

## Hosea 11:1-12 **Israel continued to Sin though Yahweh cared for them** **Lack of Repentance brings Wrath of God**

### God's Continuing Love for Israel

1 "When Israel was a child, I loved him, **And out of Egypt I called My son.**

2 As they called them, So they went from them; They sacrificed to the Baals, And burned incense to carved images.

3 "I taught Ephraim to walk, Taking them by their arms; But they did not know that I healed them.

4 I drew them with gentle cords, With bands of love, And I was to them as those who take the yoke from their neck. I stooped and fed them.

### Judgment must come because of Israel's refusal to repent and turn to Yahweh

5 "He shall not return to the land of Egypt; But the Assyrian shall be his king, Because they refused to repent.

6 And the sword shall slash in his cities, Devour his districts, And consume them, Because of their own counsels.

7 My people are bent on backsliding from Me. Though they call to the Most High, None at all exalt Him.

### Yahweh's dilemma between His Love for Israel and His need to punish them

8 "How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I set you like Zeboiim? My heart churns within Me; My sympathy is stirred.

9 I will not execute the fierceness of My anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim. For I am El (God), and not man, The Holy One in your midst; And I will not come with terror.

10 "They shall walk after Yahweh (the Lord). He will roar like a lion. When He roars, Then His sons shall come trembling from the west;

11 They shall come trembling like a bird from Egypt, Like a dove from the land of Assyria. And I will let them dwell in their houses," Says Yahweh (the Lord).

### God's Charge Against Ephraim

12 "Ephraim has encircled Me with lies, And the house of Israel with deceit; But Judah still walks with El (God), Even with the Holy One who is faithful.

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### Facts Revealed:

- ✧ When Israel was a child, I loved him, **And out of Egypt I called My son.** [[Hosea 11:1](#)]
- ✧ Yahweh loved Israel as a child when at Penuel He changed the name of Jacob to Israel meaning power of a Prince with God and man.
- ✧ Because of His love for Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Israel) at the appointed time Yahweh brought the children of Israel out of Egypt by the hand of Moses. [[Exodus](#), [Leviticus](#), [Numbers](#) & [Deuteronomy](#)]
- ✧ This same verse was quoted by Matthew regarding Jesus the Son of God. [[Matthew 2:13-15](#)]
- ✧ As they called them, So they went from them; They sacrificed to the Baals, And burned incense to carved images. [[Hosea 11:2](#)]

- ✧ However the Children of Israel rejected the voice of the prophets calling them back to the God of Israel who had proven His love for them from the beginning of the nation of Israel. They chose rather to turn to the Baals and idolatry worshipping pagan images.
- ✧ "I taught Ephraim to walk, Taking them by their arms; But they did not know that I healed them.

I drew them with gentle cords, With bands of love, And I was to them as those who take the yoke from their neck. I stooped and fed them. [Hosea 11:3-4]

- ✧ Though Yahweh had taken Israel by the arms healing their diseases, strengthening them, and drew them with bands of love, freeing them from bondage and providing for them food in the wilderness, leading them gently to the Promised Land, still they did not understand or acknowledge all the blessings or realize they were from Him.

### Judgment must come because of Israel's refusal to repent and turn to Yahweh

- ✧ "He shall not return to the land of Egypt; But the Assyrian shall be his king, Because they refused to repent.

And the sword shall slash in his cities, Devour his districts, And consume them, Because of their own counsels.

My people are bent on backsliding from Me. Though they call to the Most High, None at all exalt Him. [Hosea 11:5-7]

- ✧ Because of Israel's continual refusal to repent, Judgment is coming and they will be delivered into the hand of the king of Assyria.
- ✧ Trusting in their own wicked counsel, Israel will be consumed.
- ✧ Even when they call of Yahweh it is in the hypocrisy of continual backsliding.

### Yahweh's dilemma between His Love for Israel and His need to punish them

- ✧ "How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I set you like Zeboiim? My heart churns within Me; My sympathy is stirred.

I will not execute the fierceness of My anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim. For I am El (God), and not man, The Holy One in your midst; And I will not come with terror. [Hosea 11:8-9]

- ✧ Yahweh is torn by the prospect of destroying Israel, His heart churns and His sympathy is stirred.
- ✧ Admah and Zeboiim are cities of the plain that were destroyed with Sodom and Gomorrah in the days of Lot.
- ✧ The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. [2 Peter 3:9]
- ✧ Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" says the Lord God, "and not that he should turn from his ways and live? [Ezekiel 18:23, 33:11]

### Yahweh's Future Plan for Israel

- ✧ "They shall walk after Yahweh (the Lord). He will roar like a lion. When He roars, Then His sons shall come trembling from the west; They shall come trembling like a bird from Egypt, Like a dove from the land of Assyria. And I will let them dwell in their houses," Says Yahweh (the Lord). [Hosea 11:10-11]
- ✧ Yahweh longs for the Kingdom Age when they will be His people in holiness when He brings them back to their own land from all the nations where they have been scattered.

### God's Charge Against Ephraim

- ✧ "Ephraim has encircled Me with lies, And the house of Israel with deceit; But Judah still walks with El (God), Even with the Holy One who is faithful.

- ✧ Back to the problem at hand, Israel has surrounded the knowledge of Yahweh with lies and deceit necessitating Yahweh to respond with punishing judgment.
- ✧ However, Judah continued to sin and return to Yahweh for another 139 years after Israel fell to the Assyrians until Judah is finally carried away by the Babylonians.