

Minor Prophets: Hosea

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I. Introduction.

- A. Sin never dies a natural death—it must always be judged.
- B. Either we judge the sin, or God does it. (I Corinthians 11)
- C. Text: Hosea 8-10.

II. Why God judged Israel.

- A. The breaking of the Covenant and the Law. (Deuteronomy 28)
- B. The setting up of false kings.
- C. The worshipping of idols.
- D. The setting up of pagan alliances. Israel became a vessel in which there was no pleasure—like a forged pot that was broken.
- E. The setting up of many altars. There was only to be one altar set up in Jerusalem. (Deuteronomy 12:5-6)

III. Aspects of the judgment.

- A. The people had forgotten their maker and His temple.
- B. Judgment had been escalated.
 - 1. The death of joy.
 - 2. The exile of the land.
 - 3. The end of worship.
 - 4. The loss of spiritual discernment.
 - 5. A decline in population.
- C. Retribution takes place in two steps.
 - 1. The retribution of Israel's sins. (Jeremiah 2, Ezekiel 17, John 15, Revelation 6)
 - 2. The reaping of what is sown.

IV. Conclusion.

A. God had to judge His own chosen people. (Proverbs 8:9-10)

B. We sin because we do not realize the sinfulness of sin.

C. God despises sin.

Application questions:

1. Which reason for judgment does the church struggle with the most today? Explain.

2. Read I Corinthians 11. Does God judge believers temporally today?

3. What issues in your life have you failed to judge? Spend some time in reflection and prayer asking God for forgiveness.
