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C1011 – March 31, 2010 – Hosea 13:1-8 – You Forgot Me!

Hosea is a book in the section of the OT known as the Disciplinary Truths of the Kingdom and so the truths in this section deal with how God disciplines His own people, how God disciplines within His own household. And so you will find that when the Kingdom divided in 926BC during the reign of Rehoboam that we have two kingdoms that God is dealing with and both kingdoms are in decline until they finally reach their appointed time of Exile. For the north that date was 722BC, for the south that date was 586BC. And so during this period there is a sharp spiritual decline in both kingdoms and we're learning how God manages that. How does God deal with these two nations that are His elect nations and that have rebelled and rebelled and rebelled against Him? Hosea deals with how God does this and it necessarily engages us in various aspects of the doctrine of sanctification. So in coming to the end of the book of Hosea we'll be summarizing more and more some of the principles of the conviction of sin.

The first method for conviction of sin we have seen is that the Holy Spirit always uses law; that is, He uses the content of God's word to demonstrate over and over that the nation has violated God's word. For them it was God's word in the Mosaic Covenant. Now the way that God approached the nation is under the *rib* procedure. God has a *rib* or lawsuit against the nation and so He sends the prosecuting attorney Hosea to convict the nation that they have indeed violated the Mosaic Covenant. So one of the key means of conviction of sin is it will occur through the text of God's word. Somewhere or another the word of God has to be brought into the discussion if you're going to get conviction of sin so a person can confess their sin and be restored to fellowship.

There are a lot of very important applications of this first method. For one this means that if you are counseling someone you have got to do it exclusively using the word of God. It is a waste of time to take these people through all the psychological gimmicks - well, we did this and I read in Reader's Digest last week or Dr Phil said this, I learned from Freud that blah, blah, blah, Freud hated Moses by the way, Freud was a Jew and he deliberately set out to undo everything Moses ever taught, so the psychological gimmicks won't work. What will work is what God says. And therefore the only good that you are doing the person will be when you're giving them the word of God as it is written. Which therefore means that the best counselor is the one best schooled in the Scriptures and able to bring it to bear on people's lives.

So it's the teaching of the word of God that is always the issue in conviction. It is not someone's opinion, not other issues, but it is the content of Scripture. And this principle means too that if you are out of fellowship, the best first-aid for that situation is getting your eyes on some part of Scripture and begin to read. You discipline yourself ahead of time; when that happens to me, when I am that out of it, I am going to open the text and I am going to read it, period. I may not get beyond two words but I am going to open the text and read it. Now if you can sort of agree with the Lord that this is the way you're going to operate when the next disaster, depression or discouragement comes, then you have put yourself in a position where you are going to be able to get restored to fellowship much faster.

A second method we have seen in Hosea is that the Holy Spirit, when He convicts of sin, will often appeal to past grace that He has shown us. We have seen over and over how God the Holy Spirit brings up God's gracious dealings with the nation and how they responded to His grace by not appreciating it and yet despite their failure to appreciate grace He kept with them. By appealing to their negative response to His grace He shows them very clearly, you ought to have been responding this way but you haven't and what this does is shame us. Rather than coming at them with a club the Holy Spirit very often just simply shames the person. Shame is used far more by the Holy Spirit than beating someone with a club. He simply exposes what Christ has done for us, that God has done so many wonderful things for us, that He has blessed us in so many ways when we did not deserve it, when we didn't ask for it, when we weren't even conscious of it, God blessed us and blessed

us and blessed us and blessed us some more. So the sense of shame is used by the Holy Spirit, God did this for you, and you didn't give thanks, God gave this to you and you forgot about Him. Shaming stuff.

Now that's one of the key differences we've seen from the way Satan attacks. When Satan plays the guilt card he is not playing it in this way, he is not playing on the sense of grace at all because Satan has never shown you grace and there is no recollection of Satan's love for you when he plays the guilt card. Satan always gets you concentrating on the sin and how horrible it is and how awful it is and how terrible you are and how everyone is going to be your enemy from now on and you need to just hide away from every other believer and quit going to church and taking in the word because you're not worthy. That is how Satan plays the game. Those are the kinds of things that Satan uses to manipulate you by means of guilt. That is not the work of the Holy Spirit. The work of the Holy Spirit is primarily a reminder of the love of God for you and what He has done for you which leads to a sense of shame because of our lack of response to His love.

