

Hosea 14:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Asshur 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.

Analysis

Asshur 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. Comprehensive renunciation: no trusting Assyria (foreign alliances), no trusting horses (military power), no trusting handmade idols. Positive declaration: in thee fatherless finds mercy. This demonstrates true repentance - turning from false securities to God alone. Orphan metaphor emphasizes total dependence - no other resource. Only God shows mercy to helpless. Christ embodies this: we are adopted as children through Him (Ephesians 1:5).

Historical Context

This summarizes Israel's three main sins: political alliances (Assyria), military trust (horses/chariots), and idolatry (work of hands). True repentance renounces all. The fatherless finding mercy shows God's character - He helps helpless. Modern application: genuine conversion requires comprehensive turning - from all false securities to Christ alone. Half measures don't constitute true repentance. Only exclusive trust in God's mercy saves.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What Assyrias, horses, or handmade gods do I still trust instead of depending solely on God?
2. How does recognition that I am spiritually fatherless drive me to God for mercy found only in Him?

Interlinear Text

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|--------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| אֲשׁוּרִים | לֹא | יִשְׁעוּנוּ | עַל | סוּסִים | לֹא | נִכְבְּנוּ |
| Asshur | H3808 | shall not save | H5921 | upon horses | H3808 | us we will not ride |
| H804 | | H3467 | | H5483 | | H7392 |
| וְלֹא | נֵאמַר | עוֹד | אֱלֹהֵינוּ | לְמַעַשׂה | | |
| H3808 | neither will we say | H5750 | Ye are our gods | any more to the work | | |
| | H559 | | H430 | H4639 | | |
| יְדֵינוּ | אֲשֶׁר | בְּךָ | יְהִי־ם | יִתְּנוּם: | | |
| of our hands | H834 | H0 | findeth mercy | for in thee the fatherless | | |
| H3027 | | | H7355 | H3490 | | |

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 10:14 (Parallel theme): Thou hast seen it; for thou beholdest mischief and spite, to requite it with thy hand: the poor committeth himself unto thee; thou art the helper of the fatherless.

Psalms 68:5 (References God): A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, is God in his holy habitation.

Psalms 33:17 (Parallel theme): An horse is a vain thing for safety: neither shall he deliver any by his great strength.

Isaiah 31:1 (Parallel theme): Woe to them that go down to Egypt for help; and stay on horses, and trust in chariots, because they are many; and in horsemen,

because they are very strong; but they look not unto the Holy One of Israel, neither seek the LORD!

Isaiah 30:16 (Parallel theme): But ye said, No; for we will flee upon horses; therefore shall ye flee: and, We will ride upon the swift; therefore shall they that pursue you be swift.

John 14:18 (Parallel theme): I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

Hosea 5:13 (Parallel theme): When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah saw his wound, then went Ephraim to the Assyrian, and sent to king Jareb: yet could he not heal you, nor cure you of your wound.

Hosea 2:17 (Parallel theme): For I will take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth, and they shall no more be remembered by their name.

Hosea 14:8 (Parallel theme): Ephraim 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.