



Hasse

faithful to the unfaithful



Hosea 7

Our Three Questions

1. What does the text say?

- Authorial intent to the intended audience.

2. What does the text mean?

- The timeless theological truth.

3. How does this apply today?

- What we ought to do with/because of this truth.

Hosea 7

¹ when I would heal Israel, the iniquity of Ephraim is revealed, and the evil deeds of Samaria, for they deal falsely; the thief breaks in, and the bandits raid outside. ² But they do not consider that I remember all their evil. Now their deeds surround them; they are before my face. ³ By their evil they make the king glad, and the princes by their treachery.

Hosea 7

⁴ They are all adulterers; they are like a heated oven whose baker ceases to stir the fire, from the kneading of the dough until it is leavened. ⁵ On the day of our king, the princes became sick with the heat of wine; he stretched out his hand with mockers. ⁶ For with hearts like an oven they approach their intrigue; all night their anger smolders;

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in the morning it blazes like a flaming fire. ⁷ All of them are hot as an oven, and they devour their rulers. All their kings have fallen, and none of them calls upon me. ⁸ Ephraim mixes himself with the peoples; Ephraim is a cake not turned. ⁹ Strangers devour his strength, and he knows it not; gray hairs are sprinkled upon him, and he knows it not.

Hosea 7

¹⁰ The pride of Israel testifies to his face; yet they do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek him, for all this. ¹¹ Ephraim is like a dove, silly and without sense, calling to Egypt, going to Assyria. ¹² As they go, I will spread over them my net; I will bring them down like birds of the heavens; I will discipline them according to the report made to their congregation.

Hosea 7

13 Woe to them, for they have strayed from me! Destruction to them, for they have rebelled against me! I would redeem them, but they speak lies against me. **14** They do not cry to me from the heart, but they wail upon their beds; for grain and wine they gash themselves; they rebel against me.

Hosea 7

¹⁵ Although I trained and strengthened their arms, yet they devise evil against me. ¹⁶ They return, but not upward; they are like a treacherous bow; their princes shall fall by the sword because of the insolence of their tongue. This shall be their derision in the land of Egypt.

Preview

- **God's frustrated desire – V. 1 & 13b**
- **Verse by Verse indictments**
 - Dishonesty, lies
 - Constant anger, violence, scheming
 - Forgetting God
 - Seeking and trusting in others (not God)
- **Consequence – Capture/Exile**
- **What do we learn – God – Human nature**
- **Application**

God's Desire

¹ when I would heal Israel, the iniquity of Ephraim is revealed, and the evil deeds of Samaria, for they deal falsely; the thief breaks in, and the bandits raid outside. ² But they do not consider that I remember all their evil. Now their deeds surround them; they are before my face.

God's Desire

13 Woe to them, for they have strayed from me! Destruction to them, for they have rebelled against me!

I would redeem them, but they speak lies against me.

Hosea 4:16 & 6:4

¹⁶ Like a stubborn heifer, Israel is stubborn; can the LORD now feed them like a lamb in a broad pasture?

⁴ What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
What shall I do with you, O Judah?

Indictments

¹ when I would heal Israel, the iniquity of Ephraim is revealed, and the evil deeds of Samaria, for they deal falsely; the thief breaks in, and the bandits raid outside.

² But they do not consider that I remember all their evil. Now their deeds surround them; they are before my face.

God's desire is frustrated by the sin of the people

Indictments

¹ when I would heal Israel, the iniquity of Ephraim is revealed, and the evil deeds of Samaria, for they deal falsely; the thief breaks in, and the bandits raid outside.

² But they do not consider that I remember all their evil. Now their deeds surround them; they are before my face.

Sin 1 – They “deal falsely”

Indictments

¹ when I would heal Israel, the iniquity of Ephraim is revealed, and the evil deeds of Samaria, for they deal falsely; the thief breaks in, and the bandits raid outside.

² But they do not consider that I remember all their evil. Now their deeds surround them; they are before my face.

**Sin 2 – They are violent
Nowhere is safe**

Indictments

¹ when I would heal Israel, the iniquity of Ephraim is revealed, and the evil deeds of Samaria, for they deal falsely; the thief breaks in, and the bandits raid outside.

² But they do not consider that I remember all their evil. Now their deeds surround them; they are before my face.

Sin 3 – They forget their God

No fear of God

Historical Context

2 Kings 14:23-29 – Jeroboam son of Joash

✦ 41 years – normal death

2 Kings 15:8-12 – Zechariah son of Jeroboam

✦ Six months – assassinated

2 Kings 15:13-16 – Shallum son of Jabesh

✦ One month – assassinated

2 Kings 15:15:17-22 – Menaham son of Gadi

✦ Ten years – regular death (treaty with Assyria)

Historical Context

2 Kings 15:23-26 – Pekahiah son of Menahem

- ✦ Two years – assassinated

2 Kings 15:27-28 – Pekah son of Remaliah

- ✦ Twenty years – assassinated
- ✦ Much of Israel is conquered by Assyria

2 Kings 17:1-5 – Hoshea son of Elah

- ✦ Nine years – Last king of Israel

2 Kings 17:3-6

³ Against him came up Shalmaneser king of Assyria. And Hoshea became his vassal and paid him tribute. ⁴ But the king of Assyria found treachery in Hoshea, for he had sent messengers to So, king of Egypt, and offered no tribute to the king of Assyria, as he had done year by year. Therefore the king of Assyria shut him up and bound him in prison.

