



Return to Love and Justice

Lesson Scripture: Hosea 11-12

Focus Scripture: Hosea 11:1-2, 7-10; 12:1-2, 6-14

Key Verse:

Hold fast to love and justice, and wait continually for your God.

Hosea 12:6 (NRSV)



Understanding and taking God's word to heart and life application

- Acknowledging God, Jehovah, and worshiping other gods
- God's judgement and His instruments of judgement
- A particular judgement on the king and House of David, the ruling class, leaders?
- Worshiping God, Jehovah, only, and following His commandments and repentance



Jeremiah

“Jehovah establishes, appoints or sends”
“the weeping prophet”

- Served as both priest and prophet
- Ministered under Judah’s last five kings
- For 40 years he served as God’s spokesman to Judah – to urge God’s people to turn from their sins (idolatry) and back to God
- Jeremiah’s message of repent and turn to God, or he will punish Israel and Judah
- The people rejected his warning and did not repent
- He prophesied the destruction of Judah/Jerusalem at the hands of Babylon
- Jeremiah was mocked, ridiculed, and persecuted
- He often felt discouraged and wondered if he was doing any good



Jeremiah

“Jehovah establishes, appoints or sends”
“the weeping prophet”

► Key Verses

“Your wickedness will bring its own punishment. Your turning from me will shame you. You will see what an evil, bitter thing it is to abandon the Lord your God and not to fear him. I, the Lord of Heaven’s Armies, have spoken!”

(2:19)

“And if you still refuse to listen,
I will weep alone because of your pride.
My eyes will overflow with tears,
because the Lord’s flock will be led away into exile.”

(13:17)

Exhortation to Repent

- ¹ Thus says the LORD: Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word,
- ² and say: Hear the word of the LORD, O King of Judah sitting on the throne of David—you, and your servants, and your people who enter these gates.
- ³ Thus says the LORD: **Act with justice and righteousness**, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor anyone who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the alien, the orphan, and the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place.
- ⁴ For if you will indeed obey this word, then through the gates of this house shall enter kings who sit on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses, they, and their servants, and their people.
- ⁵ But if you will not heed these words, I swear by myself, says the LORD, that this house shall become a desolation.

Exhortation to Repent

- 6** For thus says the LORD concerning the house of the king of Judah:
You are like Gilead to me, like the summit of Lebanon; but I swear that I will make you a desert, an uninhabited city.
- 7** I will prepare destroyers against you, all with their weapons;
they shall cut down your choicest cedars and cast them into the fire.
- 8** And many nations will pass by this city, and all of them will say one to another, “Why has the LORD dealt in this way with that great city?”

Exhortation to Repent

- 9** And they will answer, “Because they abandoned the covenant of the LORD their God, and worshiped other gods and served them.”
- 10** Do not weep for him who is dead, nor bemoan him; weep rather for him who goes away, for he shall return no more to see his native land.

Cross References

2 Samuel 7:16

Your house and kingdom will endure forever before Me, and your throne will be established forever."

1 Kings 2:4

and so that the LORD may fulfill His promise to me: 'If your descendants take heed to walk faithfully before Me with all their heart and soul, you will never fail to have a man on the throne of Israel.'

1 Kings 8:25

Therefore now, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for Your servant, my father David, what You promised when You said: 'You will never fail to have a man to sit before Me on the throne of Israel, if only your descendants guard their way to walk before Me as you have done.'

Cross References

1 Chronicles 17:11

And when your days are fulfilled and you go to be with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom.

Psalms 89:29

I will establish his line forever, his throne as long as the heavens endure.

Jeremiah 17:25

then kings and princes will enter through the gates of this city. They will sit on the throne of David, riding in chariots and on horses with their officials, along with the men of Judah and residents of Jerusalem, and this city will be inhabited forever.

Cross References

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/2kings24:17>



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