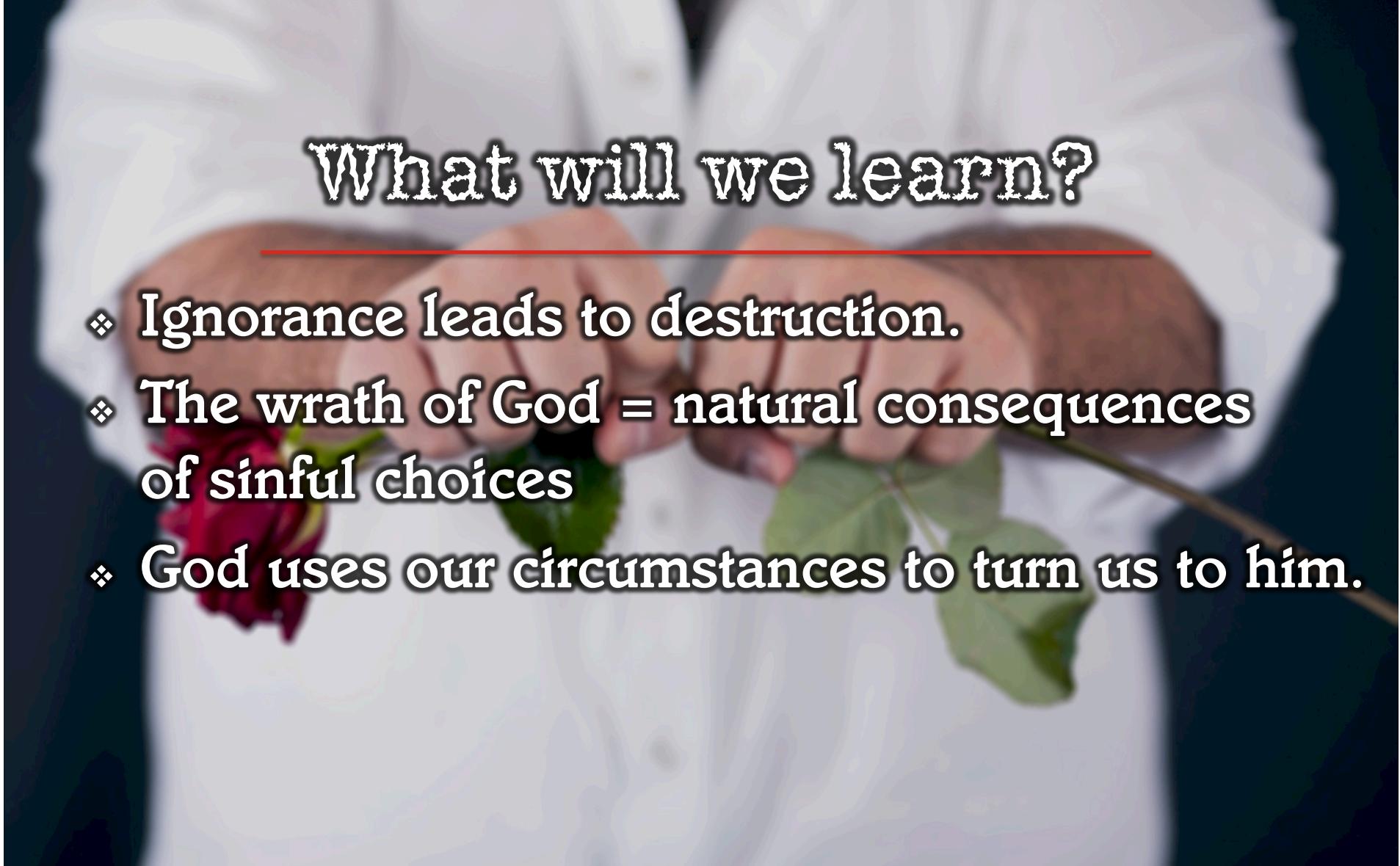




“My People Are Destroyed”
Hosea 4:1-6:3

Curt Deming
Melbourne Community Church
June 23, 2019



What will we learn?

- ❖ Ignorance leads to destruction.
- ❖ The wrath of God = natural consequences of sinful choices
- ❖ God uses our circumstances to turn us to him.

Old Testament prophets

- ❖ Mediated the Covenant
- ❖ Poetry > prose
- ❖ Symbolic words AND actions



Israel's sins confronted by Hosea:

- ❖ Infidelity
- ❖ Social injustice
- ❖ Violent crime
- ❖ Religious hypocrisy
- ❖ Political revolt
- ❖ Foreign alliances
- ❖ Selfish arrogance
- ❖ Spiritual ingratitude

