

LESSON 11: HOT-HEADED LEADERS

Intro:

BIG IDEA: When we _____ the faithful One, we become _____.

³ By their evil they make the king glad,
and the princes by their treachery.
⁴ They are all adulterers;
they are like a heated oven
whose baker ceases to stir the fire,
from the kneading of the dough
until it is leavened.
⁵ On the day of our king, the princes
became sick with the heat of wine;
he stretched out his hand with mockers.
⁶ For with hearts like an oven they approach their intrigue;
all night their anger smolders;
in the morning it blazes like a flaming fire.
⁷ All of them are hot as an oven,
and they devour their rulers.
All their kings have fallen,
and none of them calls upon me.

- The problems in Ephraim are not limited to the _____. Penetrates the _____.
- The _____ & _____ delight in the wickedness of the _____, and everyone else.
- We see, in the _____, a picture of a ‘self-propagating passion’.
- The bake-oven was a “round, domed, beehive structure made from fired clay with floor level apertures and a large door on the top.”⁷⁶
- A fire blazed in the oven until the interior was _____ hot. Bread was laid on the _____ or the glowing _____ walls.
- They are a group of _____ mockers consumed with _____ cooking up schemes.
- In the last 3 decades of its existence, Ephraim had _____ kings. _____ were assassinated, & _____ exiled.
- Jeroboam II _____ and his son Zechariah was _____ by Shallum.
- Shallum was then _____ by Menahem who committed mass murder in Tiphseh.

⁷⁶ Stuart, pp. 119.

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- Pekahiah was assassinated by Pekah, the son of Remaliah, who was later killed too.
- Violence and political intrigue in the quest for power _____ the ruling _____.
- Despite a history of failed monarchies, no one (leaders or people?) _____ on Him.

⁸ Ephraim mixes himself with the peoples;
Ephraim is a cake not turned.

⁹ Strangers devour his strength,
and he knows it not;
gray hairs are sprinkled upon him,
and he knows it not.

¹⁰ The pride of Israel testifies to his face;
yet they do not return to the LORD their God,
nor seek him, for all this.

- Hosea offers a possible double-entendre with “mixes”. Literal or mixed up/confused.
- Ephraim broke the covenant by inter-_____ with the nations.
- It could refer to breaking the covenant by mixing with the nations _____: alliances.
- They are also mixed up or confused with regard to their friends & enemies _____.
- It is like a _____ that isn’t turned: burned on one side and _____ on the other.
- They were _____ to YHWH but _____ to the nations, vulnerable.
- OR, the dough wasn’t _____ over (turned) for strength, but was _____ & _____.
- Those foreigners were _____ the _____ of Ephraim, but who is clueless.
- “*He knows it not*” ties the couplet together. Ephraim is weak & vulnerable like an elderly man.
- But the “old man” still has _____ of strength, power and potency.
- “*The pride of Israel*”, can be taken in 1 of 2 very different ways as in _____ earlier.
- 1st, YHWH _____ is their pride who testifies directly to the leaders of Ephraim.
- Or it could be their _____ pride which YHWH brings into _____ against them.
- They forgot that God _____ the _____ but will experience it (Lev. 26:18-19).
- Despite this, they “*do not return to the LORD their God*”; they aren’t _____.

“Driven by a lust for success, they neglected the one thing that would really have secured peace, blessing and hope: a return to Yahweh and obedience to his covenant.”⁷⁷

⁷⁷ Stuart, pp. 125.

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¹¹ Ephraim is like a dove,
silly and without sense,
calling to Egypt, going to Assyria.
¹² As they go, I will spread over them my net;
I will bring them down like birds of the heavens;
I will discipline them according to the report made to their congregation.
¹³ Woe to them, for they have strayed from me!
Destruction to them, for they have rebelled against me!
I would redeem them,
but they speak lies against me.

- Doves aren't _____, and their actions seem to have no _____ or intent.
- Ephraim is as flighty as a dove, changing _____ every time the _____ change.
- YHWH will treat them like birds, and _____ them with a net. Captivity & _____.
- Doves are easily distracted by _____, and nets were set with food to _____ them.
- This is "*discipline*", not _____, according to the truth.
- The verb (yasar) has the idea of _____, discipline & _____.
- They were also _____ with Him; "*they have strayed from me!*"
- Seen as well in "*they have rebelled against me!*" so "*Woe*" & "*destruction to them*".
- The _____ oaths in _____ were _____ as they continue to break covenant.
- God's heart was to _____, but theirs was to _____ to and fro.

¹⁴ They do not cry to me from the heart,
but they wail upon their beds;
for grain and wine they gash themselves;
they rebel against me.
¹⁵ Although I trained and strengthened their arms,
yet they devise evil against me.
¹⁶ They return, but not upward;
they are like a treacherous bow;
their princes shall fall by the sword
because of the insolence of their tongue.
This shall be their derision in the land of Egypt.

- Verse 14 is a _____ of 10 syllables describing how they will cry out in false worship.
- "*from the heart*" "*upon their beds*" and "*gash themselves*". Every _____.
- The crying, wailing and slashing though are _____ of _____ worship.
- They are "_____" but this is not the cry out to God they need, but their false worship.

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- They are _____ though He trained them. He “*strengthened their arms*” but they _____ evil (parallel with Job 4:3).
- We see the greatness of their sin as we see the _____ & rejection of grace & _____.
- Their lack of knowledge is not a result of God’s _____ but willful _____.
- Israel is like a _____, rebellious child (Deut. 21:18-21) & a treacherous _____.
- “In simple terms, they could not be counted on to keep their word or meet their obligations; they could not be trusted.”⁷⁸
- War, and death in it, will be the _____ for their insolence.
- While they seek help from Egypt, they will be _____ “*in the land of Egypt.*”

“YHWH provided guidance and training for those in his household, yet their response is to spurn that advantage.”⁷⁹

“For all its frantic attempts at shoring up its position militarily and politically, Israel is deathly weak and exposed helplessly among the nations, ripe for the plucking by Assyria, whose practices of subjugation, captivity, and deportation were well known to Hosea’s northern audience, as well as to his southern readership.”⁸⁰

Conclusion:

⁷⁸ Barrett, pp. 132.

⁷⁹ Dearman, pp. 213.

⁸⁰ Stuart, pp. 124.