

## HŌ-ŠĒ-Ă

### CHAPTER 1

**T**HE word of the LORD that came unto Hō-šē-ă, the son of Bēer-ī, in the days of Ūz-zī-ăh, Jō-thām, Ā-hāz, and Hēz-ē-kī-ăh, kings of Jûd-ăh, and in the days of Jēr-ō-bō-ăm the son of Jō-ăsh, king of Īś-rā-ěl.

2 The beginning of the word of the LORD by Hō-šē-ă. And the LORD said to Hō-šē-ă, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land hath committed great whoredom, *departing* from the LORD.

3 So he went and took Gō-mēr the daughter of Dīb-lā-īm; which conceived, and bare him a son.

4 And the LORD said unto him, Call his name Jēz-reel; for yet a little *while*, and I will avenge the blood of Jēz-reel upon the house of Jē-hū, and will cause to cease the kingdom of the house of Īś-rā-ěl.

5 And it shall come to pass at that day, that I will break the bow of Īś-rā-ěl in the valley of Jēz-reel.

6 ¶ And she conceived again, and bare a daughter. And God said unto him, Call her name Lō-rû-hă-măh: for I will no more have mercy upon the house of Īś-rā-ěl; but I will utterly take them away.

7 But I will have mercy upon the house of Jûd-ăh, and will save them by the LORD their God, and will not save them by bow, nor by sword, nor by battle, by horses, nor by horsemen.

8 ¶ Now when she had weaned Lō-rû-hă-măh, she conceived, and bare a son.

9 Then said God, Call his name Lō-ăm-mī: for ye *are* not my people, and I

will not be your God.

10 ¶ Yet the number of the children of Īś-rā-ěl shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered; and it shall come to pass, *that* in the place where it was said unto them, Ye *are* not my people, *there* it shall be said unto them, Ye *are* the sons of the living God.

11 Then shall the children of Jûd-ăh and the children of Īś-rā-ěl be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land: for great *shall be* the day of Jēz-reel.

### CHAPTER 2

**S**AY ye unto your brethren, Ām-mī; and to your sisters, Rû-hă-măh.

2 Plead with your mother, plead: for she *is* not my wife, neither *am* I her husband: let her therefore put away her whoredoms out of her sight, and her adulteries from between her breasts;

3 Lest I strip her naked, and set her as in the day that she was born, and make her as a wilderness, and set her like a dry land, and slay her with thirst.

4 And I will not have mercy upon her children; for they *be* the children of whoredoms.

5 For their mother hath played the harlot: she that conceived them hath done shamefully: for she said, I will go after my lovers, that give *me* my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, mine oil and my drink.

6 ¶ Therefore, behold, I will hedge up thy way with thorns, and make a wall, that she shall not find her paths.

7 And she shall follow after her lovers, but she shall not overtake them; and

she shall seek them, but shall not find *them*: then shall she say, I will go and return to my first husband; for then was *it* better with me than now.

8 For she did not know that I gave her corn, and wine, and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold, *which* they prepared for Bā-āl.

9 Therefore will I return, and take away my corn in the time thereof, and my wine in the season thereof, and will recover my wool and my flax *given* to cover her nakedness.

10 And now will I discover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and none shall deliver her out of mine hand.

11 I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts.

12 And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees, whereof she hath said, These *are* my rewards that my lovers have given me: and I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall eat them.

13 And I will visit upon her the days of Bā-āl-līm, wherein she burned incense to them, and she decked herself with her earrings and her jewels, and she went after her lovers, and forgot me, saith the LORD.

14 ¶ Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her.

15 And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Ā-chôr for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Ē-gýpt.

16 And it shall be at that day, saith the

LORD, *that* thou shalt call me ĩsh-ĩ; and shalt call me no more Bā-āl-lĩ.

17 For I will take away the names of Bā-āl-līm out of her mouth, and they shall no more be remembered by their name.

18 And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and *with* the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely.

