

# The Book of Hosea

## Chapter 13

### Introduction

- This chapter is a continuation of thought from the previous chapter.

### Chapter Thirteen

- vs. 1 – This is another history lesson. Ephraim as a tribe with Jeroboam as its representative elevated themselves above the other tribes when the kingdom divided (I Kings 12:19-20). Then through Jeroboam corrupted religion was introduced (I Kings 12:26-33).
- vs. 2 – the sin of idolatry that was rooted in Jeroboam's actions is now spread.
- vs. 2 - note that the 'gods' they create are from themselves and not divine.
- vs. 3 – Israel will be made as the most temporary and fleeting things.
- vs. 4 - I love it when God brags!
- vs. 5 – God was with them in the lean times, especially the wilderness years.
- vs. 6 – Now that things are prosperous, they have forgotten God.
- vs. 7-8 - God will be like fierce predators in His judgment.
- vs. 9 - Who's fault is it when judgment comes? Not God's!
- vs. 10-11 - God never intended for Israel to have a king other than Himself. They looked at other kingdoms and wanted what those had, not what God desired (I Samuel 8:5,20). However, God foresaw the kingdom, made provision for it (Deuteronomy 17:14-20), and worked through it (setting up the Messiah's reign). Ultimately God will be their true king, which the coming judgment will reveal.
- vs. 12 – Pulpit Commentary: "This verse is intended to remove all doubt about the punishment of sin, whatever interval may have elapsed. The day of reckoning would certainly come, for the sin of Ephraim was neither forgotten nor blotted out. As a miser puts his money in a bag and seals it to prevent it being lost, so the Almighty had, as it were, hoarded Ephraim's sin, putting it in a bag and tying it."
- vs. 13 – The image here is of a baby that refuses to be born. "Ephraim is an unwise son, inasmuch as even under the chastening judgment he still delays his conversion, and will not let himself be new-born, like a child, that at the time of the labour-pains will not enter the opening of the womb and so come to the birth." (Keil and Delitzsch Commentary)
- vs. 14 – God will be their hope in salvation and restoration after judgment.
- vs. 14 – Last part sound familiar? (I Corinthians 15:54,55)
- vs. 15 – The Lord will turn the "east wind" (12:1) against Ephraim and ruin their prosperity.
- vs. 16 – A picture of the fierceness of the judgment that would come.