2 Kings 17:3-6

⁵ Then the king of Assyria invaded all the land and came to Samaria, and for three years he besieged it.

⁶ In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria, and he carried the Israelites away to Assyria and placed them in Halah, and on the Habor, the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

Historical Context

- **Constant upheaval**
- **All the kings are evil**
- **Make treaties with enemies for relief**
 - **They don't turn to God**
- **Betray their word to other nations**

Hosea 7:3-7

³ By their evil they make the king glad, and the princes by their treachery.

⁴ They are all adulterers; they are like a heated oven whose baker ceases to stir the fire, from the kneading of the dough until it is leavened. ⁵ On the day of our king, the princes became sick with the heat of wine; he stretched out his hand with mockers.

Hosea 7:3-7

⁶ For with hearts like an oven they approach their intrigue; all night their anger smolders; ⁷ All of them are hot as an oven, and they devour their rulers. All their kings have fallen, and none of them calls upon me.

- Evil is endorsed all the way up society
- Oven analogy – heat/anger – devour rulers
- Falling kings don't call on God

Hosea 7:8-11

⁸ Ephraim mixes himself with the peoples; Ephraim is a cake not turned.
⁹ Strangers devour his strength, and he knows it not; gray hairs are sprinkled upon him, and he knows it not. ¹⁰ The pride of Israel testifies to his face; yet they do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek him, for all this.

Hosea 7:8-11

¹¹ Ephraim is like a dove, silly and without sense, calling to Egypt, going to Assyria.

Hosea 7:8-11

⁸ Ephraim mixes himself with the peoples; Ephraim is a cake not turned.

⁹ Strangers devour his strength, and he knows it not;

Israel makes treaties that they shouldn't

“Peoples” = “Strangers” who devour their strength

Hosea 7:8-11

gray hairs are sprinkled upon him, and he knows it not. ¹⁰ The pride of Israel testifies to his face; yet they do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek him, for all this.

Their end is near

They don't even know it

They don't turn to God for help

Hosea 7:8-11

¹¹ Ephraim is like a dove, silly and without sense, calling to Egypt, going to Assyria.

² Kings 17:3-6

Hoshea becomes a vassal to Assyria

Hoshea breaks treaty to ally with Egypt

Assyria invades the land and takes capital

Egypt does not help

Hosea 7:12-13

¹² As they go, I will spread over them my net; I will bring them down like birds of the heavens; I will discipline them according to the report made to their congregation. ¹³ Woe to them, for they have strayed from me! Destruction to them, for they have rebelled against me! I would redeem them, but they speak lies against me.

Hosea 7:12-13

Israel lies

They are violent and constantly scheme

They have no fear of God

Their evil is all the way up to the kings

They put their trust in nations not God

They are rebellious and unrepentant

Therefore, God is going to destroy them

Hosea 7:14-16

¹⁴ They do not cry to me from the heart, but they wail upon their beds; for grain and wine they gash themselves; they rebel against me. ¹⁵ Although I trained and strengthened their arms, yet they devise evil against me.

Hosea 7:14-16

¹⁶ They return, but not upward; they are like a treacherous bow; their princes shall fall by the sword because of the insolence of their tongue. This shall be their derision in the land of Egypt.

God is not pleased with their response to their plight

Conclusion

Matthew 23:37

³⁷ “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!

What do we learn?

God's heart

God desires to heal and redeem sinners

God's character

God is just and will not overlook sin

What do we learn?

Human nature – People tend to...

- Lie
- Obsess in anger and selfish ambition
- Put our trust where it doesn't belong
- Lament our condition without turning to God for help
- Forget that God sees everything
- Forget that we are mortal

Application

Embrace the Gospel

Check our own hearts

Cultivate Godly obsession

Questions

Did anything jump out to you from the text or the message that you want to talk more about?

When we were asking what we learn from the text, we talked about God's desires and God's character. In that section, it was said that sometimes people talk about "just loving" rather than critiquing or calling for change. What do you think about that after seeing the text? How do you respond to that internally? How might you respond to that externally?

The people of Israel thought about their evil plans and anger all night and into the morning. What do you think about when you are all alone? Do you find that your mind consistently goes back to the same topic or theme? Is that Godly or not? Do you think about what you want to think about?

The concept of forgetting important things comes up a lot in Hosea. We forget that God sees us. We forget that God provides for us. We forget that we are mortal. When you think about your own walk with God, are there things that you forget that you wish you didn't? What can you do to help keep those truths at the forefront of your mind?