### Hosea

## Chapter 5

1[And Hosea continues:]  
  
 ‘Hear these things, O you priests…  
 And house of IsraEl, you should pay close attention.  
 O house of the king, you must listen too;  
 For there’s a judgment that’s coming against you!  
  
 [‘For God says:]  
  
 ‘Despite your important positions,  
 You’ve become your own snares.  
 So I’m stretching a net on [Mount] Tabor  
 2(The type that they use to catch game),  
 And I’ll be the One who corrects you.  
  
 3‘I remember Ephraim and IsraEl  
 Before they had strayed far from Me.  
 But, Ephraim has since been immoral,  
 And IsraEl is also defiled…  
 4Neither has remembered to turn to their God.’  
  
 ‘Now the spirit of whoring is in them,  
 And they’ve [forgotten] Jehovah.  
 5So because of her insolent ways,  
 IsraEl’s face will be humbled.  
 And for Ephraim’s unrighteous ways,  
 I’ll bring weakness upon him…  
 And I’ll also bring weakness on Judah.’  
  
 6‘Although they bring before Him their sheep and their calves,  
 There’s no way that they’ll follow Jehovah.  
 So now, they can no longer find Him,  
 Because they’ve all turned away.  
  
 7‘Yes, they’ve abandoned Jehovah,  
 And to children of strangers, they’re now giving birth.  
 So, they and all that they’d hope to inherit  
 Will soon be eaten by blight.  
  
 8[‘For God says:]  
  
 ‘So, blow the trumpets on the hill tops…  
 Sound it from all the high places!  
 In the house of On, you should proclaim it,  
 So that BenJamin will also be shaken.  
 9For, Ephraim will soon be destroyed  
 In the day of correction!  
  
 ‘Although IsraEl’s tribes once put faith in Me,  
 10The rulers of Judah then joined with the rest  
 That moved the property markers…  
 So I’ll pour My rage upon them like water!  
  
 11‘Yes, Ephraim [will be oppressed]  
 Because he’s trampled on justice,  
 And because he’s chased worthless things.  
 12So to Ephraim, I’m sending disturbance,  
 And to the house of Judah, I’ll now be a spur.  
  
 13‘Although Ephraim saw his disease,  
 And although Judah understood his reasons for grief;  
 Ephraim looked to Assyria  
 And asked their king for his aid…  
 But [that king] won’t be able to save them,  
 And he won’t bring an end to their grief.  
  
 14‘So to Ephraim, I’ll now be a panther,  
 And to the house of Judah, a lion…  
 For I’ll snatch them away and I’ll go…  
 I’ll grab them and no one will save them.  
 15Then I’ll go back to My place,  
 And I won’t be seen again ‘til the time  
 That they turn and search for My face.’