

“Woe, the People has fled from GOD”  
Hosea 7: 12-16  
Sermon by Ordained Minister Reverend Samuel O. Simon  
August 19, 2021

Bible Text: **Hosea 7: 12-16**

Read in its entirety **Hosea 7: 12-16**

Sermon topic: **“Woe, the People has fled from GOD”**

The LORD spoke to Hosea about Israel’s call to Repentance because the people were searching and searching but searching in all the wrong places.

They were accepting teaching from others but not the teaching of GOD’s Word.

They hearken unto all voices and to idols that could not speak or walk but not to the voice of the living GOD of Israel.

The LORD said woe (meaning suffering, trouble, punishment) unto the people.

Woe (Suffering, trouble and punishment), unto the people who think that they can escape from GOD’s judgment of their sins.

**Hosea 7: 12 says that** “When they shall go, I will spread my net upon them; I will bring them down as the fowls of the heaven; I will chastise them, as their congregation hath heard.”

**The Life Study Bible says it this way of Hosea 7: 12,** “But as they fly about, I will throw my net over them and bring them down like a bird from the sky. I will punish them for all the evil they do.”

Woe, unto the people; for you can not escape the punishment of GOD’S wrath.

The people knew that they had sinned against GOD by not obeying GOD’S WORD, so, they fled from GOD.

So, GOD in all HIS mercy and grace warns the people of their destruction that will come upon them. GOD will never bring punishment upon us without warning us of our sin and punishment.

Why would a loving and merciful and gracious GOD do such a thing, because the people have transgressed against GOD.

In other words, the people had infringed upon GOD’S love or gone beyond the bounds of keeping GOD’S WORD, HIS commandments.

Although GOD redeemed them, still the people spoke lies against GOD, they went beyond the bounds of GOD’s WORD, HIS commandment.

**Woe, the People has fled from GOD!**

- **Halfhearted Repentance:**

Woe, to the people who does not cry unto GOD with their whole heart.

But cry out to GOD with the intend of showing out and not keeping or living by GOD'S WORD.

The people howl upon their beds and get up and assemble themselves together for corn and wine, but they rebel against GOD.

They think repenting is turning around and around and never doing or obeying GOD'S WORD.

True repentance is turning from your sinful way and turning to GOD with evident that you will not sin against GOD and HIS WORD.

Even though GOD have bound and strengthened the people's arms; still the people imagine mischief against GOD.

You see a halfhearted repentance GOD will not except, it must be a sincere wholehearted repentance.

**WOE, the People has fled from GOD!**

- **The People return:**

Now the people think that by receiving nice cars and fine homes and better jobs that they have been blessed and that GOD have for given them of their sins.

These people will say, something like, I know that I am blessed and highly favored because look what the LORD has done.

Thank GOD they say, I am not like the rest, I go to church every Sunday, and Bible study on Wednesday, I am on the usher board and in the women auxiliary of the church.

But they leave from the church house and raise all kind of cane in the neighborhood.

Yes, the people returned, but not to the MOST HIGH GOD:

**Hosea 7: 16b says,** "they are like a deceitful bow:"

Now a crooked bow is unreliable, it misses it target, and the shooter of the bow becomes vulnerable to all attacks.

Life without GOD is as a crooked bow, because without GOD'S direction, our very thoughts are filled with lust, cheating, selfishness, and deceit.

Only GOD can truly satisfy the deep longing of the soul.

We must look to the MOST HIGH GOD, for GOD will meet all your spiritual needs, not all of your materialistic wants.

**Woe, the People has fled from GOD!**

Now, as long as we are warped by sin, we will never reach our true and full potential that GOD has purpose for us.

Return ye people of GOD to the MOST HIGH GOD.

For GOD so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

On a hill far away stood and old roughed cross the emblem of suffering and shame.

There they nailed my LORD and SAVIOR'S hands and feet to the cross and lifted Him up so that all could see; the SAVIOR of all sinners being crucified.

Buried in a borrow tomb for two days and three nights, lying there taking away my condemnation and your condemnation for believing in and on the Son of GOD JESUS CHRIST.

But early, early, early on the third day morning GOD the FATHER raised HIS SON JESUS CHRIST up from the dead and gave unto HIM all power in heaven and in earth in HIS hands.

Now, unto us, who believe on HIS SON JESUS CHRIST GOD the FATHER gives us eternal life.

**Woe, the People has fled from GOD!**

Warning, warning to the people repent of your wicked ways and return to the MOST HIGH GOD.

**2 Chronicles 7: 14 says**, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and heal their land."

JESUS CHRIST is warning the people to come home, come home, ye who are weary, come home.

JESUS CHRIST is earnestly, tenderly, calling, "O sinner, come home."

**Woe, the People has fled from GOD!**

Although we have sinned GOD has mercy, and pardon, for you and for me.

GOD'S mercies are new morning by morning they are new.

**Lamentations 3: 22-23 says**, "It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. (23) They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

**Woe, the People has fled from GOD!**