### Hosea

## Chapter 9

1‘Therefore, IsraEl; don’t rejoice,  
 For your people don’t have any reasons for joy.  
 Since against Jehovah, you’ve been a whore.  
  
 ‘You’ve loved the gifts of the grain  
 From the threshing floors where they laid you.  
 2But your threshing-floor grain [won’t feed you],  
 And the wine in your vats will [soon fail].  
  
 3‘For you chose not to dwell in the land of Jehovah…  
 Yes, life in Egypt is what you preferred,  
 And with the Assyrians, you ate what’s unclean.  
  
 4‘You offered Jehovah no wine,  
 And set nothing delicious before Him.  
 So your sacrifices became like the bread  
 That’s offered in mourning…  
 It defiles all those who would eat it.  
  
 ‘So, since you can’t bring your bread to [His Temple]  
 For [the purpose of saving] your lives;  
 5What will you do on your feasts to Jehovah  
 And on His festival days?  
 6{Look!} For, because you’ve done all of these wicked things,  
 To the misery of To the misery of <span class="placename">Egypt To the misery of <span class="placename">Egypt</span>, I’ll send you!  
  
 ‘Then, ‘Then, <span class="placename">Memphis ‘Then, <span class="placename">Memphis</span> will watch over you,  
 And in And in <span class="placename">Machmas And in <span class="placename">Machmas</span>, you’ll be buried.  
 So then ruin will inherit your silver,  
 And thorns will grow in your tents.  
 7For the days of His vengeance will have arrived…  
 The time when you’ll receive what you’re due!  
  
 ‘As a prophet without inspiration,  
 Is how IsraEl will view her affliction…  
 Like a man blown away by the wind.  
 And because you’ve been so unrighteous,  
 The pressures [in your lives] will increase.  
  
 8‘Even though Ephraim’s watchmen once [walked] with God;  
 Their prophets have become crooked snares,  
 And madness [now reigns] in their temples.  
  
 9‘Yes, they’ve been corrupt since the days of the hills;  
 So He won’t forget their unrighteous ways,  
 And He’ll punish them for all their sins.  
  
 10[‘And God says:]  
  
 ‘O IsraEl,  
  
 ‘Back when I had first found you,  
 It was like finding grapes in the desert  
 Or early figs on a tree.  
 But thereafter, as I was still watching,  
 Your fathers [chose to bow to] BaAl Peor…  
 And that’s when you left [Me] in shame  
 To become something disgusting…  
 Something that’s no longer loved.  
  
 11‘Now, Ephraim’s like a bird that flew [from its nest],  
 For they’ve lost the glory of [the place of] their birth  
 As well as their pangs of conception.  
 12So, although they still nourish their children,  
 They’ll soon be childless along with the rest.  
  
 ‘O woe, when I tear away all their flesh!  
 13For Ephraim’s young will be treated like game…  
 Their children will be led out and stabbed!’  
  
14[And Hosea says:]  
  
 ‘Yes, give it to them, O Jehovah…  
 Yes, please give it to them!  
 Give them a womb that’s childless,  
 As well as breasts that are dry!  
  
 15[‘For God says:]  
  
 ‘In ‘In <span class="placename">GilGal‘In <span class="placename">GilGal</span> their evil deeds are now done,  
 And that’s where [they’ve gained] all My hatred.  
 Because of the evils they’ve done there,  
 I’ll throw them away and love them no more,  
 For none of their rulers [will listen].  
  
 16‘Although ‘Although <span class="placename">Ephraim‘Although <span class="placename">Ephraim</span> was [like a vine] I tended and hoed,  
 His roots have still become dry,  
 And this is why he no longer bears fruit.  
 Thus, when they give birth, I’ll destroy  
 Those whom they love from their bellies.  
  
 17‘Yes, I’ll push them away,  
 Because they’re refusing to listen to Me…  
 Then, among the gentiles, they’ll wander.’