

Hosea 9:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The floor and the winepress shall not feed them, and the new wine shall fail in her.

Analysis

Failed expectations: 'The floor and the winepress shall not feed them, and the new wine shall fail her.' The גָּרָה (goren, threshing floor) and בֵּקֶר (yeqev, winepress/wine vat) will not sustain (רָאַה, ra'ah, feed/shepherd) them; תִּירוֹשׁ (tirosh, new wine) will fail/deceive (קָחַשׁ, kachash—deny, disappoint). Agricultural blessing, presumed automatic, will fail. Baal worship aimed at ensuring fertility; result: barrenness. This demonstrates that false worship doesn't deliver promised blessing. Only covenant faithfulness ensures provision (Deuteronomy 28:1-14). Christ provides true bread and wine—Himself—satisfying eternally (John 6:35, 15:1-5).

Historical Context

Israel attributed agricultural blessing to Baal (2:5,8), believing fertility god controlled harvests. Hosea exposes this lie: YHWH, not Baal, provides grain/wine/oil, and withdrawing blessing demonstrates His sovereignty over creation. Archaeological evidence suggests periodic droughts and crop failures in 8th century Levant, which Hosea interprets as divine judgment. The threat fulfills covenant curses (Leviticus 26:19-20, Deuteronomy 28:18,38-42): disobedience produces crop failure. Exile completed this: removed from land, they accessed no harvest. This demonstrates that covenant blessing is conditional on covenant faithfulness—presuming on God's provision while violating His covenant ensures provision withdrawn.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How do people today presume on God's material blessings while living in spiritual unfaithfulness?
2. What does crop failure as judgment teach about God's sovereignty over all natural processes?

Interlinear Text

אָרֶן	בַּיִת	בַּיִת	אָרֶן	לֹא	יְרַעַם	וְתַיְרַע	וְתַיְרַע	בַּיִת
The floor	and the	winepress		H3808	shall not feed	them and the	new wine	shall fail
H1637		H3342			H7462		H8492	H3584

: בְּתַיְרַע

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Additional Cross-References

Hosea 2:9 (Parallel theme): Therefore will I return, and take away my corn in the time thereof, and my wine in the season thereof, and will recover my wool and my flax given to cover her nakedness.

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