A third method that we have seen in the book of Hosea is how God the Holy Spirit keeps pointing out failure to learn loyalty to God. Plain and simple we've been given time to learn loyalty, we've been given Bible teaching and we've failed over and over and over to apply it. Loyalty to God is the aim of sanctification, everything else aside, the bottom line is God is working to develop loyalty in us. The first and greatest commandment, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy mind, with all thy soul, with all thy strength," that is loyalty to God. And so the Holy Spirit will often show failure to learn loyalty by being very, very specific about what areas are manifesting disloyalty to Him. Now often times this is harder to see because of what's happened to us if we've gotten out of it and stayed out of it for some time. If you go negative volition to the word of God and get out of fellowship and don't confess and then you go negative again and don't confess and then you go negative some more and don't confess then what happens is you build a habitual sin pattern in your life and these are much more difficult to correct. Here you're not dealing with one or two sins, you are dealing with a habitual sin pattern that recurs time and time again and every time you commit the sin it reinforces this habitual behavior and it's that kind of issue that usually frustrates believers more than anything else in life. It can take years, even decades for a believer to work out of those habitual sin patterns

and build new godly patterns to replace them. And so Hosea and Amos and other books from the Disciplinary period are what you should read over and over and over if you're in this kind of a situation, they will help you solve the habitual sin patterns in life. They will help you see, okay, here's where I'm going negative and I need to confess that and get back in fellowship. You have to have contact with the word of God to get there so the next time that situation occurs, I go positive, then the situation occurs again and I go positive, then the situation happens and I go negative, but I get back with it and confess, then I go positive, positive, positive, negative, confess and get back with the program, go positive, positive, positive, positive, negative and so gradually God the Holy Spirit is using the word of God to lay down a godly pattern that replaces the sin pattern. So basically understand that the Holy Spirit is interested in changing you; He is at work in you both to will and to do and He's always at work to change you into a godly person but also we are told to work out our own salvation. That's our responsibility and sometimes we drop the ball and fail on our part to work out our salvation but He never drops the ball. He's always at work to get us in shape for our eternal destiny. And so the Holy Spirit wants you to get exposed to more and more Scripture and as you do that He's changing the way you think and you learn more and more about what God has done in history and more and more about who God is and this changes us. This changes our patterns of living.

Now in Hosea 13 the Holy Spirit is going to pick up some of these methods of convicting of sin, primarily the second one again: reminder of God's historic grace toward this nation and through that He's shaming them in the sense that He did all this and they just said, phooey God, we could care less about Your grace. That's not important for fixing our national economy, that's not important for fixing our political problems; what's important is us. We're going to do it ourselves; it's all the works mentality during this stage of Israel's history. So God the Holy Spirit is working with them to convict them of sin.

Hos 13:1, **When Ephraim spoke, *there was* trembling. He exalted himself in Israel, But through Baal he did wrong and died.** Now the translation adds a few words here but it doesn't diminish too much the point the Hebrew is making. It simply says, **When Ephraim spoke—trembling,** and it means that when Ephraim, that tribe in the early history of the nation, would have a joint counsel with all the other tribes in the Joshua and Judges

period, the other tribes would tremble with respect for the counsel of Ephraim. Ephraim had a lot of wisdom and carried a lot of weight in the counsels of Israel. Ephraim was very strong in the word of God and had established a respected reputation...early in her history. So, **When Ephraim spoke—trembling**, not of fear, but of respect, she had a weighty voice.

