

The Book of Hosea

Chapter Eleven

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.

II. Chapter Eleven

- A. vs. 2 - the "they" here refers to Moses and Aaron, or possibly the prophets in general. The idea is that Israel turned from God in spite of the admonitions of His faithful servants.
- B. vs. 3 - the imagery here is of teaching a child to walk.
- C. vs. 4 - this continues the imagery of the heifer from the previous chapter. Here we see a kind and loving owner caring for his beloved animal.
- D. vs. 5-6 - In spite of God's goodness, judgment is still coming. Not because God ceases to be good, but because Israel ceases to repent. But note God's control in this.
- E. vs. 7 - a telling verse: the people are simply bent on backsliding, even so that when they call on God they are not revering Him as they should.
- F. vs. 8 - Admah and Zeboim - cities near Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 14:2, 19:25) that were destroyed with those wicked cities (Deuteronomy 29:23)
- G. vs. 9 - a faithful remnant will be preserved through judgment. This is a hallmark of God's dealings with man.
- H. vs. 10-11 - this speaks of the return of Israel back to their land following judgment.
- I. vs. 12 - Very abrupt change here from the faithful remnant back to the present backsliders in the Northern Kingdom and the still faithful in the Southern. This verse serves as a transition to the next chapter.