

Hosea 8

Reap the Whirlwind

Hosea 8:1 thru 3

Sound the alarm! An eagle looms over the temple of the Lord!
For they have **broken their covenant with me**
and have **rebelled against my law**.

² Israel cries out to me,
“My God, we acknowledge you!”

³ *But* Israel has **rejected** what is **morally good**;
so an enemy will pursue him.

Hosea 8:4 thru 6

⁴ They enthroned kings without my consent.
They appointed princes without my approval.
They made idols out of their silver and gold,
but **they will be destroyed!**

⁵ O Samaria, he has rejected your calf idol.
My anger burns against them!

They will **not survive much longer** without being punished,
even though they are Israelites!

⁶ That idol was made by a workman—it is not God!
The calf idol of Samaria **will be broken to bits.**

Hosea 8:7 thru 8

⁷ They sow the wind, and so they will reap the whirlwind!

The stalk does not have any standing grain;
it will not produce any flour.

Even if it were to yield grain,
foreigners would swallow it all up.

**⁸ Israel will be swallowed up among the nations;
they will be like a worthless piece of pottery.**

Hosea 8:9 thru 10

⁹ They have gone up to Assyria, like a **wild donkey** that wanders off.
Ephraim has hired prostitutes as lovers.

¹⁰ Even though they have hired lovers among the nations,
I will **soon** gather them together for judgment.
Then they will begin to **waste away**
under the **oppression of a mighty king**.

Hosea 8:11 thru 13

¹¹ Although Ephraim has built many altars for sin offerings, these have become altars for sinning.

¹² **I spelled out my law** for him in great detail, but they regard it as something totally **unknown to them**.

¹³ They offer up sacrificial gifts to me and eat the meat, but the Lord does not accept their sacrifices.

Soon he will remember their wrongdoing, he will punish their sins, and they will **return to Egypt**.

Hosea 8:14

¹⁴ Israel has **forgotten his Maker** and built royal palaces,
and Judah has built many fortified cities.
But I will send fire on their cities;
it will consume their royal citadels.

Do not forget!

²³ Be on guard so that you **do not forget (suppress)** the covenant of the Lord your God that he has made with you, and that you do not make an image of any kind, just as he has forbidden you.

²⁴ For the **Lord your God is a consuming fire;** he is a jealous God.

Deuteronomy 4:23–24 (NET)

Do not forget!

¹⁰ Then when the **Lord your God** brings you to the land he promised your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to give you –
a land with large, fine cities you did not build,
¹¹ houses filled with choice things you did not accumulate, hewn out cisterns you did not dig, and vineyards
and olive groves you did not plant—and you eat your fill,
¹² **be careful not to forget the Lord who brought you out of Egypt,**
that place of slavery.

Deut 6:10–12 (NET)

Do not forget!

¹¹ Be sure you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping his commandments, ordinances, and statutes that I am giving you today.

¹² When you eat your fill, when you build and occupy good houses,

¹³ when your cattle and flocks increase, when you have plenty of silver and gold, and when you have abundance of everything,

¹⁴ be sure you do not feel self-important

and forget the Lord your God

who brought you from the land of Egypt, the place of slavery,

¹⁵ and who brought you through the great, fearful wilderness of venomous serpents and scorpions, an arid place with no water.

Deuteronomy 8:11–15 (NET)

Do not forget!

19 And if you forget the Lord your God
and go after other gods and serve them and worship them,
I solemnly warn you today that
you shall surely perish.

20 Like the nations that the Lord makes to perish before you,
so shall you perish,
because you would not obey the voice of the **Lord your God.**

Deuteronomy 8:19-20 (NET)

Observations and Questions

- Book ends
- ***“be careful not to forget the Lord who brought you out of Egypt”***
 - Cognitive dissonance
 - What did Israel forget?
 - What do we sometimes forget?
- ***“be sure you do not feel self-important”***
 - How did the Israelites demonstrate their self-importance?
 - How do we demonstrate ours?
- God’s tapestry (Eph. 2:10)