The Divided Kingdom of Israel Judah

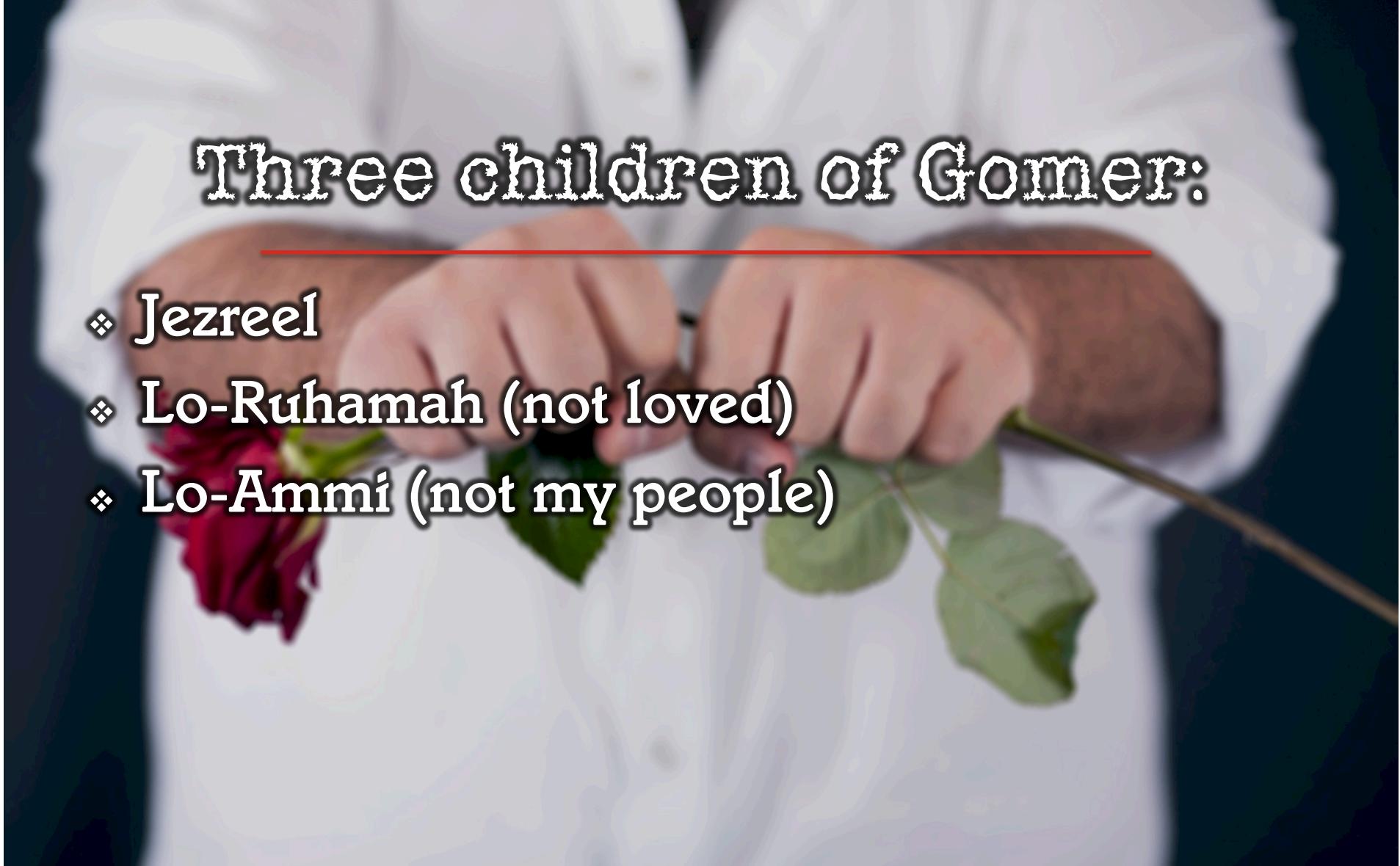


The Divided Kingdom of Israel Judah



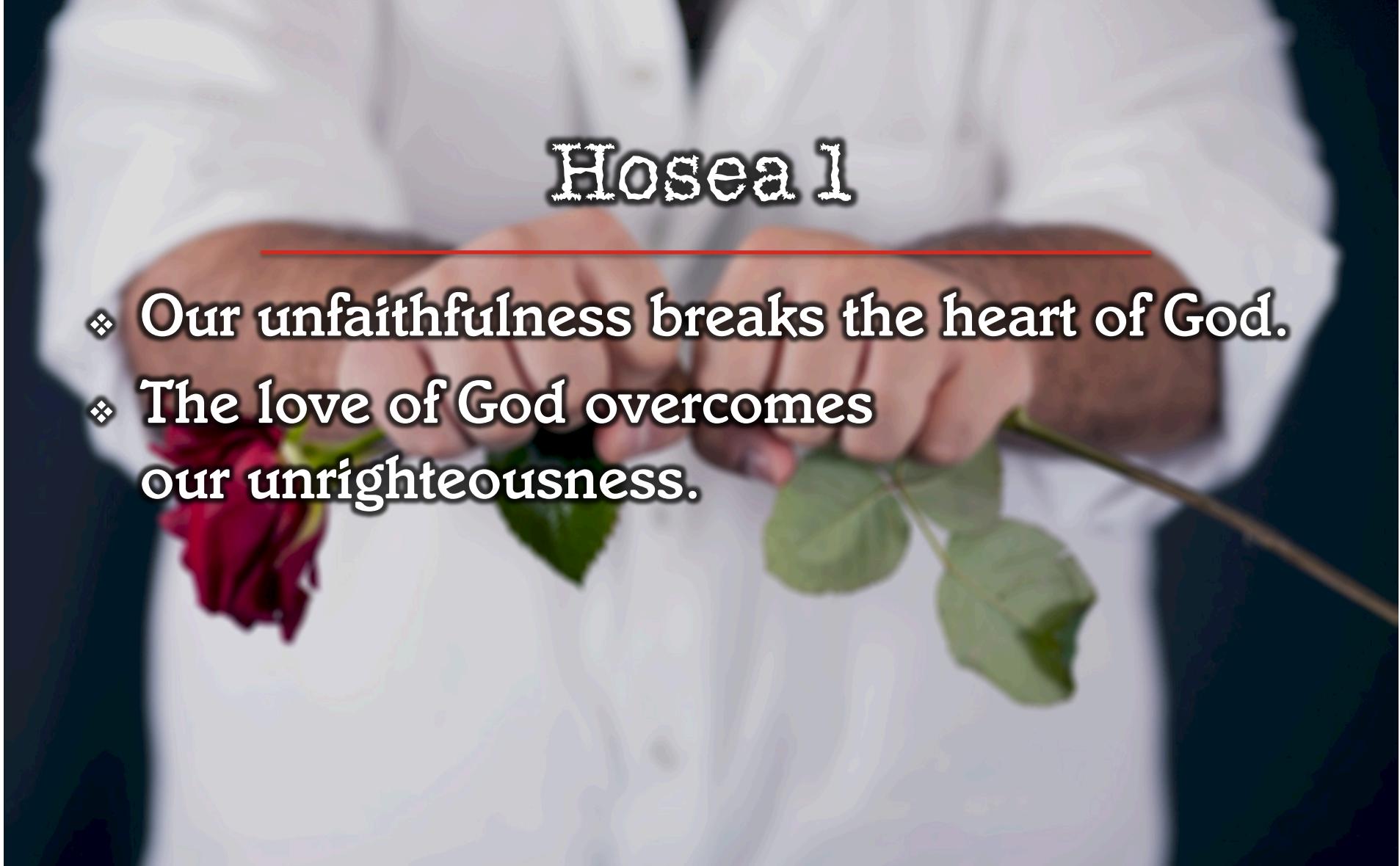
The Divided Kingdom of Israel Judah





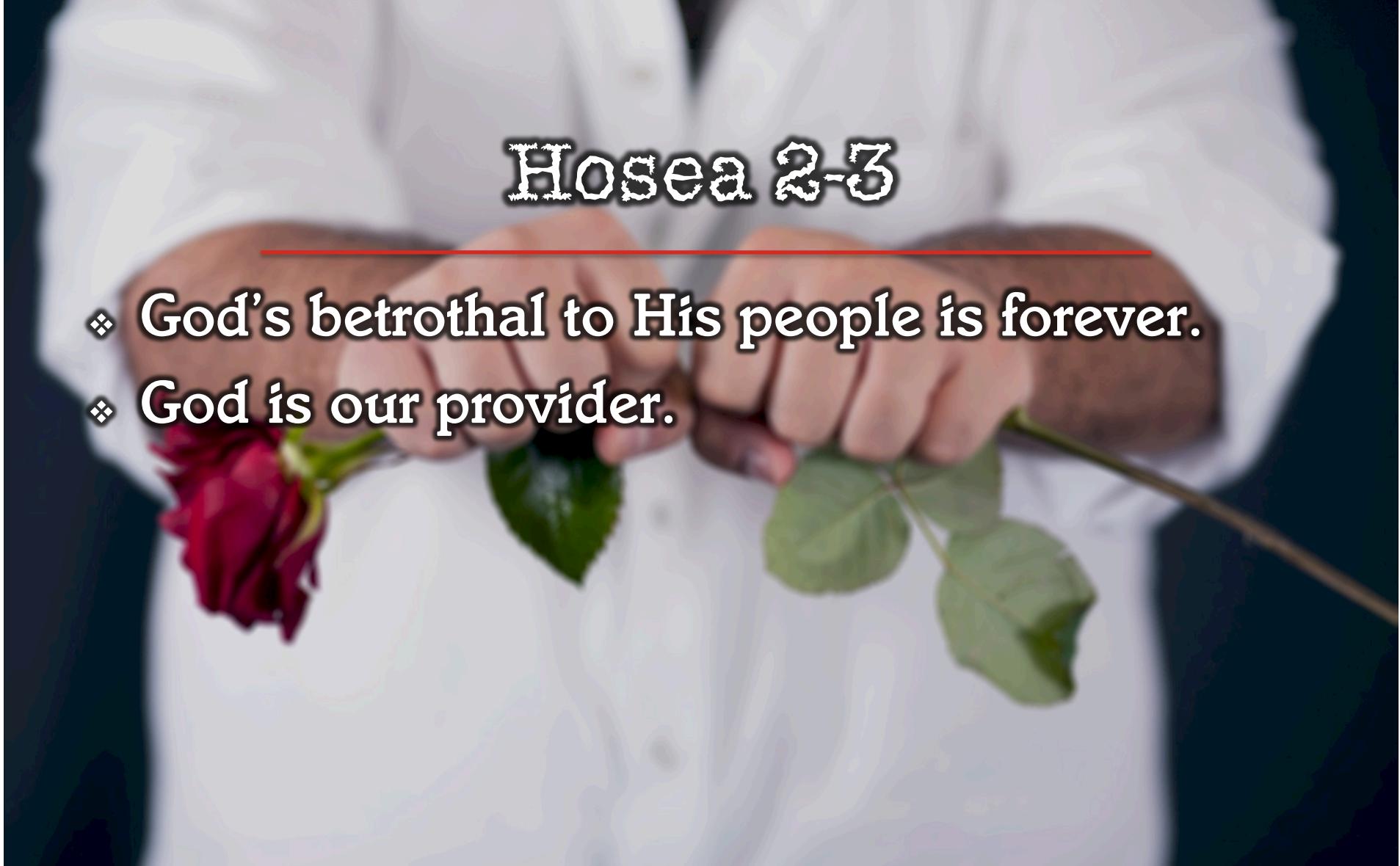
Three children of Gomer:

- ❖ Jezreel
- ❖ Lo-Ruhmah (not loved)
- ❖ Lo-Ammi (not my people)



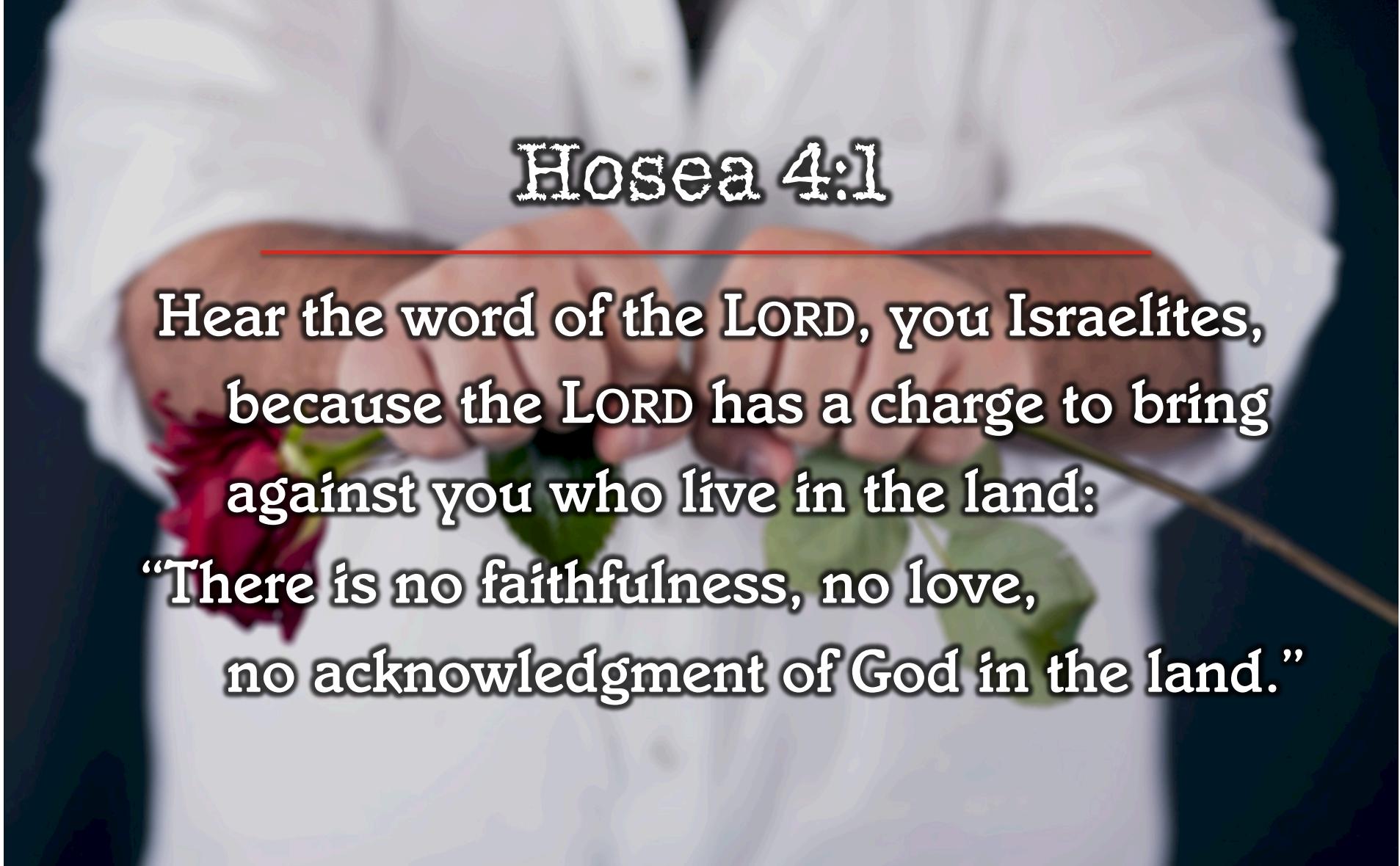
Hosea 1

- ❖ Our unfaithfulness breaks the heart of God.
- ❖ The love of God overcomes our unrighteousness.



