

Hosea 10:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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

Analysis

Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty: he shall break down their altars, he shall spoil their images. Divided heart means double-minded - attempting to serve both YHWH and Baal. James 1:8 warns: double-minded man is unstable in all his ways. Found faulty means held guilty. Result: God destroys their altars and images. Syncretism is unacceptable; God demands exclusive devotion. Jesus taught: No one can serve two masters (Matthew 6:24). Only whole-hearted devotion to Christ honors God.

Historical Context

Israel's entire history featured divided loyalty - mixing YHWH worship with Baal cult, maintaining Jeroboam's calves while claiming covenant faithfulness. This syncretism proved their guilt. Assyrian conquest destroyed their altars and images, fulfilling the prophecy. Modern parallel: attempting to blend biblical faith with cultural idolatry produces spiritual instability. Only exclusive Christ-devotion provides stability.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. In what ways is my heart divided between devotion to God and other loves or loyalties?
2. How does double-mindedness inevitably lead to being found faulty and losing even compromised worship?

Interlinear Text

קָלָל	לִבָּם	עַתָּה	יֵאָשׁוּמוּ	הוּא
is divided	Their heart	H6258	now shall they be found faulty	H1931
H2505	H3820		H816	
יִשָּׁרֵף	מִזְבְּחוֹתָם	יִשָּׁדֵד	מִצְבֹּתָם:	
he shall break down	their altars	he shall spoil	their images	
H6202	H4196	H7703	H4676	

Additional Cross-References

1 Kings 18:21 (Parallel theme): And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word.

Micah 5:13 (Parallel theme): Thy graven images also will I cut off, and thy standing images out of the midst of thee; and thou shalt no more worship the work of thine hands.

James 4:4 (Parallel theme): Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

James 1:8 (Parallel theme): A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

Zephaniah 1:5 (Parallel theme): And them that worship the host of heaven upon the housetops; and them that worship and that swear by the LORD, and that swear by Malcham;

