

Hosea 9:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All their wickedness is in Gilgal: for there I hated them: for the wickedness of their doings I will drive them out of mine house, I will love them no more: all their princes are revolters.

Analysis

Gilgal wickedness: 'All their wickedness is in Gilgal: for there I hated them: for the wickedness of their doings I will drive them out of mine house, I will love them no more: all their princes are revolters.' Gilgal identified as wickedness center—כל־תְּעַתָּם בְּגִלְגָּל (kol-ra'atam bagilgal). Divine response: שָׁנָאֲתִים (sene'tim, I hated them), expulsion from בֵּיתִי (veiti, My house), לא אָוֶסֶף אֶחָבָתְמִים (lo osef ahavatam, I will love them no more). All princes סָרָרִים (sorerim, revolters). This demonstrates that persistent covenant violation exhausts divine patience, resulting in covenant love withdrawn. Only Christ's mediation secures unending love (Romans 8:38-39).

Historical Context

Gilgal, originally significant covenant site (Joshua 4:19-24, 5:2-10, 1 Samuel 11:14-15, 15:12-23), became corrupted worship center. Prophets condemned it (Hosea 9:15, 12:11, Amos 4:4, 5:5). What began as place of covenant renewal became place of covenant violation. God's 'hated' (שָׁנָא, sane) uses covenant lawsuit language—legal rejection, not emotional malice. 'Drive out of My house' references expelling from land/covenant community. Archaeological evidence shows Gilgal had significant cultic activity in monarchic period. That such historically important site became center of wickedness demonstrates how far Israel had fallen. Church history shows similar pattern: historically significant sites/institutions sometimes become centers of apostasy.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How can historically significant places of genuine worship (like Gilgal) become centers of corruption and false worship?
2. What does divine 'hatred' (covenant rejection) teach about the seriousness of persistent rebellion despite prior grace?

Interlinear Text

כָּל רָעָתָם בְּגִלְגָּל שׁוֹנְאָתָם עַל
H3605 All their wickedness is in Gilgal H3588 H8033 for there I hated H5921
H7451 H1537 H8130

רְעֵם מַעַלְלִיָּה מִבֵּית אָגָרְשׁ מִלְאָמֵן
them for the wickedness of their doings of mine house I will drive them out H3808
H7455 H4611 H1004 H1644

אָזְסָף כָּל שְׁרִיבָם סְרִירִים: אָזְסָף
them no more I will love H3605 all their princes are revolters H5637
H3254 H160 H8269

Additional Cross-References

Hosea 12:11 (Parallel theme): Is there iniquity in Gilead? surely they are vanity: they sacrifice bullocks in Gilgal; yea, their altars are as heaps in the furrows of the fields.

Hosea 4:15 (Parallel theme): Though thou, Israel, play the harlot, yet let not Judah offend; and come not ye unto Gilgal, neither go ye up to Beth-aven, nor swear, The LORD liveth.

Isaiah 1:23 (Love): Thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves: every one loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards: they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them.

Amos 5:5 (Parallel theme): But seek not Beth-el, nor enter into Gilgal, and pass not to Beer-sheba: for Gilgal shall surely go into captivity, and Beth-el shall come to nought.

1 Samuel 7:16 (Parallel theme): And he went from year to year in circuit to Beth-el, and Gilgal, and Mizpeh, and judged Israel in all those places.

Micah 6:5 (Parallel theme): O my people, remember now what Balak king of Moab consulted, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him from Shittim unto Gilgal; that ye may know the righteousness of the LORD.

Zephaniah 3:3 (Parallel theme): Her princes within her are roaring lions; her judges are evening wolves; they gnaw not the bones till the morrow.

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