He exalted himself in Israel, not in the bad sense, **He exalted himself** means he rose to a prominent position of leadership in the nation, Ephraim was a leader, Ephraim was one of the tribes that made this country great. And later on something happened and Ephraim went down, but the principle is that at one time Ephraim was great. Now this can be observed many, many times in history. Peoples and nations and churches that were at one time great and built a good reputation then over time go down. The Church of Sardis in Rev 3 was one church that had a very strong period during the early church and their reputation was known far and wide but it didn't take 50 years and they went down. The United States of America was once a very great nation but it has been going down. I was reading the testimony of a woman from Austria in the 1930's when Austria was annexed to Germany because Hitler promised all. This lady was fortunate enough to have parents that understood what was happening in the 1930's to their country and so she was sheltered from a lot of the changes that took place. Her parents put her in a nunnery where she actually got an education while the rest of the kids played on the playground and got indoctrination for two hours a day. But she said the changes in her country took place over about 5 years; it was a little thing here, a little thing there, and that if it had happened overnight then there would have been a revolt but it happened gradually and this is what destroyed her country. She was fortunate to move to the great country of America and she lives in Minnesota today and now she says I look out my window and it's dejavu, the same thing that happened to my once great nation of Austria is now happening to the once great nation of America. She says the exact same things are happening, the exact same steps and she's lived through it once and she doesn't want to have to live through it again, but that's what's happening.

And that's what this verse is talking about, its reaching back into Ephraim's history to the time when Ephraim was a great, powerful tribe in the nation Israel and now they're going down. And don't kid yourself, a nation can be great in one generation and the very next generation can go down very

rapidly and here it is. When Ephraim used to speak there was respect for his voice, now Ephraim is a joke.

Look at the end of Hosea 13:1, **But through Baal he did wrong and died.** That refers to the influx of demonic powers under King Ahab when he married Jezebel. This is over in 1 Kgs 16. And this is the major point of departure that God recalls. There were two prior steps to get there so let's review the three steps down into the apostasy of the northern kingdom. The first step down is 926BC when Rehoboam made a political blunder and led the nation to the brink of civil war. If it hadn't been for God disrupting the situation through the prophet Shemaiah the ten tribes of the north would have probably crushed the two tribes of the south. But God had made promises to the south, namely to the tribe of Judah, to the house of David that David's house was an everlasting dynasty and so God's word protected the south at this critical juncture, despite Rehoboam's stupidity. But what Rehoboam's stupidity did was lead to the fracturing of the kingdom and the ten tribes of the north said, we have no part in the house of David and so they rejected the Davidic Dynasty, they did not want to be ruled over by David's house. So step one is rejection of the Davidic Dynasty. Now they had a northern kingdom and the southern kingdom. And the first king of the northern kingdom was Jeroboam I and God said Jeroboam, I want you to have a separate kingdom, a separate dynasty, but the same religion, I want your boys to go down and cross the border and worship at Jerusalem in My Temple. But Jeroboam couldn't trust the Lord to consolidate his kingdom, he was afraid of what this might do to his kingdom so he rejected the Jerusalem Temple and set up the false worship system that centered on the golden calves and he set these up at Dan and Bethel, this was the sin of Jeroboam. So at this point there is still hope for Ephraim maintaining her reputation, there is still an opportunity for her to turn this thing around but then the third step happened and this is the decisive turning point mentioned in Hos 13:1, Ahab married a gal named Jezebel and she just happened to be a Gentile; the Law told him not to marry a Gentile, but he married a Gentile that was the daughter of Ethbaal, the chief Canaanite priest and with her came all this horrible religion of Baal. She apparently was a very beautiful woman on the outside but that wasn't what she was on the inside. And she corrupted the entire northern kingdom, the whole thing was overrun with Baal prophets in the time of Elijah and so Jezebel comes to stand in Scripture for the worst and most apostate, corrupting type of individual. The Church of

Thyatira in Revelation 2 is condemned for having these types of individuals running the show. So the end of verse 1 is saying that the introduction of the Baal cult into the northern kingdom of Ephraim was the death blow, this sealed her fate, this was the rejection of YHWH Himself. These are the three steps, the third step being fatal.

