

## HOSEA – LESSON THREE

- I. GOD CONFRONTS ISRAEL WITH HER NATIONAL GUILT (4:1-19).**
- A. Israel sought before God's court to hear His charges against her (4:1-5).
1. No truth, goodness nor knowledge of God in the land.
  2. Charged with swearing and breaking faith.
  3. Charged with stealing.
  4. Charged with adultery.
  5. No restraint in Israel – sin as a flood mingles with the sins of others creating one sinful flow.
  6. "Therefore" – the consequences of sin – the land will mourn.
  7. No need to strive or reprove people because they are beyond the point of reason.
- B. Israel's stumbling block is the lack of knowledge (4:6-10).
1. Priests have failed in their responsibility to teach the law of God to the people.
    - a. glory changed to shame.
    - b. feed on sins of the people
    - c. will be punished along with the people
  2. People will suffer scarcity of food as punishment for not taking heed to Jehovah.
- C. Israel's gross immorality connected with their idolatry examined (4:11-14).
1. Whoredom and intoxication.
  2. Husbands and father's punished more severely than adulterous brides and daughters because of their bad example before them.
- D. Judah cautioned not to follow the example of an idolatrous Israel (4:15-19).
1. Israel is turning places and activities connected with serving God into corrupted places and activities connected with idolatry.
  2. Instead of being as sheep that follows, Israel has become a stubborn heifer.
  3. Ephraim is joined to idols – rulers dearly love shame.
  4. Destruction as a wind will take Israel away.

### QUESTIONS

1. What setting is being portrayed by the prophet when he summons Israel to "hear the word of Jehovah" regarding his "controversy" with them?
2. What three things are lacking among the children of Israel?

3. What of the Ten Commandments are being broken in Israel?
4. How will the land mourn as a consequence of sin?
5. Why does God say that no man should reprove anymore?
6. Who shall also stumble in the day of God's judgment along with the people?
7. How does a lack of knowledge destroy people?
8. How were the priests feeding on the sins of the people?
9. How will Israel feel the consequences of their sin of not taking heed to Jehovah?
10. What has taken away the children of Israel's understanding?
11. What made idolatry so enticing to the children of Israel?
12. Why is Judah cautioned not to go up to Gilgal or "Bethaven"?
13. What is the consequence for Israel behaving as a stubborn heifer?
14. What has God consistently done when we are determined to join ourselves to sin?
15. What has wrapped up Israel in her wings?  
What does this signify?
16. The important thing in our service unto God is that we are a people who worship, offering sacrifices. (T) (F)