

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study

Date: October 4, 2023

Hosea 5:1-7:2

1. What is Hosea speaking about in 5:1-7?
 - A. It sounds a bit like what he has been talking about for the last four chapters.
 - B. God is proclaiming judgment on the actions of Israel.
 - C. Specifically, in this case, the judgment is coming because of how the priests, the people, and the royal house have been a “snare.” Their actions have “tripped up” others or caused others to stumble.

2. What is happening in 5:8-15?
 - A. Judgment seems to be coming on “Ephraim” or Israel.
 - B. It sounds like Israel and Judah (the two kingdoms of Israel, God’s people) are going to war with each other.
 - C. God is carrying out judgment on them through war with their brothers...does that kind of judgment ever seem to come upon us?

3. What is happening in 6:1-3?
 - A. Well, it sound like repentance.
 - B. I don’t know, I’m confused...because the title over the chapter says “Israel Unrepentant” but they sound repentant.
 - C. Sometimes our words and our hearts do not match up. Many people know how to call on the promises of the Lord, but don’t seem to understand his call to obedience and what it means to be truly repentant.

4. What is the significance of the third day (or after two days) that is mentioned in 6:2?
 - A. I think I remember that something important happened on the third day.
 - B. Jonah, Jesus, etc.
 - C. Like many numbers in Scripture and Jewish culture, the third day is the day of new life. Even in Genesis, God created the plants and living things out of the ground on the third day and then all the beasts of the field on the 6th day (the second third day). Abraham saw the place of sacrifice on the third day when he was sent to sacrifice Isaac. The third day is about new life and even the people who weren’t repentant new their history and theology. God could give them new life on the third day.

5. What does God say to Israel in 6:4-7:2
 - A. What can I do? Or perhaps, what should I do with you?
 - B. Your love is like the morning mist, like the early dew that disappears.
 - C. I have spoken judgment against you (through the prophets) because your heart doesn’t match up with what you are saying right now.
 - D. “...I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings.
 - E. “...they do not realize I remember all their evil deeds.”

6. What should we learn from this prophecy?
 - A. God can give new life...
 - B. God can give us new life...but he knows our heart, so we better be honest in our desire for new life...not just forgiveness and more of the old life.
 - C. God calls his people to honest repentance. Sometimes your great theology is not going to be enough for you to escape the consequence of your sin.