

Hosea 6:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.

Analysis

Resurrection promise: 'After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.' This profound prophecy uses resurrection imagery: יְחַיֵּנוּ (yechayenu, 'revive us'), יְקַיֵּנוּ (yeqimenu, 'raise us up'), נִיחַיָּה (nichyeh, 'we shall live'). The 'third day' language anticipates Christ's resurrection (Luke 24:46, 1 Corinthians 15:4). While immediate context references Israel's hoped-for quick restoration (a superficial repentance, as v.4 reveals), the ultimate fulfillment is Christ rising the third day, bringing life to all who believe. The phrase 'live in his sight' (לְפָנָיו, lefanav—before His face) describes covenant presence restored. This demonstrates that all Old Testament hope finds fulfillment in Christ's resurrection, which guarantees our resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:20-23).

Historical Context

In context, this verse forms part of Israel's shallow repentance (6:1-3)—words without heart transformation. They expected quick restoration ('two days...third day') without genuine repentance, treating God's mercy as automatic. Yet the 'third day' language became prophetically significant: Jesus rose the third day, validating His identity and work. Early church recognized this connection, citing it as prophecy fulfilled (Acts 10:40, 1 Corinthians 15:4). Jewish interpretation sees 'third day' as deliverance day (Genesis 22:4, 42:18, Exodus 19:16, Joshua 2:16). Archaeological evidence shows Israel's historical restorations were never easy or

quick, exposing their presumptuous expectation. True restoration came only through Christ's resurrection.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's third-day resurrection transform this verse from Israel's shallow hope into certain promise for believers?
2. What distinguishes genuine repentance leading to spiritual resurrection from shallow repentance expecting quick restoration without transformation?
3. How does 'living in His sight' (ongoing covenant presence) differ from mere deliverance from consequences?

Interlinear Text

וְנִחְיֶה	בַּיּוֹם	בַּיּוֹם	בַּיּוֹם	הַשְׁלִישִׁי	וְנִצְמַת
and we shall live	After two days	After two days	us in the third	he will raise us up	
H2421	H3117	H3117	H7992		H6965
לְפָנָיו:	וְנִחְיֶה				
and we shall live	in his sight				
H2421	H6440				

Additional Cross-References

2 Kings 20:5 (Parallel theme): Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer,

I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD.

1 Corinthians 15:4 (Parallel theme): And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

Isaiah 26:19 (Resurrection): Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead.

John 14:19 (Parallel theme): Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.

Hosea 13:14 (Parallel theme): I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.