Now verses 2-3 illustrate the principle; verse 1 is the teaching, vv 2-3 the illustration. The tribe of Ephraim which was so great that it had come to dominate the northern kingdom went down when they got involved in this idolatry. Now there's a spiritual reason for this and before we go further we want to go back to review the six steps down into deep, deep depravity or compound carnality, either term will do and you'll see how idolatry becomes the big focal point in the problem. First, a believer rejects the knowledge of God and the mind begins to darken, then we have the infiltration of demonic influence that results in full-scale idolatry which works its way out into social chaos and finally God removes His protection. When a believer starts down this path of rejecting the knowledge of God, and notice I did not say the word of God, I said the knowledge of God and the knowledge of God is revealed both in nature and in the Scriptures. Both are involved here in step one, at that point a judgment is incurred and the mind darkens, the reasoning processes begin to distort and confusion about reality sets in. By step three the vacuum in the mind is being filled with ideas sourced in the demonic realm and they start pumping you full of false view points on reality and then comes idolatry, because demons want your worship. By the point of idolatry you have totally replaced God with a new object of worship. You may not go down to a local cult and sing hymns to Satan but you still worship. Everybody worships, every body must worship, and we are built to worship. And so everyone worships either the Creator or the creation.

So let's remind ourselves of what's happening in idolatry. The fourth step down. Idolatry is an exchange in the area of glory. This is Paul's point in Rom 1. It's an exchange of the glory of the incorruptible God for corruptible man and beasts and four-footed creatures, in other words it transfers God's glory as Creator over onto some aspect of His creation. The Scriptures say God has glory and by that the Bible means that God has weight. God is the boss of the universe, God is supreme. What happens in idolatry is something else is supreme. So think of some object; it can be anything in all creation. It can be money, it can be sex, it can be power, it can be a person, it can be the

evolutionary process, but whatever it is it has taken on gargantuan proportions. The proportions aren't really a part of the object or idea itself, the proportions are attributed to it by your mind, this is strictly in the mind. Idolatry always starts in the mind and works its way out. And so now you have this object or idea and you attach something to it that is not really a part of it, you attach a false glory to it and you are highly attracted to it so much so that you can't quite explain how powerful the attraction is to you. It's attraction is not a part of the object itself, it's all in your head.

So through negative volition my mind is in a position where it's developing all these fantasies, all these vain imaginations. When I go to look at something I can't see it as it really is; it's like there's an interference in my eyes but I don't know that and when I look at the object all I see is this vain glory I've attached to it and God says when you get to that point I have a way of handling you. And this is why you've heard me over and over emphasize taking the framework events and filling your imagination with them because when you do that the Holy Spirit can use that to shield you from this kind of thing. If you can fill up the vacuum of your imagination with Biblical data that will immunize you significantly against generating all these God substitutes, thinking, maybe God is like this and maybe God is like that and it's totally uncontrolled by the data of Scripture and it's that kind of playful imagination that generates false pictures of God. That's idolatry today and that's what we're being invited to do by many modern teachers, to worship these images, use images as an intermediary to worship God. The problem is it's not God, it's an idolatrous projection, you've created a god.

So look at verse 2 because this is the situation of Ephraim, they have done this collectively to their mind. **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 craftsmen. They say of them, "Let the men who sacrifice kiss the calves!"** See what they've done, **they sinned more and more and more**, that's negative volition that took them down this chain of steps into idolatry, till the mental imagery of their hearts was being projected out into their artistry, into their crafts and they're lavishly embellishing their mental imagery, pouring national resources into the imagery. All it is is calves but the way they see the calves is a totally distorted way of seeing calves. The calves in their mind have taken on gargantuan proportions, and they're wasting economic assets to build and

artistically depict the calves. And **they say of them, “Let the men who sacrifice kiss the calves!”** Now in the ancient near east kissing was an act of ceremonial worship. Psalm 2 speaks of all the kings of the earth to “Kiss the Son that he may not become angry,” and so this kissing was a little different than it is now. It was to kiss on the hand or the foot or the shoulder as an act of submission to one’s authority. So the act of kissing was an act of recognition of superior authority. This tradition has been preserved in Roman Catholicism down from ancient times; this is why the Pope is kissed. That’s why Luther and Calvin didn’t kiss him; they did not acknowledge him as a superior authority. So kissing the calves meant that they recognized the calves or the demons behind the calves as their authority and they were worshiping these demons behind the calves, worship that was due only to God. And so the priest is standing there inviting them to commit apostasy, kiss the calves!