19 And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies.

20 I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the LORD.

21 And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the LORD, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth;

22 And the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall hear Jĕz-rēel.

23 And I will sow her unto me in the earth; and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to *them which were* not my people, Thou *art* my people; and they shall say, *Thou art* my God.

#### CHAPTER 3

**T**HEN said the LORD unto me, Go yet, love a woman beloved of *her* friend, yet an adulteress, according to the love of the LORD toward the children of ĩś-rā-ěl, who look to other gods, and love flagons of wine.

2 So I bought her to me for fifteen *pieces* of silver, and *for* an hō-mĕr of

barley, and an half hō-mēr of barley:  
 3 And I said unto her, Thou shalt abide for me many days; thou shalt not play the harlot, and thou shalt not be for another man: so will I also be for thee.

4 For the children of Īś-rā-ēl shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ē-phōd, and without tēr-ā-phīm:

5 Afterward shall the children of Īś-rā-ēl return, and seek the LORD their God, and Dā-vīd their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.

## CHAPTER 4

**H**EAR the word of the LORD, ye children of Īś-rā-ēl: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.

2 By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood.

3 Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away.

4 Yet let no man strive, nor reprove another: for thy people are as they that strive with the priest.

5 Therefore shalt thou fall in the day, and the prophet also shall fall with thee in the night, and I will destroy thy mother.

6 ¶ My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to

me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

7 As they were increased, so they sinned against me: therefore will I change their glory into shame.

8 They eat up the sin of my people, and they set their heart on their iniquity.

9 And there shall be, like people, like priest: and I will punish them for their ways, and reward them their doings.

10 For they shall eat, and not have enough: they shall commit whoredom, and shall not increase: because they have left off to take heed to the LORD.

11 Whoredom and wine and new wine take away the heart.

12 ¶ My people ask counsel at their stocks, and their staff declareth unto them: for the spirit of whoredoms hath caused them to err, and they have gone a whoring from under their God.

13 They sacrifice upon the tops of the mountains, and burn incense upon the hills, under oaks and poplars and elms, because the shadow thereof is good: therefore your daughters shall commit whoredom, and your spouses shall commit adultery.

14 I will not punish your daughters when they commit whoredom, nor your spouses when they commit adultery: for themselves are separated with whores, and they sacrifice with harlots: therefore the people that doth not understand shall fall.

15 ¶ Though thou, Īś-rā-ēl, play the harlot, yet let not Jûd-āh offend; and come not ye unto Gîl-gāl, neither go

ye up to Bēth-ā-vēn, nor swear, The LORD liveth.

16 For Īś-rā-ēl slideth back as a backsliding heifer: now the LORD will feed them as a lamb in a large place.

17 Ē-phrā-īm is joined to idols: let him alone.

18 Their drink is sour: they have committed whoredom continually:

her rulers *with* shame do love, Give ye.

19 The wind hath bound her up in her wings, and they shall be ashamed because of their sacrifices.

## CHAPTER 5

**H**EAR ye this, O priests; and hearken, ye house of Īś-rā-ēl; and give ye ear, O house of the king; for judgment is toward you, because ye have been a snare on Mīz-pāh, and a net spread upon Tā-bôr.

2 And the revolvers are profound to make slaughter, though I *have been* a rebuker of them all.

3 I know Ē-phrā-īm, and Īś-rā-ēl is not hid from me: for now, O Ē-phrā-īm, thou committest whoredom, and Īś-rā-ēl is defiled.

4 They will not frame their doings to turn unto their God: for the spirit of whoredoms is in the midst of them, and they have not known the LORD.

5 And the pride of Īś-rā-ēl doth testify to his face: therefore shall Īś-rā-ēl and Ē-phrā-īm fall in their iniquity; Jûd-āh also shall fall with them.

6 They shall go with their flocks and with their herds to seek the LORD; but they shall not find *him*; he hath withdrawn himself from them.

7 They have dealt treacherously against the LORD: for they have begotten strange children: now shall a month devour them with their portions.

8 Blow ye the cornet in Gīb-ē-āh, and the trumpet in Rā-māh: cry aloud at Bēth-ā-vēn, after thee, O Bēn-jā-mīn.

9 Ē-phrā-īm shall be desolate in the day of rebuke: among the tribes of Īś-rā-ēl have I made known that which shall surely be.

