vs. 11 - Adam Clarke says "Though it does not appear that the Jews in Babylon were obliged to worship the idols of the country, except in the case mentioned by Daniel, yet it was far otherwise with the Israelites in Assyria, and the other countries of their dispersion. Because they had made many altars to sin while they were in their own land, they were obliged to continue in the land of their captivity a similar system of idolatry against their will. Thus they felt and saw the evil of their idolatry, without power to help themselves."
- J. vs. 12-13 - once again we see that God looks upon the heart and not the actions of the worshiper
- K. vs. 14 - the Northern Kingdom trusted in its false religion, the Southern in its military strength. Neither will stand against God's judgment.