Now God is not very happy about this and if Ephraim were not a part of the nation Israel but were Canaanites He would handle the situation by totally destroying them as He did certain people like the Amorites and the Philistines. But God can’t use that technique of destruction with Ephraim because Ephraim is His elect people. And therefore God is going to work with them without destroying them. So what does God do? The technique that God is going to use is a replica on a large scale of the technique that He uses in our lives spiritually to do the same thing. That’s why Hosea is valuable to us. This principle is applied to the nation here, but the Spirit hasn’t changed, He works the same way with us on an individual basis. Here the Holy Spirit has to some way reverse this damage without destroying our volition. Now that’s the assignment the Holy Spirit has. The Holy Spirit will not violate your volition; if He does you’re not responsible. So how is the Holy Spirit going to turn us around and destroy what should be destroyed without destroying us? He’s got to do it because that’s the assignment God has given Him. The Father says that is My elect person, now go and straighten them out.

So the Holy Spirit, as omniscient, knows all things about us and He’s designed a plan to salvage us. And the plan is described in the national case here in Hosea 13:3, **Therefore they will be like the morning cloud And like dew which soon disappears, Like chaff which is blown away from the threshing floor And like smoke from a chimney.** Now verse 3 is very easy to interpret because the four items all share one thing in

common; **morning clouds, dew, chaff** and **smoke**, all of them are very transitory, they have no substance, they're temporary. Why does God use that illustration in verse 3? Because verse 3 together with verse 2 shows you something about the strategy of the Holy Spirit in straightening up believers in idolatry. The way He does it is to destroy the idol. He's saying, you want to put your trust in these idols, go ahead, I'll blow them away, and then you'll see that all this false glory you attached to them isn't really there.

There's nothing there, so if your trust is there then you're trusting in something that can't hold you up. It's not stable. It's not reliable. And to get the point that God does this, think back to the event of the Exodus. What is the thing that everyone from grade school knows about the Exodus? That there were Ten Plagues. What was plague one? God turned the Nile to blood. Why did He do that? Because the Egyptians believed Osiris was the God of the Nile, Isis was the goddess of the Nile and Khnum was the guardian of the Nile. There were demons behind these idols. So what better way to demonstrate that these gods and goddesses were impotent than to attack the Nile? Then you have plague two: frogs. Why does God bother with frogs? Because the Egyptians worshipped the goddess Heqet, the frog goddess of fertility. So He attacks the frog population. Plague after plague is a systematic destruction of the gods and goddesses of Egypt. To show that putting your trust in these things is ridiculous, these things are just My creation, worship Me, I'm the only place to put your trust. And he's doing the same thing in verse 3 with the calves, they're going to be blown away like chaff so you stop putting your trust in them and put your trust in Me.

That this was going to happen should not be a shock to these people because before we go through verses 5-8 we are going to go into an OT passage that predicted all of this and you'll see that the Hosea drew his message from a message given hundreds and hundreds of years before.

Turn to Deut 32. the national anthem of Israel. Francis Scott Key could write a good anthem, especially the fourth verse, which we never hear, but do you know what he wrote?

"Blest with victory and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just.

And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."

Friends, that's a great anthem. The only thing I wish is that it was in the first stanza so we'd sing it. But as good as our anthem is Scott Key couldn't predict the future of our country. The national anthem of Israel predicts the future of Israel because God wrote the anthem. Let's look at it in Deut 32:7. We'll not go through the entire anthem, we just want to understand where Hosea is getting his material. "Remember the days of old, Consider the years of all generations. Ask your father, and he will inform you, Your elders, and they will tell you. ⁸"When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance, When He separated the sons of man, He set the boundaries of the peoples According to the number of the sons of Israel." Now this is all about history, remember your history Israel. Why is that so important? Because history is where we learn about God. If we forget about history we forget about God. This is why what has happened in our public school system is so atrocious. Do you realize that in 1789 when the Constitution was signed that the school curriculum was 100% biblically integrated, 100%, there was not one subject that was taught independent of Scripture. Math, reading, writing, and history - it was all taught from the Scriptures utilizing insights from the text that kept the child's focus on the God who authored these things. Never were these disciplines taught as somehow independent, neutral areas of investigation. They existed because God existed and because they informed us about His wonder working power and infinite brilliance. By 1860, the War Between the States it was down to 75%. By 1875, just fifteen years it was down to 50% biblical integration. That shows you what a critical turning point the War Between the States really was. By 1925, the fundamentalist-modernist controversy, it was down to 25% and today it's a whopping 0%. 0% of the curriculum our children are learning has biblical integration. I know some of you who had biblical instruction in the 1960's, right in the classroom. But today you can't find it. Where are these great events, the greatest events of history being taught? Oh, we have to remain religiously neutral. And we wonder what has happened to our nation. I'll tell you what has happened to our nation. We forgot God. It is absolutely critical that you never teach any subject apart from the word of God. It is not enough to have chapel at 8:15 to kick off the day and then go study these things as if God has nothing to do with them. Math for math's sake. Language for language's sake. It's not enough to tack on a verse, oh, and by the way, here's a pretty verse. The entire lesson from start to finish must presuppose that everything we are