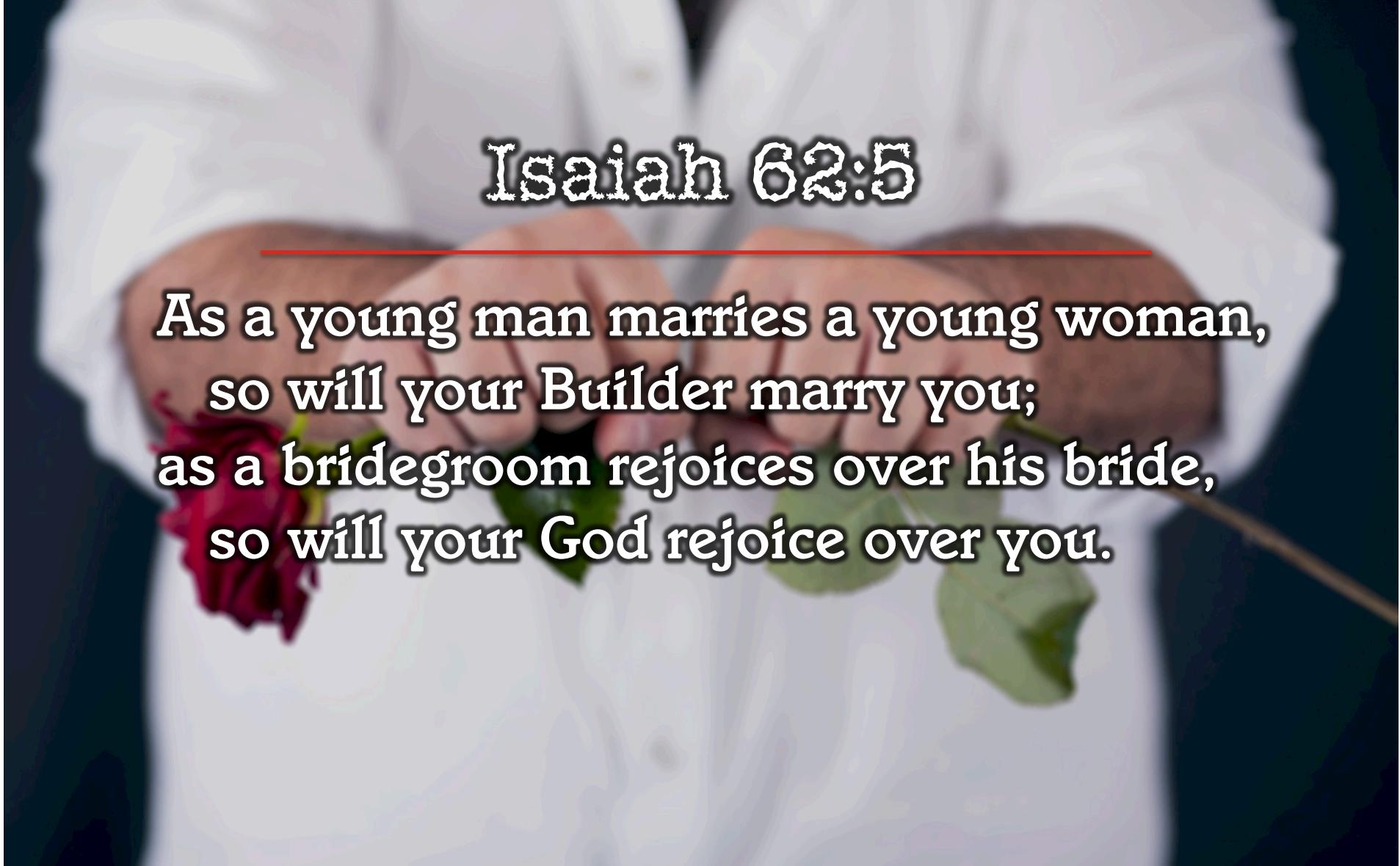
Hosea 2-3

- ❖ God's betrothal to His people is forever.
- ❖ God is our provider.



Hosea 4:1

**Hear the word of the LORD, you Israelites,
because the LORD has a charge to bring
against you who live in the land:
“There is no faithfulness, no love,
no acknowledgment of God in the land.”**



Isaiah 62:5

**As a young man marries a young woman,
so will your Builder marry you;
as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride,
so will your God rejoice over you.**

Revelation 21:2

**I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem,
coming down out of heaven from God,
prepared as a bride beautifully
dressed for her husband.**



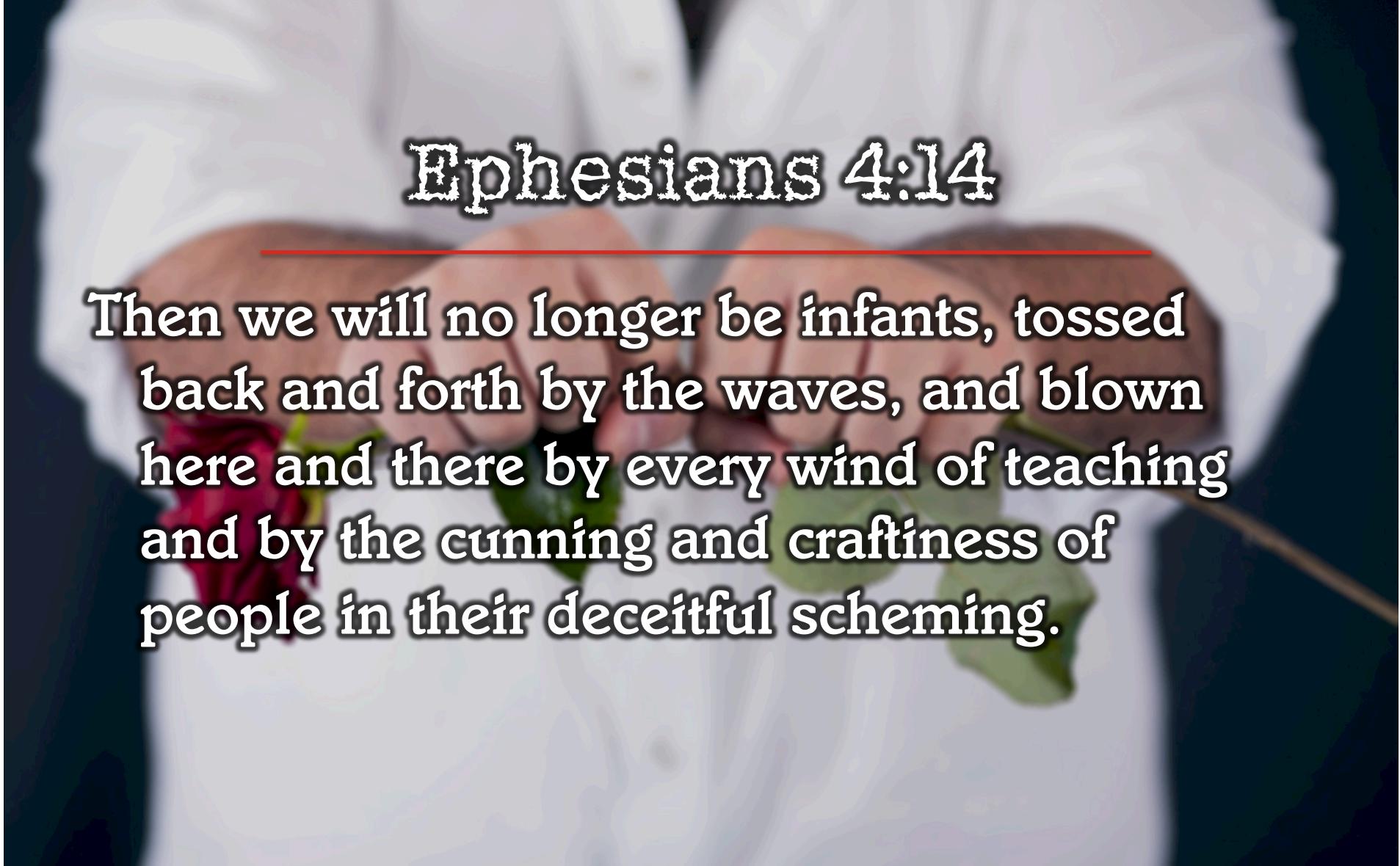
The charge against Israel:

Absent virtues

- ❖ Faithfulness
- ❖ Love (hesed)
- ❖ Acknowledgment of God

Abundant vices

- ❖ Cursing
- ❖ Lying
- ❖ Murder
- ❖ Stealing
- ❖ Adultery



Ephesians 4:14

Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.

