

Why Israel Fell

(Hosea 8:1-14)

- Introduction:
1. The events that caused Israel to receive the wrath of God are recorded for us in the book of Hosea.
 2. Their actions and the ensuing results are vividly described in (Hosea 8:7).
 3. Let us learn from their mistakes, lest the very things that caused their fall, will bring about our fall.

I. They Trusted in Mighty Men

- A. (Hosea 10:13).
- B. (Hebrews 13:6) "The Lord is my helper, I will not fear."
- C. (Ephesians 6:10) "Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might."
- D. Men may fail us, but God will not.

II. They Were Guilty of Idolatry

- A. (Hosea 9:10).
- B. Idolatry is anything that rivals God for first place in our lives.
 1. Money, Pleasure, Family.
- C. (2 Corinthians 11:2-3) God is a jealous God.
- D. (Matthew 22:37) Love God with your heart, soul, mind.

III. They Were Guilty of Conforming to the World

- A. (Hosea 7:8).
- B. (Romans 12:1-2) "Be not conformed to the world."
- C. (James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17) "Don't love the world."
- D. How different are we from the world?

IV. They Were Guilty of Pride

- A. (Hosea 5:5).
- B. (Proverbs 6:17; 16:18) "Pride goes before destruction."
- C. Pride causes us to:
 1. Think too highly of ourselves (Romans 12:3).
 2. Look down on others (Luke 18:10-14).
 3. Look back instead of forward (Revelation 3:1-6).

V. They Were Guilty of a Lack of Knowledge

- A. (Hosea 4:6).
- B. (Psalms 119:105) "Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."
- C. What can we do to prevent this?

- Conclusion:
1. Let us learn from Israel's mistakes and heed God's warnings (Jude 5-6).
 2. Now is no time to rest or take our eyes off of our goal.
 3. Let's resolve to finish the work that has been set before us.