studying here is scripturally based, it all starts with God and ends with God and apart from Him we know nothing. And that's why God said in verse 7 to Israel, these are imperative commands, "Remember the days of old, Consider the years of all generations. Ask your father, and he will inform you," that's family training, ask your father. The parents under DI#2-3 are given the duty and responsibility to train their children in the true history of the world. And so in verse 8 he recapitulates their history.

He says Israel, you are the only elect nation on the face of the earth. Remember this because God did this, God chose you. Verse 9, "For the LORD'S portion is His people; Jacob is the allotment of His inheritance. ¹⁰"He found him in a desert land," who found him? God found him. Notice the subjects of the verbs, the subjects doing the action. "And in the howling waste of a wilderness; He encircled him, He cared for him, He guarded him as the pupil of His eye." Who did all that? God did it. ¹¹"Like an eagle that stirs up its nest, That hovers over its young, He spread His wings and caught them, He carried them on His pinions." Who protected them and carried them? God protected and carried them. ¹²"The LORD alone guided him, And there was no foreign god with him." Who? The Lord alone, all by Himself, the infinite Creator God. Where did He do it? On the stage of history! Verse 13, "He made him ride on the high places of the earth, And he ate the produce of the field; And He made him suck honey from the rock, And oil from the flinty rock, ¹⁴Curds of cows, and milk of the flock, With fat of lambs, And rams, the breed of Bashan, and goats, With the finest of the wheat— And of the blood of grapes you drank wine." Who gave them all the prosperity and blessing? God did it all. Friends, that's real history, this is what God has done. But now look what happens, verse 15. "But Jeshurun grew fat and kicked— You are grown fat, thick, and sleek—" what happened? They got prosperous, they got economic success, they got agricultural blessing and so what did they do. They became proud and arrogant. The I did it all myself mentality. Look at the rest of the verse, "Then he forsook God who made him, And scorned the Rock of his salvation. ¹⁶"They made Him jealous with strange *gods*; With abominations they provoked Him to anger. ¹⁷"They sacrificed to demons who were not God, To gods whom they have not known, New *gods* who came lately, Whom your fathers did not dread. ¹⁸"You neglected the Rock who begot you, And forgot the God who gave you birth. ¹⁹The LORD saw *this*, and spurned *them* Because of the provocation of His sons and daughters. ²⁰"Then He said, 'I will hide My face from them, I will see what their end *shall be*; For they are a perverse generation, Sons in whom is no faithfulness. ²¹"They have

made Me jealous with *what* is not God; They have provoked Me to anger with their idols.” And so that is their end, all written centuries in advance. God says this is your national anthem, I want you to sing it as a nation once every seven years just so you know when these things are happening, why they are happening.

