

*Prophecy is history being told before it happens.

- 1. *Israel is back in the Land. Isaiah 66:8
- 2. *Jerusalem is restored. Daniel 9:25

3. *A dead language, Hebrew, is back as their native tongue. Zephaniah 3:9

*Hosea 9:1 Do not rejoice, Israel; do not be jubilant like the other nations. For you have been unfaithful to your God; you love the wages of a prostitute at every threshing floor.

2 Threshing floors and winepresses will not feed the people; the new wine will fail them.

3 They will not remain in the LORD's land; Ephraim will return to Egypt and eat unclean food in Assyria.

4 They will not pour out wine offerings to the LORD, nor will their sacrifices please him. Such sacrifices will be to them like the bread of mourners; all who eat them will be unclean. This food will be for themselves; it will not come into the temple of the LORD.

5 What will you do on the day of your appointed festivals, on the feast days of the LORD?

6 Even if they escape from destruction, Egypt will gather them, and Memphis will bury them. Their treasures of silver will be taken over by briers, and thorns will overrun their tents.

*A Nation that becomes unfaithful to God's will...

- 1. V:1-2 They will lose their joy. Their ability to feed their own country will have a consequence. This could be the source of their injured joy.
- 2. *V:3-6 They will eat unclean things and they will no longer be accepted.
 - A. They only worshipped God through tradition. Now God would not accept their worship.
 - B. **America's parallel** to Israel is our disdain for our heritage has caused us to lose it. A former enemy gathered up Israel's exiled and ended up burying them.

*Hosea 9:7 The days of punishment are coming, the days of reckoning are at hand. Let Israel know this. Because your sins are so many and your hostility so great, the prophet is considered a fool, the inspired person a maniac. 8 The prophet, along with my God, is the watchman over Ephraim, yet snares await him on all his paths, and hostility in the house of his God.

9 They have sunk deep into corruption, as in the days of Gibeah. God will remember their wickedness and punish them for their sins.

*The Days of Punishment are coming. (V:10-14)

- 1. V:7 It did include the loss of spiritual discernment. They ridiculed the truth and the messenger of that truth. Remember these are the ones that have been entrusted with the truth that is acting with no discernment.
- 2. V:8 The true watchman is not the one warning of a foreign enemy but the one who warns against spiritual judgment. Snares and hostility await a person of truth and often from those closest to them because they are hostile to the message.

3. V:9 The days of Gibeah. When the tribe of Benjamin did evil to a Levite and his concubine. God brought judgment on the tribe of Benjamin and they were almost wiped out. At Gibeah, the tribe of Benjamin want to sexually attack the Levite but he gave them his concubine. They attacked her sexually and left her dead on his doorstep. He cut her up and sent her 12 pieces to each tribe of Israel explaining what happened.

*Hosea 9:10 "When I found Israel, it was like finding grapes in the desert; when I saw your ancestors, it was like seeing the early fruit on the fig tree. <u>But when they came to Baal Peor</u>, they consecrated themselves to that shameful idol and became as vile as the thing they loved.

11 Ephraim's glory will fly away like a bird—no birth, no pregnancy, no conception.

12 Even if they rear children, I will bereave them of every one. Woe to them when I turn away from them!

13 I have seen Ephraim, like Tyre, planted in a pleasant place. But Ephraim will bring out their children to the slayer."

14 Give them, LORD—what will you give them? Give them wombs that miscarry and breasts that are dry.

15 "Because of all their wickedness in Gilgal, I hated them there. Because of their sinful deeds, <u>I will drive them out of</u> <u>my house</u>. I will no longer love them; all their leaders are rebellious.

*Israel was inspirational but then their sins caused barrenness & bereavement.

- 1. V:10 They were a refreshing people to God. The apple of God's eye. Psalm 17:8
 - A. When they came to Baal Peor their hearts became lustful.
 - B. They engaged in sexual immorality as a part of their fertility rites of Baal Peor with the Moabite and Midianite women.
- 2. V:11 The inability to procreate. Could this be a connection the false worship and immorality? Chapter 8 is being revisited sow the wind and reap the whirlwind.
- 3. V:12-14 They give their children to the slayer. Does this not sound like our land today? Ephraim means fruitfulness and yet they are barren.
- 4. V:15 Gilgal the place of rebellion. There is a play on words here because then God says I will drive them out of my house. The same thing God said to Adam and Eve. Genesis 3:24

#5 56:13

*Hosea 9:16 Ephraim is blighted, their root is withered, they yield no fruit. Even if they bear children, I will slay their cherished offspring."

17 My God will reject them because they have not obeyed him; they will be wanderers among the nations.

- 1. Their root is withered. God is our root system when his people reject Him they are rejecting life itself.
- 2. Wanderers among the nation and this became their destiny until 1948.