

# Hosea 6:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Also, O Judah, he hath set an harvest for thee, when I returned the captivity of my people.

## Analysis

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Also, O Judah, he hath set an harvest for thee, when I returned the captivity of my people.' Despite focus on Israel, Judah isn't exempt - God has 'set a harvest' (judgment) for them also. 'When I returned captivity' creates interpretive challenge: does return bring blessing or judgment? Likely both - restoration includes accountability. Judah will also face harvest (judgment for sin) even amid restoration promises. This warns: divine mercy to one group doesn't exempt others from accountability. All must give account (Romans 14:12). Yet 'harvest' can be positive (Matthew 13:30, gathering wheat). Through Christ, judgment-harvest becomes blessing-harvest for believers.

## Historical Context

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Judah survived Israel's fall (722 BC) but eventually faced Babylonian exile (586 BC) - their 'harvest.' The return from exile (538 BC onward) included both blessing (restoration) and judgment (ongoing accountability, Ezra-Nehemiah reforms). Prophets to post-exilic community (Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi) continued calling for repentance. That Judah faced harvest despite Israel's judgment warns against presuming privilege exempts from accountability. Modern application: God's patience with some doesn't indicate approval; judgment postponed isn't judgment cancelled. Only repentance and faith avert coming harvest.

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How does Judah's coming 'harvest' despite Israel's judgment warn against presuming God's patience indicates approval?
2. In what ways does Christ transform judgment-harvest into blessing-harvest for those who trust Him?

## Interlinear Text

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גַּם	יְהוּדָה	שָׁת	קָצִיר	לְךָ	בְּשׁוּבִי
H1571	Also O Judah	he hath set	an harvest	H0	for thee when I returned
	H3063	H7896	H7105		H7725

שָׁב וְ	עַמִּי:
the captivity	of my people
H7622	H5971

## Additional Cross-References

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**Joel 3:13** (Parallel theme): Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness is great.

**Job 42:10** (Parallel theme): And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

**Jeremiah 51:33** (Parallel theme): For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; The daughter of Babylon is like a threshingfloor, it is time to thresh her: yet a little while, and the time of her harvest shall come.

**Revelation 14:15** (Parallel theme): And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.

**Psalms 126:1** (Parallel theme): When the LORD turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream.

**Micah 4:12** (Parallel theme): But they know not the thoughts of the LORD, neither understand they his counsel: for he shall gather them as the sheaves into the floor.

**Zephaniah 2:7** (Parallel theme): And the coast shall be for the remnant of the house of Judah; they shall feed thereupon: in the houses of Ashkelon shall they lie down in the evening: for the LORD their God shall visit them, and turn away their captivity.