Now turn back to Hosea so we can follow his mentality. Hosea 13:4-8 looks back at the national anthem. What’s the principle: the principle is that we tend to forget what God has done for us, we tend toward idols. Hos 13:4, **But I am the LORD your God from the land of Egypt;** what’s he doing? He’s reminding them of their history? What historical event is he reminding them of? **from the land of Egypt,** that’s the Exodus, a monumental work of God in history. Then he says **you know no God but me,** what historical event does that answer to? After God saved them from Egypt where did he take them? Mt Sinai. And here is the first commandment, you **know no God but me,** in other words, there are to be no idols, idols don’t exist, it’s just Me, I’m the only God. Know Me intimately. So now we have the Exodus, Mt Sinai, and he’s saying, remember history, remember your past, remember what I’ve done. What other historical things does he remind them of? **and besides me there is no savior. It was I who knew you in the wilderness, in the land of drought;** what historical period? What period did God show them over and over I am your savior? The Wilderness Wanderings. For forty years they had very intimate knowledge that God took care of them. God gave them food on top of the ground, just go out and eat it right off the ground, manna. What is it? I don’t know what it is but it’s the most nutritious thing you could eat, have one portion for breakfast and you’re satisfied the rest of the day. One meal a day - God put all the nutrition in that one meal. Think of the water: God provided water for 2 million people every day. Culligan man didn’t have a thing on God. Culligan man couldn’t do that sitting in the middle of the Great Lakes and look where God did it, **in a land of drought.** Go ahead God says, ask your fathers and they’ll tell you about the water. Pass this on from generation to generation, the importance of family training. You can’t trust other people to train your children in the true history of the world. That’s a family responsibility. Not a church responsibility, a family responsibility. Church is secondary to the family, the church can only re-enforce, the family is primary. And if the family doesn’t do the training then the children suffer. They lose connection with the God of history. Verse 6, **but when they had grazed, they became full, they were filled, and their**

heart was lifted up; And there's the satisfaction, this is the Conquest and Settlement period, particularly the Settlement period, they all settled down in their tribes and they got prosperous and satisfied and this inevitably leads to laxity and finally you become arrogant and prideful and notice what happens, every time this happens. God gives and gives and gives to a nation and they get fat and satisfied and they forget God. **therefore they forgot me.** They forgot. See we've got everything we need. And now can you see the theme in vv 4, 5 and 6 are exactly the themes of Deuteronomy 32, the same exact themes. Hosea says your own national anthem predicted all this. It told what God did for you, it told you to remember it through family training and you got fat, dumb and happy and you forgot Me.

Now Hosea 13:7-8 those of you who are familiar with the Book of Daniel should notice an early revelation of what form the discipline would take. **7So I will be like a lion to them; Like a leopard I will lie in wait by the wayside. 8I will encounter them like a bear robbed of her cubs, And I will tear open their chests; There I will also devour them like a lioness, As a wild beast would tear them.** There are four animals mentioned here; a **lion**, a **bear**, a **leopard** and a **wild beast**. And ironically the same four animals are mentioned in Daniel 7; a lion, a bear, a leopard and a terrifying beast. Now is this just an accident that Hosea seems to be using this language and also Daniel is using this language? Not at all; not at all. All these animals were man-killers and what God is saying in verses 7-8 has become very, very true in Daniel's day, so true that additional revelation is given through Daniel because originally verses 7-8 were conceived of just as disturbances in the animal kingdom. But by the time of Daniel you see that it's Gentile kingdoms that are going to cause disturbances among the Jews, and so one by one you're going to have these four Gentile kingdoms disciplining Israel but this wasn't clear until the time of Daniel comes and the lion, the bear, the leopard and the wild beast turn out to be from the hand of God, which is why it says, **I will be like a lion to them; Like a leopard,** etc..., etc...

Now where did those four beasts come from in Daniel 7? They came from out of the sea. How did they come from out of the sea? By the four winds, and who were the four winds? The spirits that stand before God's throne. So who was it that worked in history to create these kingdoms? From the Scriptural point of view they came from God; from the Gentile point of view they just see

kingdom's rising and falling, rising and falling, but the Scriptures say that it's not just one kingdom after another, it's a series of four ferocious Gentile kingdoms that are put in place to discipline Israel. Jesus called it the "times of the Gentiles" and during this period the Jew is faced with the situation that we are no longer on center stage of world history, we were on center stage but we lost it, Shechinah Glory departed, we went into Exile, and since that time we've had to live under the dominion of Gentile kingdoms.

So verses 7-8 speaks of God's discipline in fulfillment of Deuteronomy 32, all predicted right there in their national anthem and we see in Daniel 7 that it is administered through four Gentile kingdoms and it is still being administered. Conclusion to the matter: Ephraim was not allowed to be destroyed like any other nation; Ephraim was the elect of God and therefore God handles Ephraim by extreme discipline but not removal from history. Ephraim will remain out among the Gentiles until Ephraim returns to God and He restores them but until that point they remain under discipline.

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