10 The princes of Jûd-āh were like them that remove the bound: *therefore* I will pour out my wrath upon them like water.

11 Ē-phrā-īm is oppressed and broken in judgment, because he willingly walked after the commandment.

12 Therefore will I be unto Ē-phrā-īm as a moth, and to the house of Jûd-āh as rottenness.

13 When Ē-phrā-īm saw his sickness, and Jûd-āh saw his wound, then went Ē-phrā-īm to the Ās-syr-ī-ān, and sent to king Jâr-ēb: yet could he not heal you, nor cure you of your wound.

14 For I will be unto Ē-phrā-īm as a lion, and as a young lion to the house of Jûd-āh: I, *even* I, will tear and go away; I will take away, and none shall rescue *him*.

15 ¶ I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early.

## CHAPTER 6

**C**OME, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

2 After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

3 Then shall we know, *if* we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.

4 ¶ O Ē-phrā-īm, what shall I do unto thee? O Jûd-âh, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away.

5 Therefore have I hewed *them* by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth: and thy judgments *are* as the light *that* goeth forth.

6 For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.

7 But they like men have transgressed the covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me.

8 Gîl-ê-âd is a city of them that work iniquity, *and* is polluted with blood.

9 And as troops of robbers wait for a man, so the company of priests murder in the way by consent: for they commit lewdness.

10 I have seen an horrible thing in the house of Īś-rā-êl: there is the whoredom of Ē-phrā-īm, Īś-rā-êl is defiled.

11 Also, O Jûd-âh, he hath set an harvest for thee, when I returned the captivity of my people.

#### CHAPTER 7

**W**HEN I would have healed Īś-rā-êl, then the iniquity of Ē-phrā-īm was discovered, and the wickedness of Să-mâr-î-ă: for they commit falsehood; and the thief cometh in, *and* the troop of robbers spoileth without.

2 And they consider not in their hearts *that* I remember all their wickedness: now their own doings have beset them about; they are before my face.

3 They make the king glad with their wickedness, and the princes with

their lies.

4 They *are* all adulterers, as an oven heated by the baker, *who* ceaseth from raising after he hath kneaded the dough, until it be leavened.

5 In the day of our king the princes have made *him* sick with bottles of wine; he stretched out his hand with scorn.

6 For they have made ready their heart like an oven, whiles they lie in wait: their baker sleepeth all the night; in the morning it burneth as a flaming fire.

7 They are all hot as an oven, and have devoured their judges; all their kings are fallen: *there* is none among them that calleth unto me.

8 Ē-phrā-īm, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ē-phrā-īm is a cake not turned.

9 Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knoweth *it* not: yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not.

10 And the pride of Īś-rā-êl testifieth to his face: and they do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek him for all this.

11 ¶ Ē-phrā-īm also is like a silly dove without heart: they call to Ē-gÿpt, they go to Ās-sÿr-î-ă.

12 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.

13 Woe unto them! for they have fled from me: destruction unto them! because they have transgressed against me: though I have redeemed them, yet they have spoken lies against me.

14 And they have not cried unto me

with their heart, when they howled upon their beds: they assemble themselves for corn and wine, *and* they rebel against me.

15 Though I have bound *and* strengthened their arms, yet do they imagine mischief against me.

16 They return, *but* not to the most High: they are like a deceitful bow: their princes shall fall by the sword for the rage of their tongue: this *shall* be their derision in the land of Ē'ġypt.

## CHAPTER 8

**S**ET the trumpet to thy mouth. *He shall come* as an eagle against the house of the LORD, because they have transgressed my covenant, and trespassed against my law.

2 Īs'-rā-ēl shall cry unto me, My God, we know thee.

3 Īs'-rā-ēl hath cast off *the thing that is good*: the enemy shall pursue him.

4 They have set up kings, but not by me: they have made princes, and I knew *it* not: of their silver and their gold have they made them idols, that they may be cut off.

