

Hosea 1:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then shall the children of Judah and the children of Israel be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land: for great shall be the day of Jezreel.

Analysis

The reversal promise: 'Then shall the children of Judah and the children of Israel be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land: for great shall be the day of Jezreel.' Despite three names of judgment, hope emerges. The divided kingdoms (split since 931 BC) will reunite under 'one head'—ultimately fulfilled in Christ, who gathers scattered Israel and makes Jews and Gentiles one (John 10:16, Ephesians 2:14-16). 'Come up out of the land' references both exodus from Egypt and return from exile, prophetically fulfilled in the greater Exodus accomplished by Christ (Luke 9:31, Greek 'exodus'). 'Great shall be the day of Jezreel' transforms the name from scattering to sowing (God sows His people in the earth, 2:23). This demonstrates God's redemptive pattern: judgment isn't His final word; restoration follows for those who repent. The cross makes possible what seemed impossible: rebels becoming children, exiles coming home, scattered people regathered.

Historical Context

Politically, Israel and Judah never reunited. The northern kingdom disappeared in 722 BC; Judah fell in 586 BC. Return from Babylon (538 BC onward) involved only Judah, Benjamin, and Levites. Yet prophecy's fulfillment transcended political expectations: Jesus gathered disciples from all tribes, and Pentecost inaugurated

the reunited people of God (Acts 2). Early church included both Jews and Samaritans (descendants of northern kingdom remnant, John 4, Acts 8). The 'one head' is Christ (Ephesians 1:22, Colossians 1:18), who creates one new humanity (Ephesians 2:15). Jezreel's transformation from judgment to blessing illustrates Romans 8:28: God works all things for good, even using judgment redemptively.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does the promise of Israel and Judah reuniting under 'one head' find fulfillment in Christ bringing unity to His diverse church?
2. What does Jezreel's transformed meaning (from scattering to sowing) teach about God's redemptive ability to bring blessing from judgment?

Interlinear Text

וַיִּקְבְּצוּ be gathered H6908	וּבְנֵי Then shall the children H1121	יְהוּדָה of Judah H3063	וּבְנֵי Then shall the children H1121	יִשְׂרָאֵל of Israel H3478
יַחְדָּו together H3162	וַיִּשְׁמָו and appoint H7760	רֹאשׁ לָהֶם head H7218	אֶחָד themselves one H259	וַיָּעֹלּוּ and they shall come up H5927
מִן H4480	הָאָרֶץ out of the land H776	כִּי H3588	גָּדוֹל for great H1419	יִזְרְעֵאל shall be the day H3117
				וּבְנֵי of Jezreel H3157

Additional Cross-References

Hosea 3:5 (References Israel): Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days.

Jeremiah 31:33 (References Israel): But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

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