

Hosea 10

JPS [\[Online\]](#)

Retribution for Israel's Sin

1Israel was a luxuriant vine, Which put forth fruit freely: As his fruit increased, He increased his altars; The more goodly his land was, The more goodly were his pillars.

2Their heart is divided; Now shall they bear their guilt; He will break down their altars, He will spoil their pillars.

3Surely now shall they say: 'We have no king; For we feared not the LORD; And the king, what can he do for us?'

4They speak words, They swear falsely, they make covenants; Thus judgment springeth up as hemlock In the furrows of the field.

5The inhabitants of Samaria shall be in dread For the calves of Beth-aven; For the people thereof shall mourn over it, And the priests thereof shall tremble for it, For its glory, because it is departed from it.

6It also shall be carried unto Assyria, For a present to King Contentious; Ephraim shall receive shame, And Israel shall be ashamed of his own counsel.

7As for Samaria, her king is cut off, As foam upon the water.

8The high places also of Aven shall be destroyed, Even the sin of Israel. The thorn and the thistle shall come up on their altars; And they shall say to the mountains: 'Cover us', And to the hills: 'Fall on us.'

9From the days of Gibeah thou hast sinned, O Israel; There they stood; No battle was to overtake them in Gibeah, Nor the children of arrogancy.

10When it is My desire, I will chastise them; And the peoples shall be gathered against them, When they are yoked to their two rings.

11And Ephraim is a heifer well broken, That loveth to thresh, And I have passed over upon her fair neck; I will make Ephraim to ride, Judah shall plow, Jacob shall break his clods.

12Sow to yourselves according to righteousness, Reap according to mercy, Break up your fallow ground; For it is time to seek the LORD, Till He come and cause righteousness to rain upon you.

13Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity, Ye have eaten the fruit of lies; For thou didst trust in thy way, In the multitude of thy mighty men.

14Therefore shall a tumult arise among thy hosts, And all thy fortresses shall be spoiled, As Shalman spoiled Beth-arbel in the day of battle; The mother was dashed in pieces with her children.

15So hath Beth-el done unto you Because of your great wickedness; At daybreak is the king of Israel utterly cut off.