In today's text, Israel stands on the edge of ruin because they have abandoned faithfulness, steadfast love, and the knowledge of God, yet the Lord still calls His people to return. This passage reminds us that while God's judgment against sin is real, His invitation to repentance is just as real. Today we'll see that those who turn back to the Lord find a God who eagerly receives repentant sinners and richly rewards those who draw near to Him in faith.

**I. Important qualities were _____ in Israel. (4:1-2)**

- There was a lack of _____ _____ and _____.

- There was an absence of _____ of God.

**II. Some things must be _____.**

- God's _____ against sinners is _____. (4:6, 14; 7:2, 12-13; 8:4-5, 7, 13-14)

- God stands _____ to receive _____ sinners. (5:15; 6:1)

    - Three marks of _____ repentance:

        - An _____ of _____.

        - _____ _____ God's face.

        - _____ _____ from sin.

- What God really wants is whole-hearted _____, not legalist _____. (6:6)

    - God is not _____, he's _____. (Am 5:21-24; Is 1:11-17; Ps 51:16-17)