

Hosea 6:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But they like men have transgressed the covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me.

Analysis

But they like men have transgressed the covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me.' 'Like men' (ke-adam) might reference Adam's covenant breaking in Eden (Romans 5:12-19) or mean 'like mere humans' (expecting higher standard from covenant people). 'Transgressed covenant' (avaru brit) describes deliberate violation. 'Dealt treacherously' (bagdu) means betrayed trust - covenant infidelity. This connects Israel's sin with humanity's pattern: covenant breaking from Adam forward. Romans 5:19 contrasts: 'by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.' Only Christ's perfect covenant keeping saves covenant breakers.

Historical Context

If 'Adam' refers to person (Genesis 2-3), this connects Israel's sin with original sin - same pattern of covenant rebellion. If Adam is place name (Joshua 3:16), it references specific location of Israel's covenant breaking. Either reading emphasizes deliberate treachery against God's covenant. Israel repeated Adam's sin: given divine law, they chose disobedience; given covenant relationship, they betrayed it. This universal pattern (all sinned, Romans 3:23) requires universal solution - Christ's atonement. His perfect obedience fulfills covenant requirements we violated.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does my covenant breaking repeat Adam's pattern of choosing disobedience despite divine blessing?
2. In what ways does Christ's covenant faithfulness contrast with both Adam's and my covenant breaking, providing hope?

Interlinear Text

וְהֵם	כְּאֲדָם	עָבְרוּ	בְּרִית	שֶׁם
H1992	But they like men	have transgressed	the covenant	H8033
	H120	H5674	H1285	
	וְהֵם	כְּאֲדָם		
	there have they dealt treacherously	H0		
	H898			

Additional Cross-References

Hosea 8:1 (Covenant): Set the trumpet to thy mouth. He shall come as an eagle against the house of the LORD, because they have transgressed my covenant, and trespassed against my law.

Hosea 5:7 (Parallel theme): They have dealt treacherously against the LORD: for they have begotten strange children: now shall a month devour them with their portions.

Job 31:33 (Parallel theme): If I covered my transgressions as Adam, by hiding mine iniquity in my bosom:

Jeremiah 9:6 (Parallel theme): Thine habitation is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know me, saith the LORD.

Genesis 3:11 (Parallel theme): And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

Genesis 3:6 (Parallel theme): And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.