

“Israel's Fall from Grace”

Hos. 8:1-14

Introduction

- I. How does a nation go from being great to being to being destroyed?
- II. Israel left plenty of evidence as to why they fell, and we should earnestly learn from their mistakes.

Discussion

- I. Israel put their trust in men instead of God (Hos. 10:13).
 - A. Israel should have put their confidence in the power of God (Heb. 13:6).
 - B. With the whole armor of God, there is no need to worry about what others can do to us (Eph. 6:10-17).
 - C. God will never fail us, and therefore we should not fail Him (Heb. 13:5).
- II. Israel had committed idolatry (Hos. 9:10).
 - A. God had been explicitly clear about idolatry (Exo. 20:3-6).
 - B. Israel had forgotten the first and great commandment (Matt. 22:37).
 - C. We must make sure that we are not guilty of idolatry (Col. 3:5-7).
- III. Israel had become very worldly (Hos. 7:8).
 - A. Israel was supposed to be different from the world around them (Deut. 7:6-9; 14:2).
 - B. Instead, Israel wanted to be like the nations around them (1 Sam. 8:4-5, 19-20).
 - C. We must make the conscience effort to remain godly instead of worldly (Rom. 12:1-2; James 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17).
- IV. Israel had become prideful (Hos. 5:5).
 - A. Israel had been warned about pride (Prov. 6:17; 16:18).
 - B. Victims of pride are too worried about themselves and not concerned enough with others (Rom. 12:3; Luke 18:10-14).
 - C. Pride will destroy us if we allow it (Prov. 11:2; Rom. 12:16; Gal. 6:3; Phil. 2:3; James 4:6).
- V. Israel had become ignorant (Hos. 4:6).
 - A. Israel needed to be studying and obeying the Word of God (Psm. 119:105; Prov. 30:5-6).
 - B. It is the Word of God that will equip a man to be complete in the sight of God (2 Tim. 3:16-17).
 - C. Are we engaged in enough Bible study, or are we becoming ignorant as well (John 5:39; 2 Tim. 2:15)?

Conclusion

- I. If the nation of Israel could fall from the grace of God, then the spiritual Israel (church of Christ) can do likewise (Gal. 5:4).
- II. We should all do our parts to make sure that does not happen.