



HOSEA 7:11-16, 8:1-4 Psalm 115:1-9

Hosea is a prophet that God called up after the Assyrians attacked.

Hosea 7

11 Ephraim also is like a silly dove without heart: they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria. Ephraim is the largest tribe at this point. Doves are known to be loving animals. They mate for life. They have great love, but not much intelligence. They were going to make peace with Assyria at any cost, including giving up land that God gave Israel. The Egyptians were doing the same thing. So Ephraim and Egypt tried to become allies.

12 When they shall go, I will spread my net upon them; I will bring them down as the fowls of the heaven; I will chastise them, as their congregation hath heard. God said "I warned you, if you continue to do this, I'm going to lay a trap for you. There will be trouble."

13 Woe unto them! for they have fled from me: destruction unto them! because they have transgressed against me: though I have redeemed them, yet they have spoken lies against me. God said, "After all I have done, protected you, brought you out of Egypt, you still reject Me, turn against Me, speak lies about Me."

14 And they have not cried unto me with their heart, when they howled upon their beds: they assemble themselves for corn and wine, and they rebel against me. Instead of getting down on their knees and begging God for forgiveness, they "howled". This word "howled" means "they got together as a group/assembly and cut themselves with knives". This is very common in pagan worship. Mutilation of self does not bring your God any closer. They would have group parties with wine, bread, and cutting of themselves to bring their pagan god close to them.

15 Though I have bound and strengthened their arms, yet do they imagine mischief against me. God has given them strength and deliverance from their enemies in the past, but what have they done for God? America never should've been formed, but it was formed to carry God's word into the world. Once you become a Christian, you should look towards the laws of the bible as your guide.

16 They return, but not to the most High: they are like a deceitful bow: their princes shall fall by the sword for the rage of their tongue: this shall be their derision in the land of Egypt. This verse means that the Israelites have become like a twisted person. No one can shoot straight with a twisted bow, no matter how good they are. "The land of Egypt" can have two meanings: 1) the world in general, or 2) the actual land of Egypt.

8:1 ¶ Set the trumpet to thy mouth. He shall come as an eagle against the house of the LORD, because they have transgressed my covenant, and trespassed against my law. These trumpets were sometimes used as a warning to the people of Israel. Blow the trumpet, get ready, trouble is coming, because they have transgressed His covenant and now they're in trouble.



2 Israel shall cry unto me, My God, we know thee. Israel's going to cry even though they love and worship Him, but not in their hearts. They loved their pagan gods better, like material things and money. God looks upon your heart, not your words.

3 Israel hath cast off the thing that is good: the enemy shall pursue him. This word "pursue" means "hunt like a pack of hounds chasing a wild animal". God will pursue them like a wild animal. People are doing things their way, not God's way.

4 They have set up kings, but not by me: they have made princes, and I knew it not: of their silver and their gold have they made them idols, that they may be cut off. People have shaken off God and made idols out of gold and silver.

Psalm 115:1-8

1 ¶ Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake. Everything we do is for the glory of God. If it's not, it's wrong.

2 Wherefore should the heathen say, Where is now their God?

3 But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased.

4 Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands.

5 They have mouths, but they speak not: eyes have they, but they see not:

6 They have ears, but they hear not: noses have they, but they smell not:

7 They have hands, but they handle not: feet have they, but they walk not: neither speak they through their throat.

8 They that make them are like unto them; so is every one that trusteth in them. Notice this: those who make these idols are just like the dumb idols. They have just about as much feeling in their lives as these inanimate idols. Anyone who worships fake idols is just as dumb.

9 ¶ O Israel, trust thou in the LORD: he is their help and their shield. The Lord is all we need.