5 ¶ Thy calf, O Sā-mār-ī-ā, hath cast *thee* off; mine anger is kindled against them: how long *will it be* ere they attain to innocency?

6 For from Īs'-rā-ēl was it also: the workman made it; therefore it *is* not God: but the calf of Sā-mār-ī-ā shall be broken in pieces.

7 For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind: it hath no stalk: the bud shall yield no meal: if so be it yield, the strangers shall swallow it up.

8 Īs'-rā-ēl is swallowed up: now shall they be among the Ġen'-tīlēs as a vessel wherein *is* no pleasure.

9 For they are gone up to Ās-sŷr-ī-ā, a

wild ass alone by himself: Ē'-phrā-īm hath hired lovers.

10 Yea, though they have hired among the nations, now will I gather them, and they shall sorrow a little for the burden of the king of princes.

11 Because Ē'-phrā-īm hath made many altars to sin, altars shall be unto him to sin.

12 I have written to him the great things of my law, *but* they were counted as a strange thing.

13 They sacrifice flesh *for* the sacrifices of mine offerings, and eat *it*; *but* the LORD accepteth them not; now will he remember their iniquity, and visit their sins: they shall return to Ē'-ġypt.

14 For Īs'-rā-ēl hath forgotten his Maker, and buildeth temples; and Ŷūd-āh hath multiplied fenced cities: but I will send a fire upon his cities, and it shall devour the palaces thereof.

## CHAPTER 9

**R**EJOICE not, O Īs'-rā-ēl, for joy, as *Rother* people: for thou hast gone a whoring from thy God, thou hast loved a reward upon every cornfloor.

2 The floor and the winepress shall not feed them, and the new wine shall fail in her.

3 They shall not dwell in the LORD'S land; but Ē'-phrā-īm shall return to Ē'-ġypt, and they shall eat unclean *things* in Ās-sŷr-ī-ā.

4 They shall not offer wine *offerings* to the LORD, neither shall they be pleasing unto him: their sacrifices *shall be* unto them as the bread of mourners; all that eat thereof shall be polluted: for their bread for their soul shall not come into the house of the LORD.

5 What will ye do in the solemn day, and in the day of the feast of the LORD?

6 For, lo, they are gone because of destruction: Ē-ġypt shall gather them up, Mēm-phīs shall bury them: the pleasant *places* for their silver, nettles shall possess them: thorns *shall be* in their tabernacles.

7 The days of visitation are come, the days of recompence are come; Īś-rā-ēl shall know *it*: the prophet is a fool, the spiritual man is mad, for the multitude of thine iniquity, and the great hatred.

8 The watchman of Ē-phrā-īm was with my God: *but* the prophet is a snare of a fowler in all his ways, and hatred in the house of his God.

9 They have deeply corrupted *themselves*, as in the days of Ġīb-ē-āh: *therefore* he will remember their iniquity, he will visit their sins.

10 I found Īś-rā-ēl like grapes in the wilderness; I saw your fathers as the firstripe in the fig tree at her first time: *but* they went to Bā-āl-pē-ōr, and separated themselves unto *that* shame; and *their* abominations were according as they loved.

11 As for Ē-phrā-īm, their glory shall fly away like a bird, from the birth, and from the womb, and from the conception.

12 Though they bring up their children, yet will I bereave them, *that there shall not be* a man left: yea, woe also to them when I depart from them!

13 Ē-phrā-īm, as I saw Tŷ-rūs, is planted in a pleasant place: but Ē-phrā-īm shall bring forth his children to the murderer.

14 Give them, O LORD: what wilt thou

give? give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts.

15 All their wickedness is in Ġil-gāl: for there I hated them: for the wickedness of their doings I will drive them out of mine house, I will love them no more: all their princes are revolvers.

16 Ē-phrā-īm is smitten, their root is dried up, they shall bear no fruit: yea, though they bring forth, yet will I slay *even* the beloved *fruit* of their womb.

