

Hosea 5:1-15 **Sins of Israel and Judah – Bringing Yahweh's Wrath & Judgment**

1 "Hear this, O priests! Take heed, O house of Israel! Give ear, O house of the king! For yours is the judgment, Because you have been a snare to Mizpah And a net spread on Tabor.

2 The revolters are deeply involved in slaughter, Though I rebuke them all.

3 I know Ephraim, And Israel is not hidden from Me; For now, O Ephraim, you commit harlotry; Israel is defiled.

4 "They do not direct their deeds Toward turning to Eloheyhem (their God), For the spirit of harlotry is in their midst, And they do not know Yahweh (the Lord).

5 The pride of Israel testifies to his face; Therefore Israel and Ephraim stumble in their iniquity; Judah also stumbles with them.

6 "With their flocks and herds They shall go to seek Yahweh (the Lord), But they will not find Him; He has withdrawn Himself from them.

7 They have dealt treacherously with Yahweh (the Lord), For they have begotten pagan children. Now a New Moon shall devour them and their heritage.

8 "Blow the ram's horn in Gibeah, The trumpet in Ramah! Cry aloud at Beth Aven, 'Look behind you, O Benjamin!'

9 Ephraim shall be desolate in the day of rebuke; Among the tribes of Israel I make known what is sure.

10 "The princes of Judah are like those who remove a landmark; I will pour out My wrath on them like water.

11 Ephraim is oppressed and broken in judgment, Because he willingly walked by human precept.

12 Therefore I will be to Ephraim like a moth, And to the house of Judah like rottenness.

13 "When Ephraim saw his sickness, And Judah saw his wound, Then Ephraim went to Assyria And sent to King Jareb; Yet he cannot cure you, Nor heal you of your wound.

14 For I will be like a lion to Ephraim, And like a young lion to the house of Judah. I, even I, will tear them and go away; I will take them away, and no one shall rescue.

15 I will return again to My place Till they acknowledge their offense. Then they will seek My face; In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me."

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Facts Revealed:

- ✧ "Hear this, O **priests!** Take heed, O **house of Israel!** Give ear, O **house of the king!** For yours is the judgment, **Because** you have been a snare to Mizpah And a net spread on Tabor. The revolters are deeply involved in slaughter, Though I rebuke them all. I know **Ephraim**, And **Israel** is not hidden from Me; For now, O Ephraim, you commit harlotry; Israel is defiled.

"They do not direct their deeds Toward turning to Eloheyhem (their God), **For the spirit of harlotry is in their midst**, And they do not know Yahweh (the Lord).

The pride of Israel testifies to his face; Therefore **Israel** and **Ephraim** stumble in their iniquity; **Judah** also stumbles with them. [Hosea 5:1-5]

✧ The message is to the priests, and king of Israel the northern kingdom.

✧ Judgment is coming because they have defiled the holy places of **Mizpah** and **Tabor**.

Mizpah is the place where Jacob and Laban the Syrian made a covenant together that neither of them would pass that place to harm the other. [Genesis 31:45-53]

Tabor is the site where Yahweh did a great deliverance for Israel through the prophetess Deborah and Barak with an army of ten thousand against the multitude with Sisera the commander of the army of Jabin king of Canaan, Sisera was killed by Jael with milk and a tent peg. [Judges 4:1-24]

✧ Those who rebelled against God were deeply involved in slaughter even though God had rebuked them all.

✧ Yahweh fully knows our deeds and thoughts to the extent that nothing is hidden from Him.

✧ They cannot repent and turn to God because the spirit of harlotry is in their midst so they do not even know Yahweh. They are inflamed with pride which testifies to the face of Yahweh.

✧ The northern kingdom of Israel & Ephraim stumbles in their iniquity and the southern kingdom of Judah stumbles with them.

✧ When the iniquity of the people has caused Yahweh to withdraw from them, they may seek Him with flocks and herds but they will not find Him, they are seeking Yahweh in a form of religion but not in truth. [Hosea 5:6]

✧ Yahweh even views their children to be pagan. [Hosea 5:7]

Impending Judgment on Israel and Judah [Hosea 5:8-15]

✧ Sound the alarm in **Gibeah, Ramah, Beth Aven, Benjamin**.

Gibeah of Saul (his birth place, also called Gibeah of Benjamin) is the probable site mentioned here because of its fame the place where Yahweh allowed the Gibeonites to hang the seven sons of Saul in retaliation for the slaughter Saul had made of them after they had a covenant of peace with Israel and is located within the territory of the other cities mentioned.

Ramah famous as the hometown of Samuel. [1 Samuel 7:17]

Beth Aven is the location where Jonathan and his armor bearer routed the garrison of the Philistines and the people saved Jonathan from the curse of Saul. [1 Samuel 14:1-45] Near Beth Aven is Ai where the Israelites were victorious over Joshua and his forces because of the sin of Achan.

Benjamin the tribe that was almost entirely destroyed because of their defense of the men of Gibeah after the homosexuals abused the Levite's concubine to death when they stopped on their way home to stay in a city of Israel. [Judges 19:1—21:25]

✧ The sins of the princes of **Judah** will cause Yahweh to pour out His wrath on them.

✧ **Ephraim's** sin bringing the wrath of Yahweh is the fact that they follow **human precepts**.

✧ The purpose of the wrath of God is to call us to our need to return to Him.

✧ Instead of turning to Yahweh, Ephraim reached out in his troubles to Jareb king of Assyria who could not help them, but carried them away captive.

✧ Yahweh will be like a lion to both **Ephraim** and **Judah**.

✧ Yahweh will withdraw to His place **until they both acknowledge their offense**.

✧ **Then in their affliction, they will earnestly seek Yahweh.**