

HOSHEA AND THE FALL OF ISRAEL

(2 Kings 17:1-23)

- I. The CHARACTER of Hoshea's Reign (2 Kings 17:1-2)
 - A. CLAIMED the throne by ASSASSINATION (cf. 2 Kings 15:30)
 - B. Ruled for NINE YEARS (732-722 B.C.)
 - C. Did EVIL, but not to the DEGREE of previous kings of Israel

- II. The POLITICS of Hoshea's Reign (2 Kings 17:3-6)
 - A. Began as an Assyrian PUPPET (17:3)
 - B. Conspired to DEFY Assyria (17:4)
 - 1. Attempted to make an alliance with EGYPT
 - 2. Stopped PAYING TRIBUTE
 - 3. Was ARRESTED and IMPRISONED by Assyria
 - C. Provoked the Assyrian INVASION (17:5-6)
 - 1. Besieged Samaria for THREE YEARS
 - 2. DEPORTED and SCATTERED much of Israel's population

- III. The REASON for Israel's DESTRUCTION (2 Kings 17:7-17)
 - A. The general indictment: OATH BREAKING (17:7-9a)
 - 1. They WORSHIPED "other GODS"

2. They PRACTICED other “CUSTOMS”
 3. They KNEW what they were doing was WRONG
- B. A more specific list of OFFENSES (17:9b-23)
1. They were DEDICATED to PAGAN worship
 2. They “did EVIL things PROVOKING the LORD”
 3. They practiced open IDOLATRY
 4. They IGNORED and DEFIED the prophets
 5. They REJECTED God’s WORD
- C. The CONSEQUENCE of Israel’s rebellion was EXILE (17:18-23)
1. God REMOVED “from His sight” all Israel except JUDAH
 2. He had AFFLICTED them from the days of JEROBOAM
 3. He removed them to ASSYRIA for their PERSISTENT SIN

IV. Lessons

- A. We see the PATIENCE of God’s MERCY
- B. We see the PRIMACY of God’s HOLINESS