17 My God will cast them away, because they did not hearken unto him: and they shall be wanderers among the nations.

#### CHAPTER 10

Īś-rā-ēl is an empty vine, he bringeth forth fruit unto himself: according to the multitude of his fruit he hath increased the altars; according to the goodness of his land they have made goodly images.

2 Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty: he shall break down their altars, he shall spoil their images.

3 For now they shall say, We have no king, because we feared not the LORD; what then should a king do to us?

4 They have spoken words, swearing falsely in making a covenant: thus judgment springeth up as hemlock in the furrows of the field.

5 The inhabitants of Sā-mâr-ī-ā shall fear because of the calves of Bēth-ā-vēn: for the people thereof shall mourn over it, and the priests thereof *that* rejoiced on it, for the glory thereof, because it is departed from it.

6 It shall be also carried unto Ās-sŷr-ī-ā for a present to king Jār-ēb: Ē-phrā-īm shall receive shame, and Īś-rā-ēl shall be ashamed of his own

counsel.

7 As for Sā-mâr-î-ă, her king is cut off as the foam upon the water.

8 The high places also of Ā-vën, the sin of Īś-rā-ël, shall be destroyed: 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.

9 O Īś-rā-ël, thou hast sinned from the days of Gīb-ě-ăh: there they stood: the battle in Gīb-ě-ăh against the children of iniquity did not overtake them.

10 *It is* in my desire that I should chastise them; and the people shall be gathered against them, when they shall bind themselves in their two furrows.

11 And Ē-phră-îm is as an heifer *that is* taught, and loveth to tread out the corn; but I passed over upon her fair neck: I will make Ē-phră-îm to ride; Jûd-ăh shall plow, and Jā-cōb shall break his clods.

12 Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for *it is* time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.

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

14 Therefore shall a tumult arise among thy people, and all thy fortresses shall be spoiled, as Shāl-măn spoiled Běth-ăr-běl in the day of battle: the mother was dashed in pieces upon *her* children.

15 So shall Běth-ěl do unto you because of your great wickedness: in a morning shall the king of Īś-rā-ël utterly be cut off.

## CHAPTER 11

WHEN Īś-rā-ël was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Ē-gÿpt.

2 As they called them, so they went from them: they sacrificed unto Bā-ă-lîm, and burned incense to graven images.

3 I taught Ē-phră-îm also to go, taking them by their arms; but they knew not that I healed them.

4 I drew them with cords of a man, with bands of love: and I was to them as they that take off the yoke on their jaws, and I laid meat unto them.

5 ¶ He shall not return into the land of Ē-gÿpt, but the Ās-sÿr-î-ăn shall be his king, because they refused to return.

6 And the sword shall abide on his cities, and shall consume his branches, and devour *them*, because of their own counsels.

7 And my people are bent to backsliding from me: though they called them to the most High, none at all would exalt *him*.

8 How shall I give thee up, Ē-phră-îm? how shall I deliver thee, Īś-rā-ël? how shall I make thee as Ād-măh? how shall I set thee as Zě-bō-îm? mine heart is turned within me, my repentings are kindled together.

9 I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ē-phră-îm: for I *am* God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city.

10 They shall walk after the LORD: he shall roar like a lion: when he shall roar, then the children shall tremble from the west.

11 They shall tremble as a bird out of Ē-gÿpt, and as a dove out of the land

of Ās-sŷr-ī-ā: and I will place them in their houses, saith the LORD.

12 Ē-phrā-īm compasseth me about with lies, and the house of Īś-rā-ēl with deceit: but Jūd-āh yet ruleth with God, and is faithful with the saints.

## CHAPTER 12

Ē-phrā-īm feedeth on wind, and followeth after the east wind: he daily increaseth lies and desolation; and they do make a covenant with the Ās-sŷr-ī-āns, and oil is carried into Ē-gŷpt.

2 The LORD hath also a controversy with Jūd-āh, and will punish Jā-cōb according to his ways; according to his doings will he recompense him.