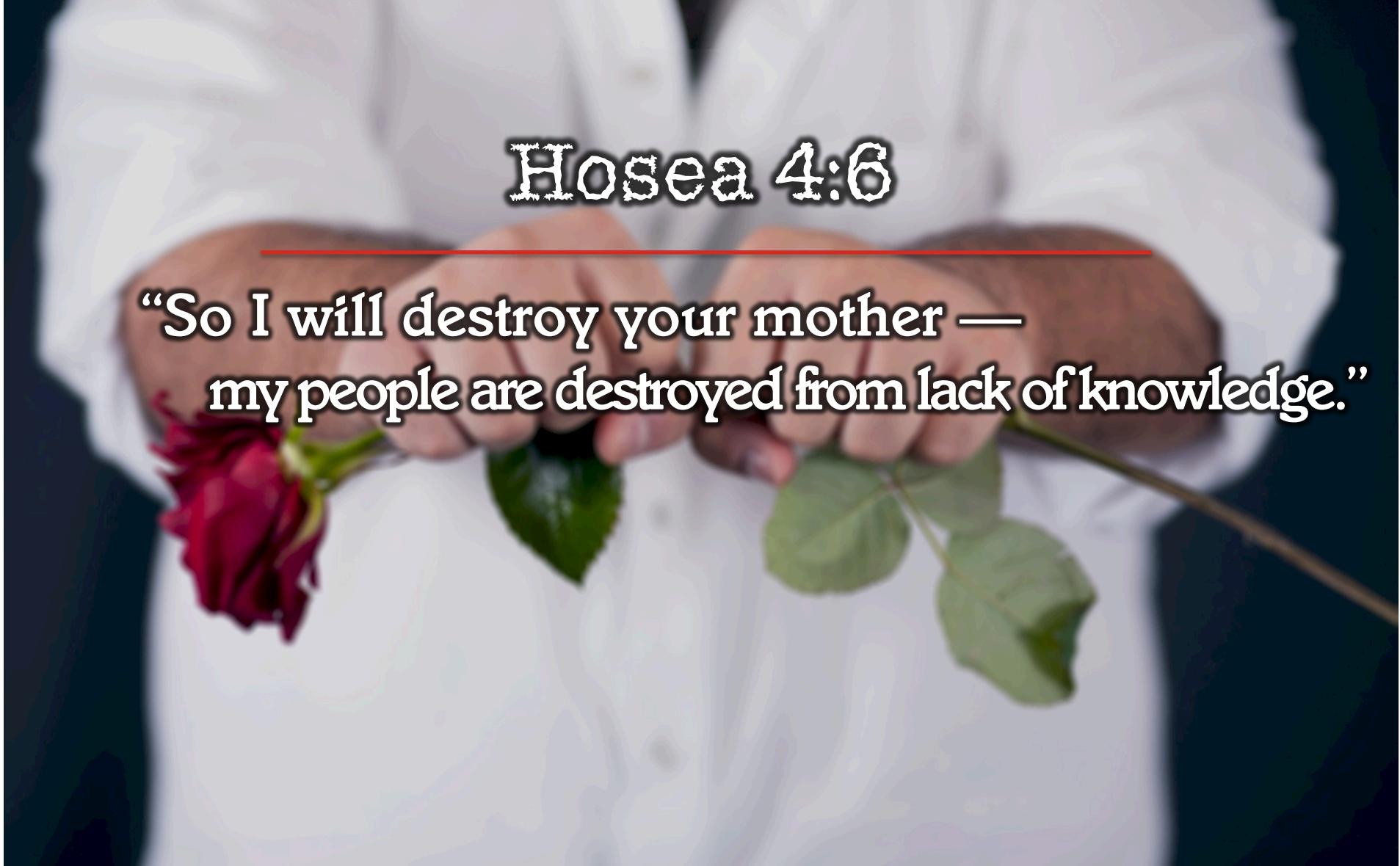
Ephesians 4:15

Instead, speaking the truth in love,
we will grow to become in every respect
the mature body of him who is the head,
that is, Christ.



Jerome:

**“Truth without love leads to hardness,
love without truth to weakness.”**

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a single red rose. The person is wearing a white shirt and a dark jacket. The background is blurred, showing more of the rose and some green leaves.

Hosea 4:6

**“So I will destroy your mother —
my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge.”**



Who is to blame?

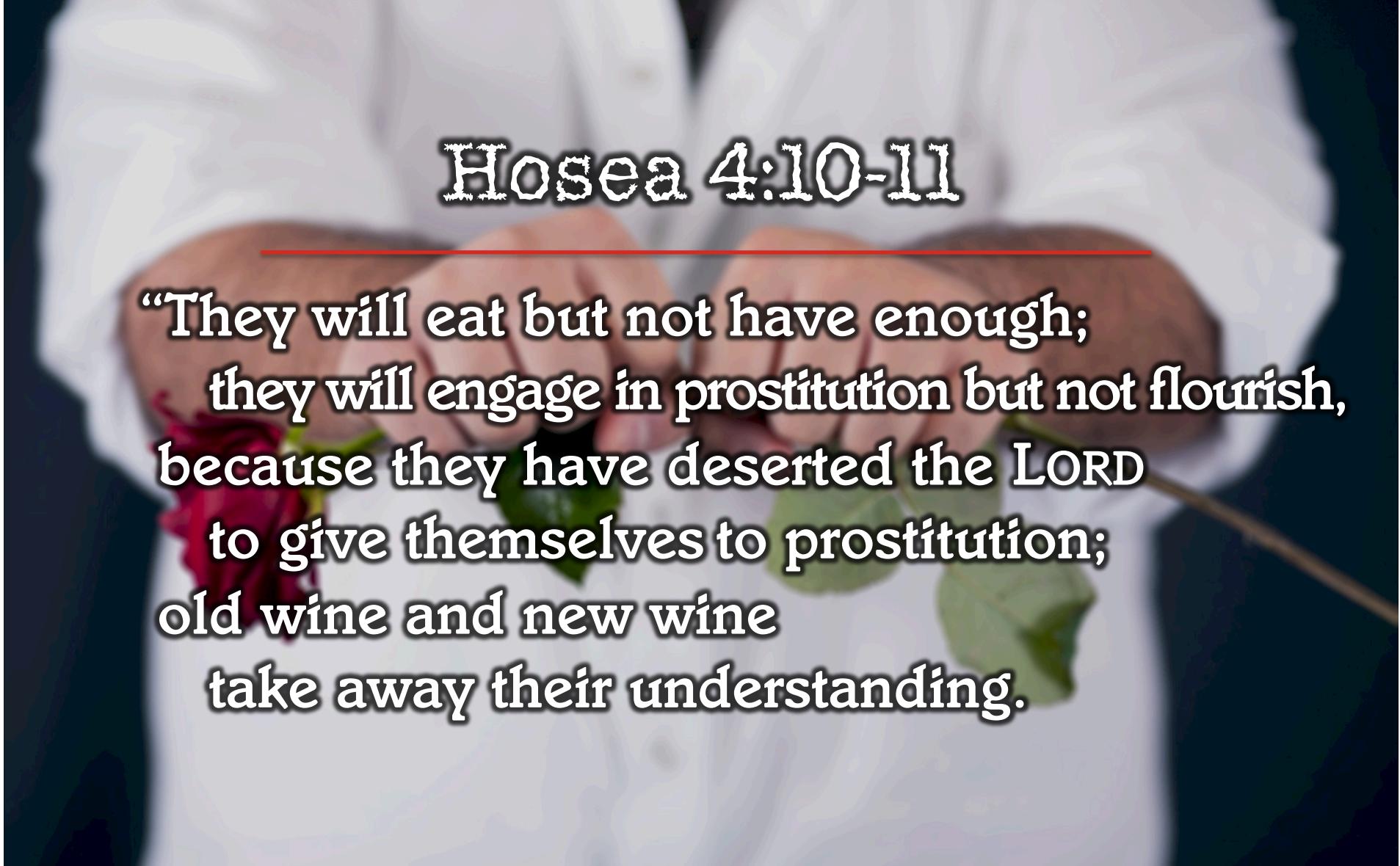
- ❖ Priests
- ❖ Prophets
- ❖ People

Hosea 4:7

**“The more priests there were,
the more they sinned against me;
they exchanged their glorious God
for something disgraceful.”**

Romans 1:22-23

**Although they claimed to be wise,
they became fools and exchanged the
glory of the immortal God for images
made to look like a mortal human being
and birds and animals and reptiles.**



Hosea 4:10-11

**“They will eat but not have enough;
they will engage in prostitution but not flourish,
because they have deserted the LORD
to give themselves to prostitution;
old wine and new wine
take away their understanding.**

Hosea 4:12

**“My people consult a wooden idol,
and a diviner’s rod speaks to them.
A spirit of prostitution leads them astray;
they are unfaithful to their God.”**



