**God’s resistance – Hos. 4 -6**

**The cause of God’s punishment on unfaithful Israel – Hosea 4**

Listen to the word of the Lord! – call to listen, to hear the word of God

The issue: God has a case – a conflict with unfaithful Israel – “a dispute”

Mic. 6:2 – the Lord has a case against His people, even with Israel He will dispute.

Condition 1 – Untruthful, disloyal & no knowledge of God – 4:1-2

Is. 59:4 – they trust in confusion and speak lies, they conceive mischief and bring forth iniquity.

No knowledge of God in the Land

Is. 4:22 – for My people are foolish, they know Me not; they are stupid children and have no understanding. They are shrewd to do evil, but to do good they do not know

Rom. 1:18 – for the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness

Pro. 2:1, 5 – My son if you receive My words…then you will discern the fear of the Lord and discover the knowledge of God

Condition 2 – Lack of knowledge of God’s word & ways destroys Israel – 4:6

Israel forgot God – 2:13,8:14,13:6

Judges 3:7 – the sons of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, and forgot the Lord their God

Jesus said to the church – Remember Me!

Condition 3 – generational idolatry – 4: 11-17

Ephraim is joined to idols! – 4:17

Hos. 13:2 – and now they sin more and more, and make for themselves molten images. Idols skillfully made from their silver, all of them the work of craftsman, they say of them, let the men who sacrifice kiss the calves!

God’s response

Response 1 – The land is filled with sadness & grief – 4:3

Rom. 8:22 – for we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now

Response 2 – Shamefulness for sin – 4:7

Hosea 4:18 – their liquor gone, they play the harlot continually, their rulers dearly love shame

Hosea 10:6 – Israel will be seized with shame

Phil 3:19 – whose end is destruction, whose god is their appetite, and whose glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things

Response 3 – Dissatisfaction – 4:9-10

Pro. 27:20 – Sheol and Abaddon are never satisfied, not are the eyes of a man ever satisfied

Eccl. 1:8 – the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor is the ear filled with hearing

Response 4 – controlled by sinful ways – 4:17

Rom. 1:24 – therefore God gave them over, 26 – God gave them over, 28 – God gave them over

Eph. 4:17 – 19 – they have become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality

**The judgment of God on unfaithful Israel – Hosea 5**

God’s call to Israel to hear the word of the Lord

Hear this O priests!

Give heed O house of Israel!

Listen O house of kings!

The issue: Israel dependence on the nations – 5:13

When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah his wound(ulcer), then Ephraim went to Assyria ans sent to King Jareb. But he is unable to heal you, or to cure you of your wound

God’s wounds of judgment – cannot be removed by man or man made resources

Jer. 30:12 – for thus says the Lord, Your wound is incurable and your injury is serious. There is no one to plead your cause, no healing for your sore, no recovery for you…for I have wounded you with the wound of an enemy, with the punishment of a cruel one, because your iniquity is great and your sins are numerous.

Judgment 1 – God has withdrawn his favor from Israel – 5:6,15

Judgment 2 – God will bring desolation – 5:9

Judgment 3 – God will be a constant agitation & irritation – 5:12, 14

**The moth** – Ps. 39:11 – with reproofs you chasten a man for iniquity, you consume as a moth what is precious to him

**The rottenness** – Jer. 29:11 – I am sending upon them the sword, famine & pestilence and I will make the like split-open figs that cannot be eaten due to rottenness

**The lion** – Hosea 13:7 – I will be like a lion to them, like a leopard I will lie in way by the wayside

Promise – God will patiently wait for Israel to repent – 5:15

**Israel’s false repentance – Hosea 6**

The character of false repentance – 6:1-3

1. Presuming on God’s graciousness – 6:1
2. Presuming on God’s mercy – 6:2
3. Pursing knowledge of God but no confession of sin – 6:3

 2 Cor. 7:10 – for the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation, but the sorrow of the world produces death

God’s response to false repentance – 6:4 -11

1. God’s word will continue to reveal sin – 4 – 5
2. God’s delight in a relationship with Him – 6
3. I delight in loyalty – Lit. to have a desire for God
4. I delight in knowledge of God
5. God’s promise of restoration to Judah – 11

 O Judah, there is a harvest appointed for you, when I restore the fortunes of My people

Daily Use

God’s word calls for faithful hearing – not forgetfulness

God’s Holiness is resistant to sinfulness

God waits patiently disciplining believers who are living in unfaithfulness to God

God the Holy Spirit is grieved when believers live in sin & ungodliness

Godly sorrow leads to repentance