

SOWING THE WIND

Hosea 8:7

INTRODUCTION:

- A. This metaphor has become a proverb applied to those who are doing the things which will bring about their destruction
- B. If it is true that "whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap" it is also true that he reaps an increase of what he sows Gal 6:7
 - 1. He sows the wind, he reaps the whirlwind
 - 2. He sows folly, vanity and sin, he reaps disappointment, emptiness and destruction
- C. In this text the ten rebellious tribes set up their own kingdom and worship. The whirlwind from Assyria was poised to sweep them up and never return them.
- D. What were these seeds of destruction? Are they being planted by us today?

DISCUSSION:

I. LACK OF KNOWLEDGE (Ignorance)

- A. This was not a lack of worldly wisdom but of God and his word Hos 4:6; Amos 8:11; Hos 2:20; 4:1
 - 1. Word "know" is used in the most intimate sense many times in the scripture (Adam knew his wife Gen 4:1)
 - 2. Knowing the word of God is important
 - 3. However, we can have a knowledge of the word and not really know God as our father Hos 6:6
- B. The word is necessary for growth 1Pet 2:2
 - 1. It is used in resisting temptations Matt 4
 - 2. One must know the word to teach it 1Pet 3:15,16 Heb 5:12-14
- C. Neglect of study and meditation on the word of God is sowing the wind for a harvest of destruction

II. TRUST WRONG SOURCES FOR HELP (Materialism)

- A. Joined to idols Hos 4:17
 - 1. Notice the folly of this Hos 8:6; 13:2; Isa 44:12-17
 - 2. We think of them as foolish, yet we trust in material things more than God, which is idolatry Col 3:5
- B. Went to Assyria for help Hos 5:13
 - 1. They realized the need for help but did not return to God the real source of help
 - 2. Assyria is the one who took them captive - the enemy
 - 3. Christians oftentimes turn to the wrong source for help - i.e. human institutions

- C. Trusted in multitude of mighty men Hos 10:13
 - 1. We become concerned about the growth of numbers
 - 2. Numbers mean nothing unless there is spiritual development to go with it

III. LIVES INCONSISTENT WITH DOCTRINE

- A. They claimed to worship God, yet grievous sins were commonplace Hos 4:1,2; 8:13
- B. Their goodness was like a morning cloud Hos 6:4
 - 1. Lacked stability, patience, steadfastness, perseverance
 - 2. Like the seed on the rocky soil Lk 8:13
- C. Like a cake not turned Hos 7:8
 - 1. Consider a pancake golden brown on the bottom, but a gooey mess on top
 - 2. So are those strong on doctrine but immoral or vice-versa

CONCLUSION:

- A. Are you sowing the wind - you will reap the whirlwind
- B. Break up the fallow ground (land once plowed but permitted to harden) and return whole heartedly to God by sowing righteousness and obedience Hos 10:12