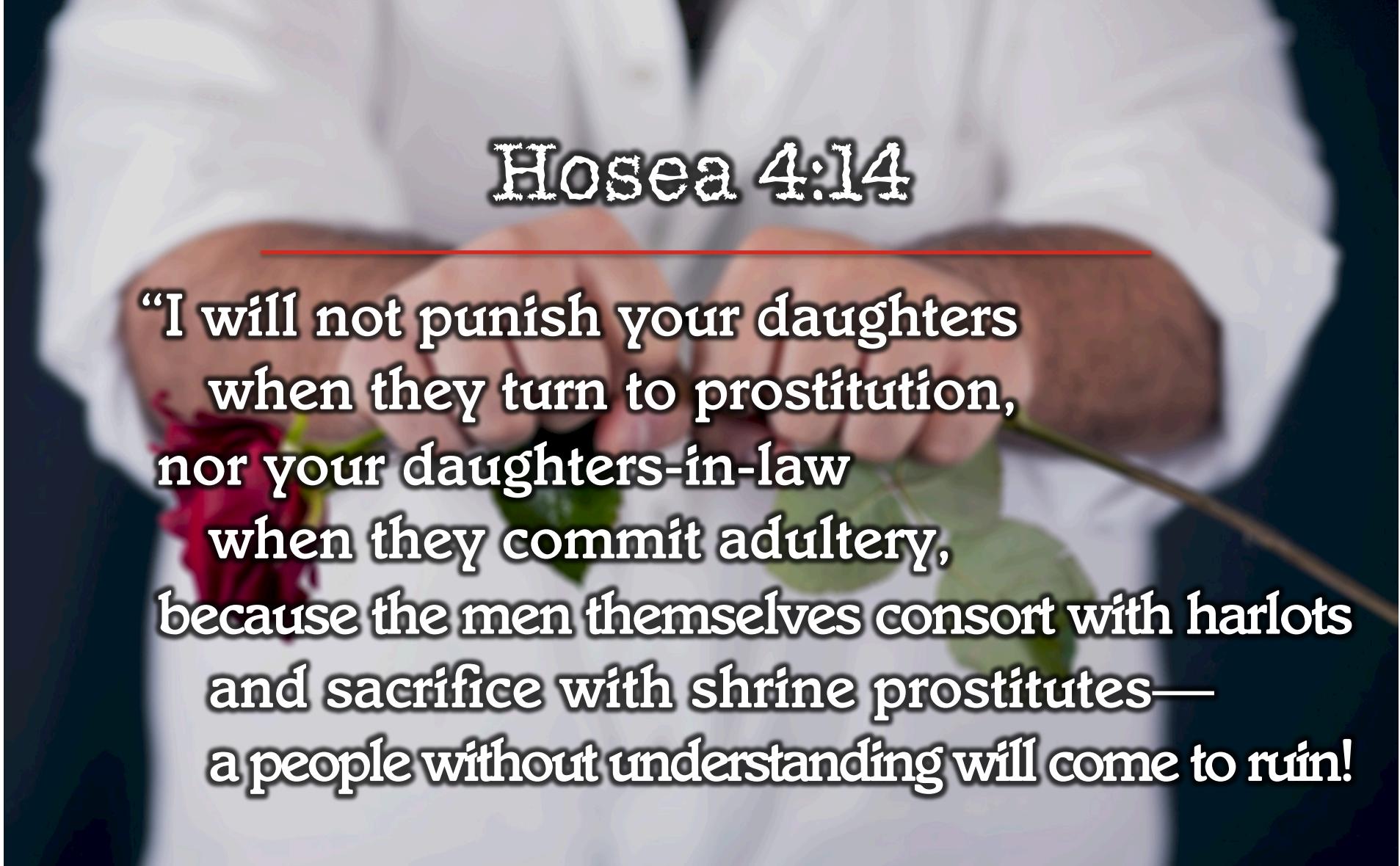
Israel = harlot

- ❖ Nine times in Hosea
- ❖ Isaiah 1:21
- ❖ Jeremiah 2:20
- ❖ Ezekiel 16:15

Hosea 4:13

**“They sacrifice on the mountaintops
and burn offerings on the hills,
under oak, poplar and terebinth,
where the shade is pleasant.**

**Therefore your daughters turn to prostitution
and your daughters-in-law to adultery.**

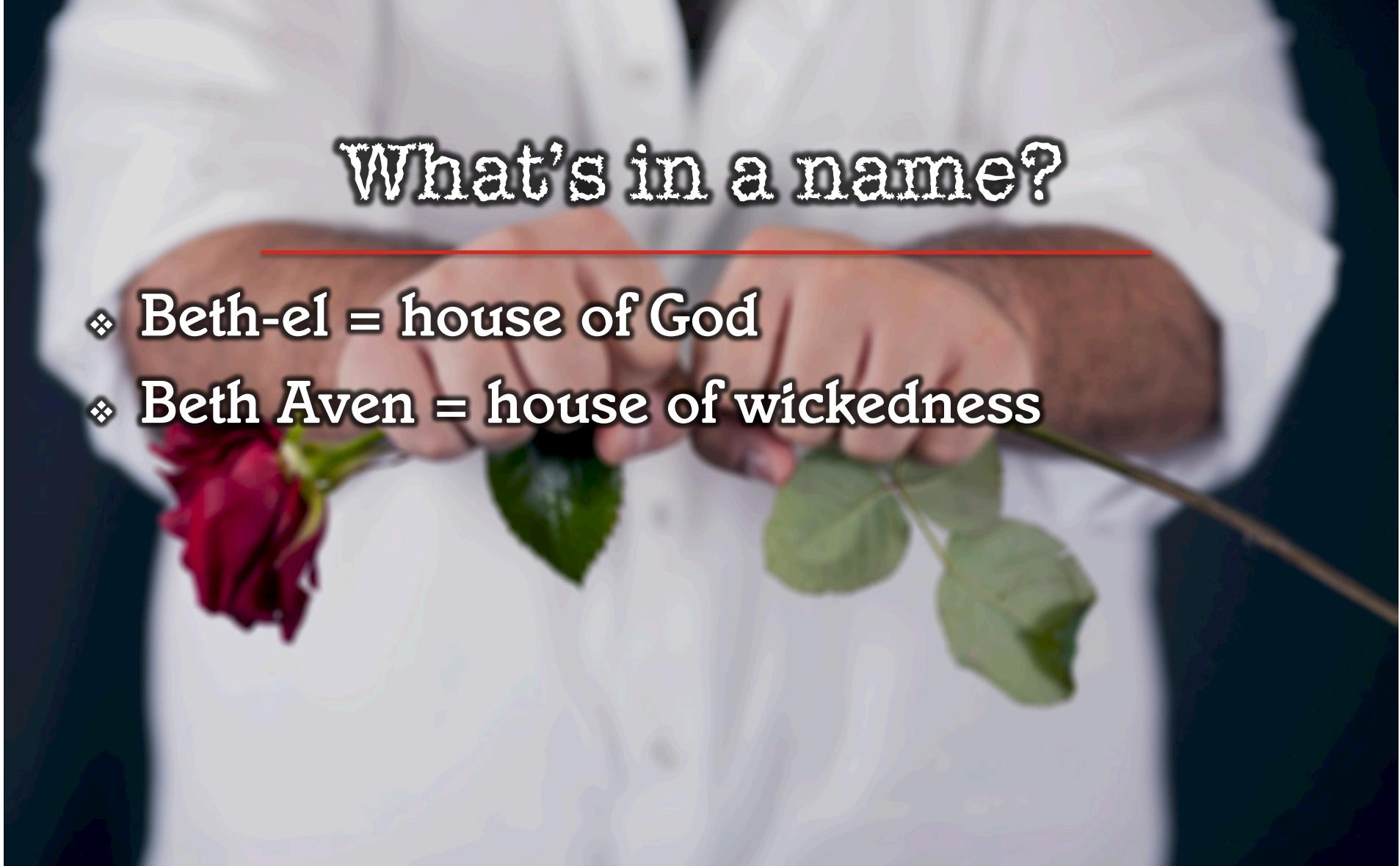


Hosea 4:14

**“I will not punish your daughters
when they turn to prostitution,
nor your daughters-in-law
when they commit adultery,
because the men themselves consort with harlots
and sacrifice with shrine prostitutes—
a people without understanding will come to ruin!**

Hosea 4:15

**“Though you, Israel, commit adultery,
do not let Judah become guilty.
Do not go to Gilgal;
do not go up to Beth Aven.
And do not swear, ‘As surely as the LORD lives!’”**



What's in a name?

