

HŌ-ŠĒ-Ā

CHAPTER 1

THE word of the LORD that came unto HŌ-šĕ-ā, the son of Bēer-ī, in the days of Ūz-zī-āh, Jō-thām, Ā-hāz, and Hēz-ē-kī-āh, kings of Jûd-āh, and in the days of Jēr-ō-bō-ām the son of Jō-āsh, king of Īs-rā-ēl.

2 The beginning of the word of the LORD by Hŏ-šĕ-ā. And the LORD said to Hŏ-šĕ-ā, 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 Jĕz-rēel; for yet a little *while*, and I will avenge the blood of Jĕz-rēel upon the house of Jĕ-hū, and will cause to cease the kingdom of the house of Īs-rā-ēl.

5 And it shall come to pass at that day, that I will break the bow of Īs-rā-ēl in the valley of Jĕz-rēel.

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

7 But I will have mercy upon the house of Jûd-āh, 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-hā-māh, she conceived, and bare a son.

9 Then said God, Call his name Lō-ām-mī: for ye *are* not my people, and I will not be your God.

10 ¶ Yet the number of the children of Īs-rā-ēl 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-āh and the children of Īs-rā-ēl be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land: for great *shall* be the day of Jĕz-rēel.

CHAPTER 2

SAY ye unto your brethren, Ām-mī; and to your sisters, Rû-hā-māh.

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-īm, 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-gÿpt.

16 And it shall be at that day, saith the LORD, *that* thou shalt call me Īsh-ī; and shalt call me no more Bā-āl-ī.

17 For I will take away the names of Bā-āl-īm 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 Jēz-reel.

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

THEN 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 Īś-rā-ël, 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-mēr 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 ʾĪś-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 ʾĪś-rā-ēl return, and seek the LORD their God, and Dā-vid their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.

CHAPTER 4

HEAR the word of the LORD, ye children of ʾĪś-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, ʾĪś-rā-ēl, play the harlot, *yet* let not Jūd-āh offend; and come not ye unto Gīl-gāl, neither go ye up to Bēth-ā-vēn, nor swear, The LORD liveth.

16 For ʾĪś-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

HEAR 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

COME, 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-āh, 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 GĪl-ě-ād 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-ěl: there is the whoredom of Ē-phrā-īm, Īś-rā-ěl is defiled.

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

CHAPTER 7

WHEN I would have healed Īś-rā-ěl, then the iniquity of Ē-phrā-īm was discovered, and the wickedness of Sā-mār-ī-ā: 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 scorners.

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-ěl 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-ġypt, they go to Ās-sūr-ī-ā.

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

SET 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 Īś-rā-ēl shall cry unto me, My God, we know thee.

3 Īś-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-mâr-î-ă, hath cast *thee* off; mine anger is kindled against them: how long *will it be* ere they attain to innocency?

6 For from Īś-rā-ēl was it also: the workman made it; therefore it is not God: but the calf of Sā-mâr-î-ă 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 Īś-rā-ēl is swallowed up: now shall they be among the Ĝĕn-tileš as a vessel wherein is no pleasure.

9 For they are gone up to Ās-sÿr-î-ă, a wild ass alone by himself: Ē-phră-îm 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-phră-îm 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-gÿpt.

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

CHAPTER 9

REJOICE not, O Īś-rā-ēl, for joy, as *other* 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-phră-îm shall return to Ē-gÿpt, and they shall eat unclean *things* in Ās-sÿr-î-ă.

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-gÿpt shall gather them up, Mĕm-phîš 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-phră-îm 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 Gĭb-ĕ-āh: *therefore* he will remember their iniquity, he will visit their sins.

10 I found Īś-rā-ĕl 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 Tȳ-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 Gĭl-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-ĕl 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-ĭ-ā shall fear because of the calves of Bēth-ā-vĕn: 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-sȳr-ĭ-ā for a present to king Jâr-ĕb: Ē-phrā-īm shall receive shame, and Īś-rā-ĕl shall be ashamed of his own counsel.

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

8 The high places also of Ā-vĕn, the sin of Īś-rā-ĕl, 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-ĕl, thou hast sinned from the days of Gĭb-ĕ-āh: there they stood: the battle in Gĭb-ĕ-āh 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-phrā-īm 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-phrā-īm to ride; Jûd-āh 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-mān spoiled Bēth-ār-bēl in the day of battle: the mother was dashed in pieces upon *her* children.

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

CHAPTER 11

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

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

3 I taught Ē-phrā-īm 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-gypt, but the Ās-syr-ī-ān 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-phrā-īm? how shall I deliver thee, Īś-rā-ēl? how shall I make thee as Ād-māh? how shall I set thee as Zē-bō-īm? 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-phrā-īm: 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-gypt, and as a dove out of the land of Ās-syr-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-syr-ī-āns, and oil is carried into Ē-gypt.

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 Ġil-ě-ād? surely they are vanity: they sacrifice bullocks in Ġil-gāl; yea, their altars *are* as heaps in the furrows of the fields.

12 And Jā-qōb fled into the country of Šŷr-ī-ā, and Īš-rā-ěl served for a wife, and for a wife he kept *sheep*.

13 And by a prophet the LORD brought Īš-rā-ěl 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 Īš-rā-ěl; 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 Īš-rā-ěl, 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 Šă-mâr-ĭ-ă 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 ĩs-rā-ěl, 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-úr 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 ĩs-rā-ěl: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lĕb-ă-nŏn.

6 His branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lĕb-ă-nŏn.

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 Lĕb-ă-nŏn.

8 Ē-phră-ĭm *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.