

# Hosea 9:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Rejoice not, O Israel, for joy, as other people: for thou hast gone a whoring from thy God, thou hast loved a reward upon every cornfloor.

## Analysis

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Rejoice not, O Israel, for joy, as other people: for thou hast gone a whoring from thy God, thou hast loved a reward upon every cornfloor.' Israel warned against rejoicing like pagans celebrating harvest. Their harvest festivals dishonored God through attributing provision to Baal and practicing cult prostitution ('loved reward upon every cornfloor'). 'Reward' (ethnan) means prostitute's wages - they treated provision as payment from Baal for ritual sex. This perverted worship. True thanksgiving recognizes God as Provider. James 1:17 declares: 'Every good gift comes from Father of lights.' Only worship acknowledging God's provision honors Him.

## Historical Context

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Harvest festivals in Israel copied Canaanite fertility cult practices - sexual ritual at threshing floors, crediting Baal for crops. Archaeological evidence confirms cult prostitution at high places and agricultural sites. Deuteronomy 26:1-11 prescribed thanksgiving offerings recognizing YHWH as Provider, but Israel corrupted this. Modern parallel: celebration of provision without acknowledging God as source constitutes practical atheism. Only grateful worship recognizing divine providence honors God and sustains blessing.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

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

## Study Questions

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1. How do I ensure thanksgiving for provision acknowledges God as source rather than crediting natural processes or my effort?
2. What does treating divine provision as 'reward from lovers' teach about perversion of worship through misattributing blessings?

## Interlinear Text

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אֶל	תִּשְׂמַח	לֹא	אֶל	גִּיל	כְּעַמִּי	יָם	כִּי
H408	Rejoice	not O Israel	H413	for joy	as other people		H3588
	H8055	H3478		H1524	H5971		
	יָנָה	יָמַע	אֱלֹהֶיךָ	אָהַבְתָּ	אֶתְּ		
	for thou hast gone a whoring	H5921	from thy God	thou hast loved	a reward		
	H2181		H430	H157	H868		
לְ	כָל	גִּבְנֵי	דָגָן:				
H5921	H3605	upon every cornfloor	H1715				
		H1637					

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hosea 10:5** (Parallel theme): The inhabitants of Samaria shall fear because of the calves of Beth-aven: for the people thereof shall mourn over it, and the priests thereof that rejoiced on it, for the glory thereof, because it is departed from it.

**Jeremiah 44:17** (Parallel theme): But we will certainly do whatsoever thing goeth forth out of our own mouth, to burn incense unto the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, as we have done, we, and our fathers, our kings, and

our princes, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem: for then had we plenty of victuals, and were well, and saw no evil.

**Hosea 4:12** (References God): My people ask counsel at their stocks, and their staff declareth unto them: for the spirit of whoredoms hath caused them to err, and they have gone a whoring from under their God.

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