- ❖ Beth-el = house of God
- ❖ Beth Aven = house of wickedness

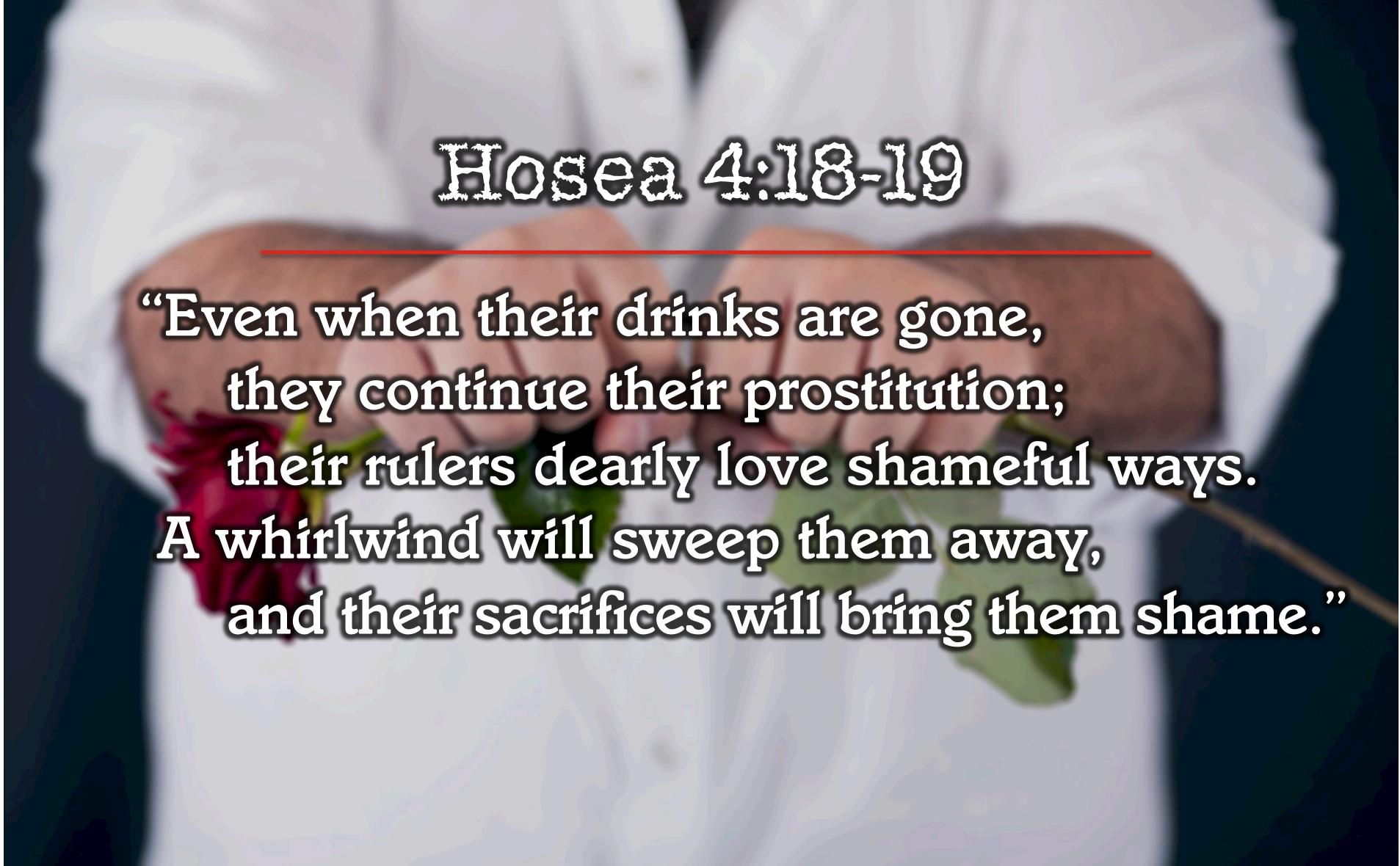
Hosea 4:16-17

**“The Israelites are stubborn,
like a stubborn heifer.
How then can the LORD pasture them
like lambs in a meadow?
Ephraim is joined to idols;
leave him alone!”**



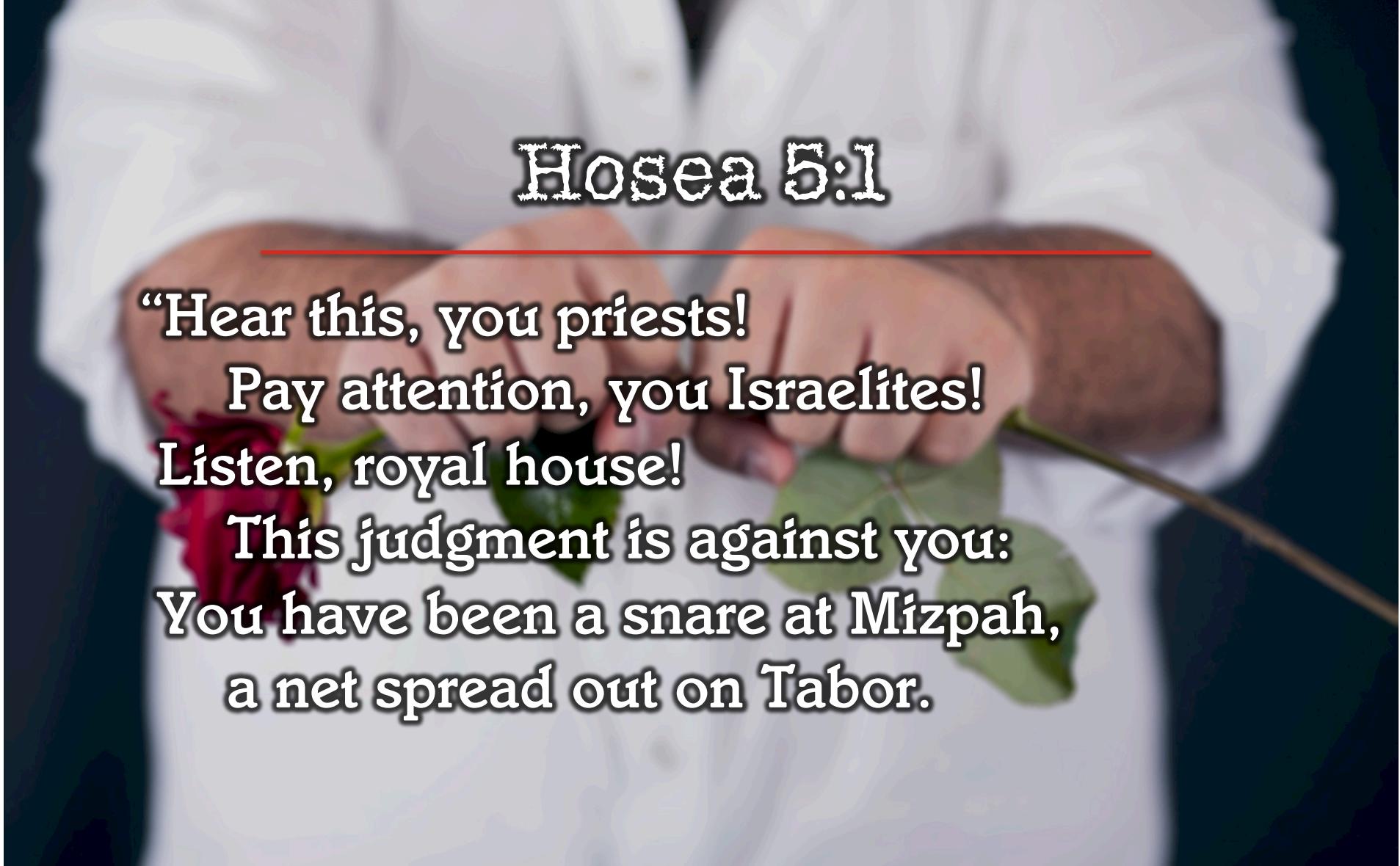
Leave him alone!

- ❖ “Therefore God gave them over ...”
(Romans 1:24)
- ❖ “Because of this, God gave them over ...”
(Romans 1:26)



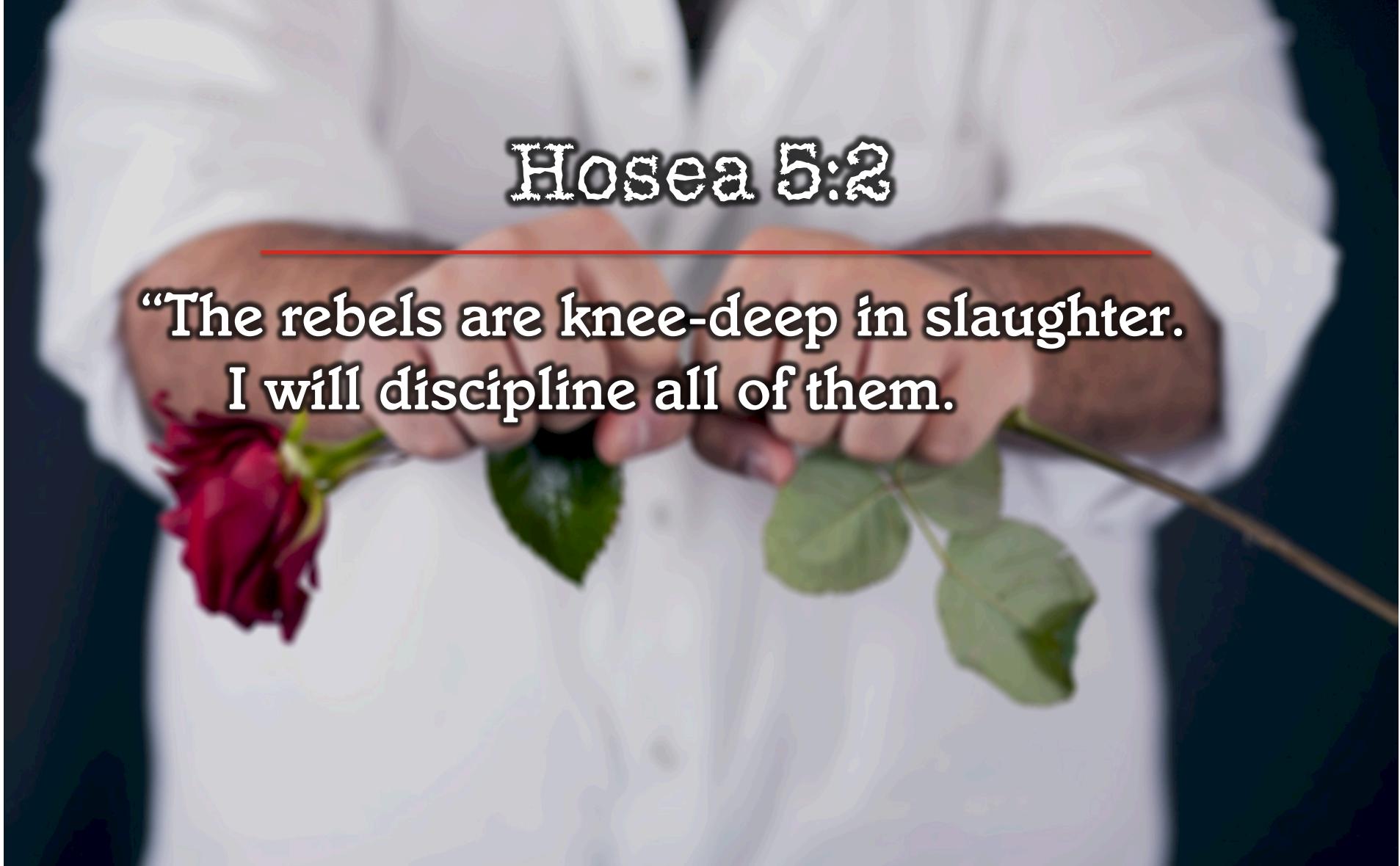
Hosea 4:18-19

**“Even when their drinks are gone,
they continue their prostitution;
their rulers dearly love shameful ways.
A whirlwind will sweep them away,
and their sacrifices will bring them shame.”**



