

Hosea 10:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So shall Beth-el do unto you because of your great wickedness: in a morning shall the king of Israel utterly be cut off.

Analysis

Seeking God in dawn: '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.' Repeats 5:15, emphasizing God's withdrawal until they acknowledge guilt (מַשְׁאַמָּן, asham) and seek (בִּקְשָׁה, biqesh) His face. The phrase בָּאָר לְהַמִּשְׁחָרָרְנִי (batssar lahem yeshacharuneni, in distress they will seek Me early/diligently) suggests dawn-seeking—earnest, early-morning pursuit. This demonstrates that God uses affliction redemptively: suffering driving people to seek Him. Divine withdrawal intends eventual return. Christ ends separation, providing permanent access (Hebrews 10:19-22).

Historical Context

The promise that affliction produces seeking proved true historically: exile eventually produced remnant seeking YHWH (Daniel 9, Ezra 9, Nehemiah 9). Post-exilic Judaism showed renewed Torah commitment. Yet full seeking awaited Messiah's coming—Jesus being sought by both Jews and Gentiles. The pattern (apostasy, affliction, seeking, restoration) appears throughout Judges and prophets. Archaeological evidence shows post-exilic Jewish communities maintaining stronger covenant identity than pre-exilic period. This demonstrates that God's disciplinary judgments serve redemptive purposes—not destroying but refining, not abandoning but purifying.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does God's withdrawal 'till they acknowledge offence' demonstrate that repentance is prerequisite for restoration?
2. What does 'in affliction they will seek Me early' teach about suffering's role in driving people to God?

Interlinear Text

רְעִתָּךְ	מִפְנֵי	אֵל	בֵּית	לְכֶם	עִשְׂה	הַכָּה	בְּעִתָּךְ	מִפְנֵי	רְעִתָּךְ
So	do	H0	H0	shall Bethel	unto you because		of your great		
H3602	H6213			H1008		H6440		H7451	

מִשְׁבָּאֵל:	לְרַב	נִצְמָה	נִצְמָה	בְּשָׁמֶר	בְּשָׁמֶר	בְּעִתָּךְ	מִשְׁבָּאֵל:	לְרַב	בְּעִתָּךְ
of Israel	shall the king	be cut off	be cut off	in a morning	be cut off	of your great	of Israel	shall the king	be cut off
H3478	H4428	H1820	H1820	H7837	H1820	H7451			

Additional Cross-References

Hosea 10:5 (Parallel theme): The inhabitants of Samaria shall fear because of the calves of Beth-aven: 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.

Hosea 10:7 (Kingdom): As for Samaria, her king is cut off as the foam upon the water.