3 ¶ He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and by his strength he had power with God:

4 Yea, he had power over the angel, and prevailed: he wept, and made supplication unto him: he found him in Bēth-ēl, and there he spake with us;

5 Even the LORD God of hosts; the LORD is his memorial.

6 Therefore turn thou to thy God: keep mercy and judgment, and wait on thy God continually.

7 ¶ *He* is a merchant, the balances of deceit are in his hand: he loveth to oppress.

8 And Ē-phrā-īm said, Yet I am become rich, I have found me out substance: in all my labours they shall find none iniquity in me that were sin.

9 And I *that am* the LORD thy God from the land of Ē-gŷpt will yet make thee to dwell in tabernacles, as in the days of the solemn feast.

10 I have also spoken by the prophets, and I have multiplied visions, and

used similitudes, by the ministry of the prophets.

11 *Is there* iniquity in Gīl-ē-ād? surely they are vanity: they sacrifice bullocks in Gīl-gāl; yea, their altars are as heaps in the furrows of the fields.

12 And Jā-cōb fled into the country of Sŷr-ī-ā, and Īś-rā-ēl served for a wife, and for a wife he kept *sheep*.

13 And by a prophet the LORD brought Īś-rā-ēl out of Ē-gŷpt, and by a prophet was he preserved.

14 Ē-phrā-īm provoked *him* to anger most bitterly: therefore shall he leave his blood upon him, and his reproach shall his LORD return unto him.

## CHAPTER 13

WHEN Ē-phrā-īm spake trembling, he exalted himself in Īś-rā-ēl; but when he offended in Bā-āl, he died.

2 And now they sin more and more, and have made them molten images of their silver, and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen: they say of them, Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves.

3 Therefore they shall be as the morning cloud, and as the early dew that passeth away, as the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the floor, and as the smoke out of the chimney.

4 Yet I am the LORD thy God from the land of Ē-gŷpt, and thou shalt know no god but me: for *there is* no saviour beside me.

5 ¶ I did know thee in the wilderness, in the land of great drought.

6 According to their pasture, so were they filled; they were filled, and their heart was exalted; therefore have they forgotten me.

7 Therefore I will be unto them as a lion: as a leopard by the way will I observe *them*:

8 I will meet them as a bear *that is bereaved of her whelps*, and will rend the caul of their heart, and there will I devour them like a lion: the wild beast shall tear them.

9 ¶ O ʾĪś-rā-ēl, thou hast destroyed thyself; but in me is thine help.

10 I will be thy king: where is *any other* that may save thee in all thy cities? and thy judges of whom thou saidst, Give me a king and princes?

11 I gave thee a king in mine anger, and took *him* away in my wrath.

12 The iniquity of Ē-phrā-īm is bound up; his sin is hid.

13 The sorrows of a travailing woman shall come upon him: he is an unwise son; for he should not stay long in *the place of the breaking forth of children*.

14 I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.

15 ¶ Though he be fruitful among *his brethren*, an east wind shall come, the wind of the LORD shall come up from the wilderness, and his spring shall become dry, and his fountain shall be dried up: he shall spoil the treasure of all pleasant vessels.

16 Sā-mâr-î-ā shall become desolate; for she hath rebelled against her God: they shall fall by the sword: their infants shall be dashed in pieces, and their women with child shall be

ripped up.

## CHAPTER 14

O ʾĪś-rā-ēl, return unto the LORD thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity.

2 Take with you words, and turn to the LORD: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive *us* graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips.

3 Āssh-ūr shall not save us; we will not ride upon horses: neither will we say any more to the work of our hands, *Ye are* our gods: for in thee the fatherless findeth mercy.

4 ¶ I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him.

5 I will be as the dew unto ʾĪś-rā-ēl: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lēb-ā-ṇōn.

6 His branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lēb-ā-ṇōn.

7 They that dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive *as the corn*, and grow as the vine: the scent thereof *shall be* as the wine of Lēb-ā-ṇōn.

8 Ē-phrā-īm *shall say*, What have I to do any more with idols? I have heard *him*, and observed him: I *am* like a green fir tree. From me is thy fruit found.

9 Who is wise, and he shall understand these *things*? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the LORD *are* right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall therein.