Hosea 5:1

**“Hear this, you priests!
Pay attention, you Israelites!
Listen, royal house!
This judgment is against you:
You have been a snare at Mizpah,
a net spread out on Tabor.**



Hosea 5:2

**“The rebels are knee-deep in slaughter.
I will discipline all of them.**

Hosea 5:3

**“I know all about Ephraim;
Israel is not hidden from me.
Ephraim, you have now turned to prostitution;
Israel is corrupt.**

Hosea 5:4

**“Their deeds do not permit them
to return to their God.
A spirit of prostitution is in their heart;
they do not acknowledge the LORD.**

Hosea 5:5-6

“Israel’s arrogance testifies against them;
the Israelites, even Ephraim, stumble in their sin;
Judah also stumbles with them.
When they go with their flocks and herds
to seek the LORD,
they will not find him;
he has withdrawn himself from them.”



Jeremiah 29:13

**“You will seek me and find me when
you seek me with all your heart.”**

Hosea 5:7

**“They are unfaithful to the LORD;
they give birth to illegitimate children.
When they celebrate their New Moon feasts,
he will devour their fields.**

Hosea 5:8

**“Sound the trumpet in Gibeah,
the horn in Ramah.
Raise the battle cry in Beth Aven;
lead on, Benjamin.**

Hosea 5:9

**“Ephraim will be laid waste
on the day of reckoning.
Among the tribes of Israel
I proclaim what is certain.**

Hosea 5:10

**“Judah’s leaders are like those
who move boundary stones.
I will pour out my wrath on them
like a flood of water.**

Hosea 5:11-12

**“Ephraim is oppressed,
trampled in judgment,
intent on pursuing idols.
I am like a moth to Ephraim,
like rot to the people of Judah.**

Hosea 5:13

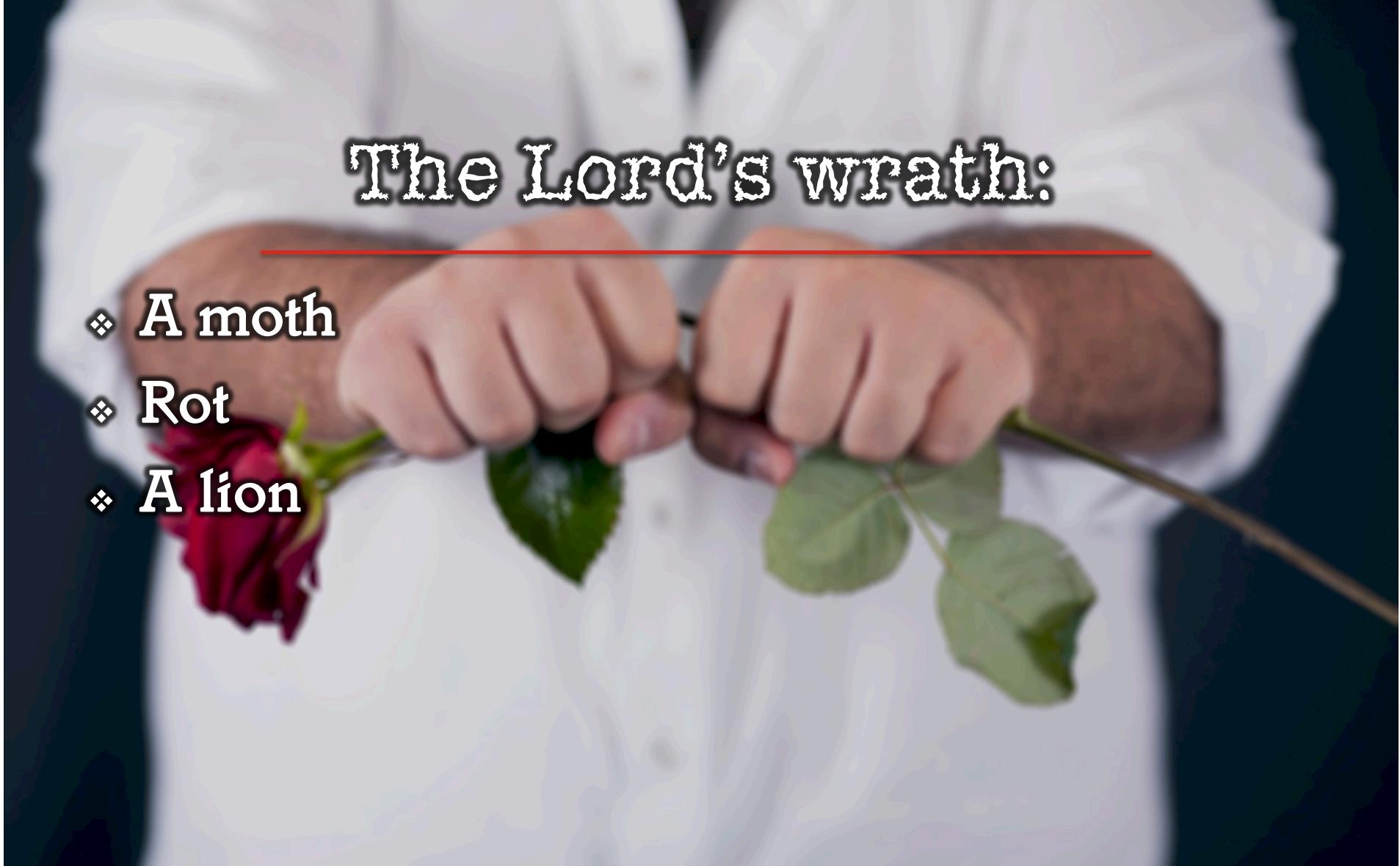
**“When Ephraim saw his sickness,
and Judah his sores,
then Ephraim turned to Assyria,
and sent to the great king for help.
But he is not able to cure you,
not able to heal your sores.**

Hosea 5:14

**“For I will be like a lion to Ephraim,
like a great lion to Judah.
I will tear them to pieces and go away;
I will carry them off, with no one to rescue them.**

Hosea 5:15

**“Then I will return to my lair
until they have borne their guilt
and seek my face —
in their misery
they will earnestly seek me.”**



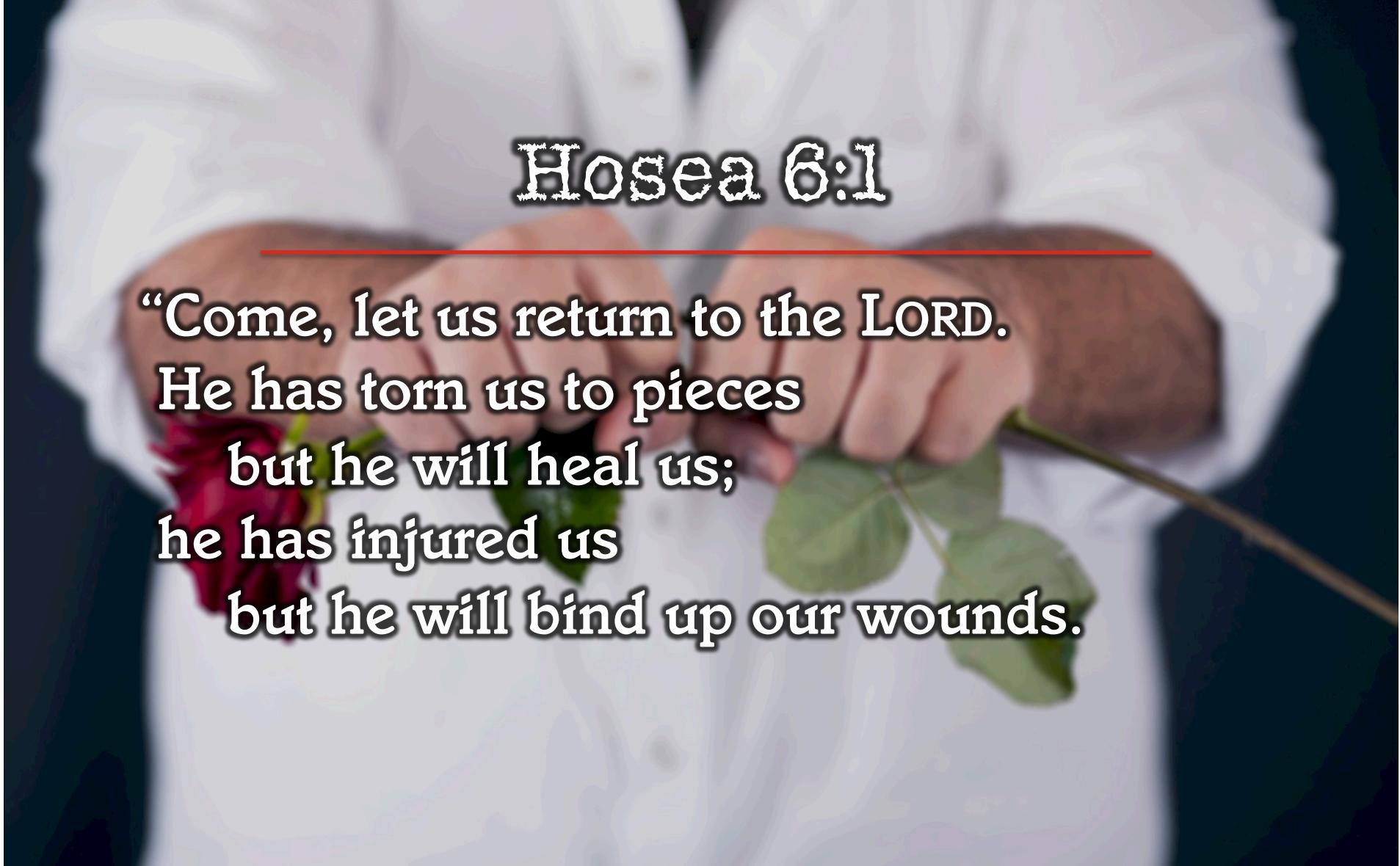
The Lord's wrath:

- ❖ A moth
- ❖ Rot
- ❖ A lion



Assyrian invasions:

- ❖ Tigleth-Pileser III vs. Israel,
743 BC and 734-732 BC
- ❖ Shalmaneser V vs. Israel, 722 BC
- ❖ Sennacharib vs. Judah, 701 BC

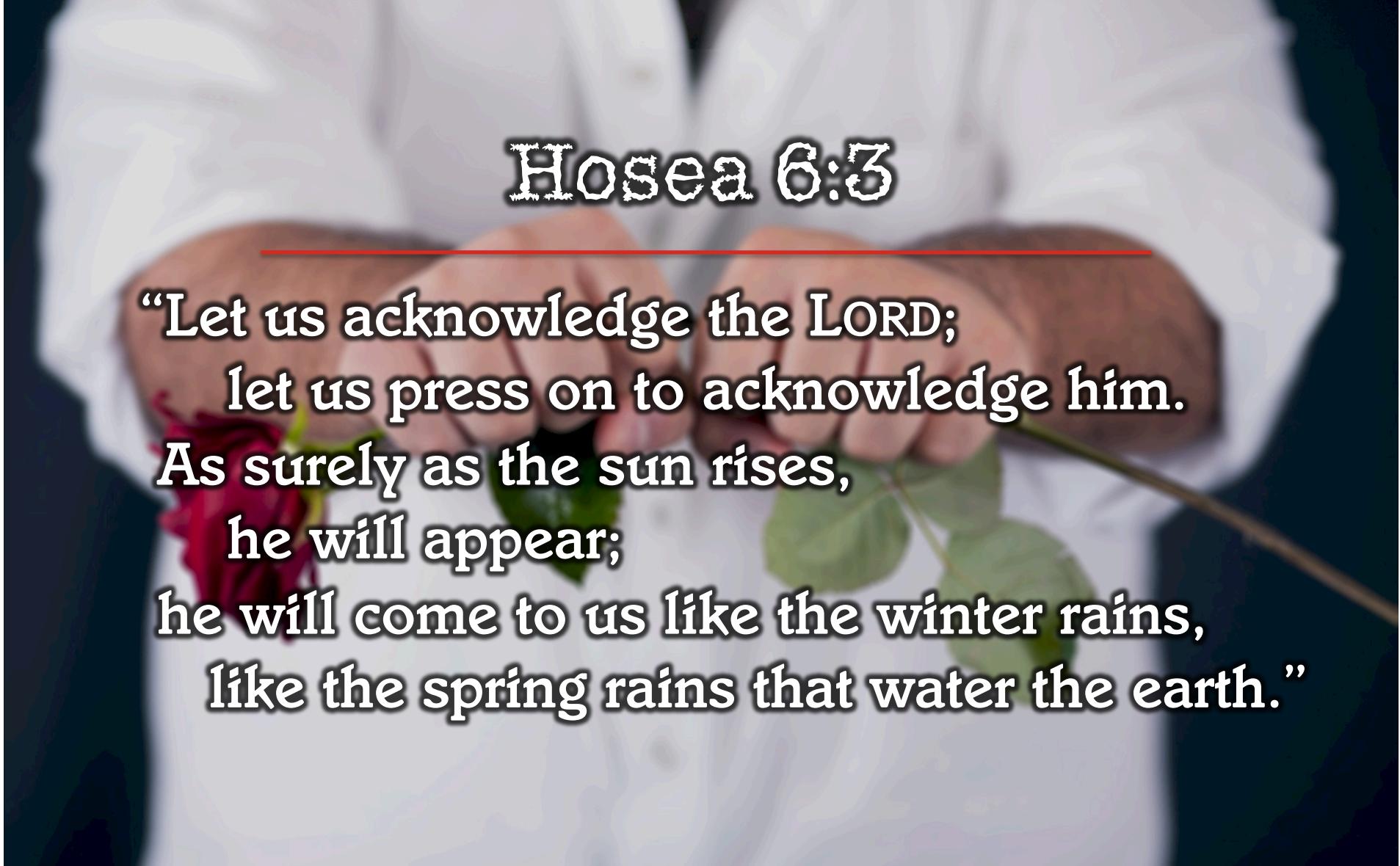


Hosea 6:1

**“Come, let us return to the LORD.
He has torn us to pieces
but he will heal us;
he has injured us
but he will bind up our wounds.**

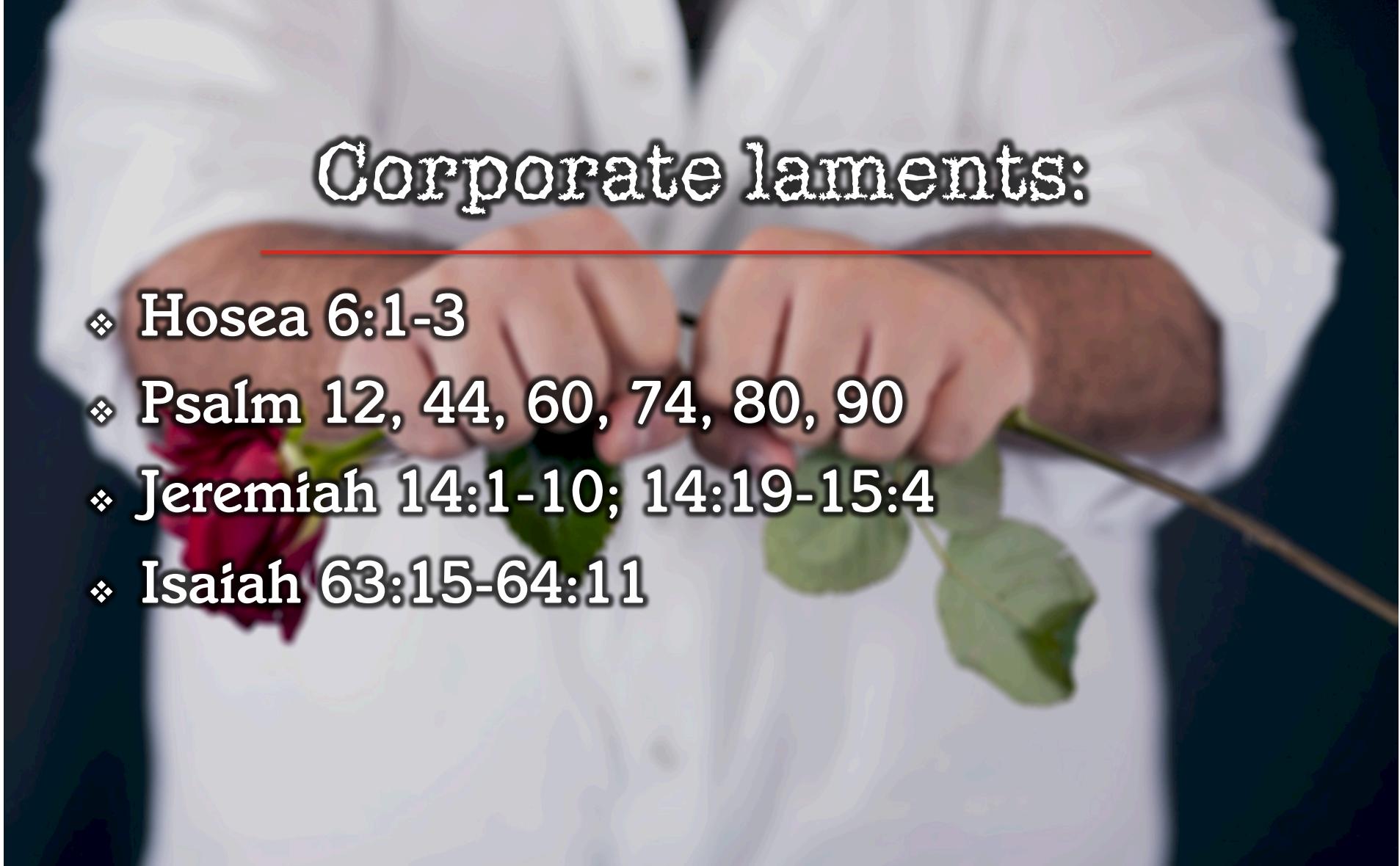
Hosea 6:2

**“After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will restore us,
that we may live in his presence.**



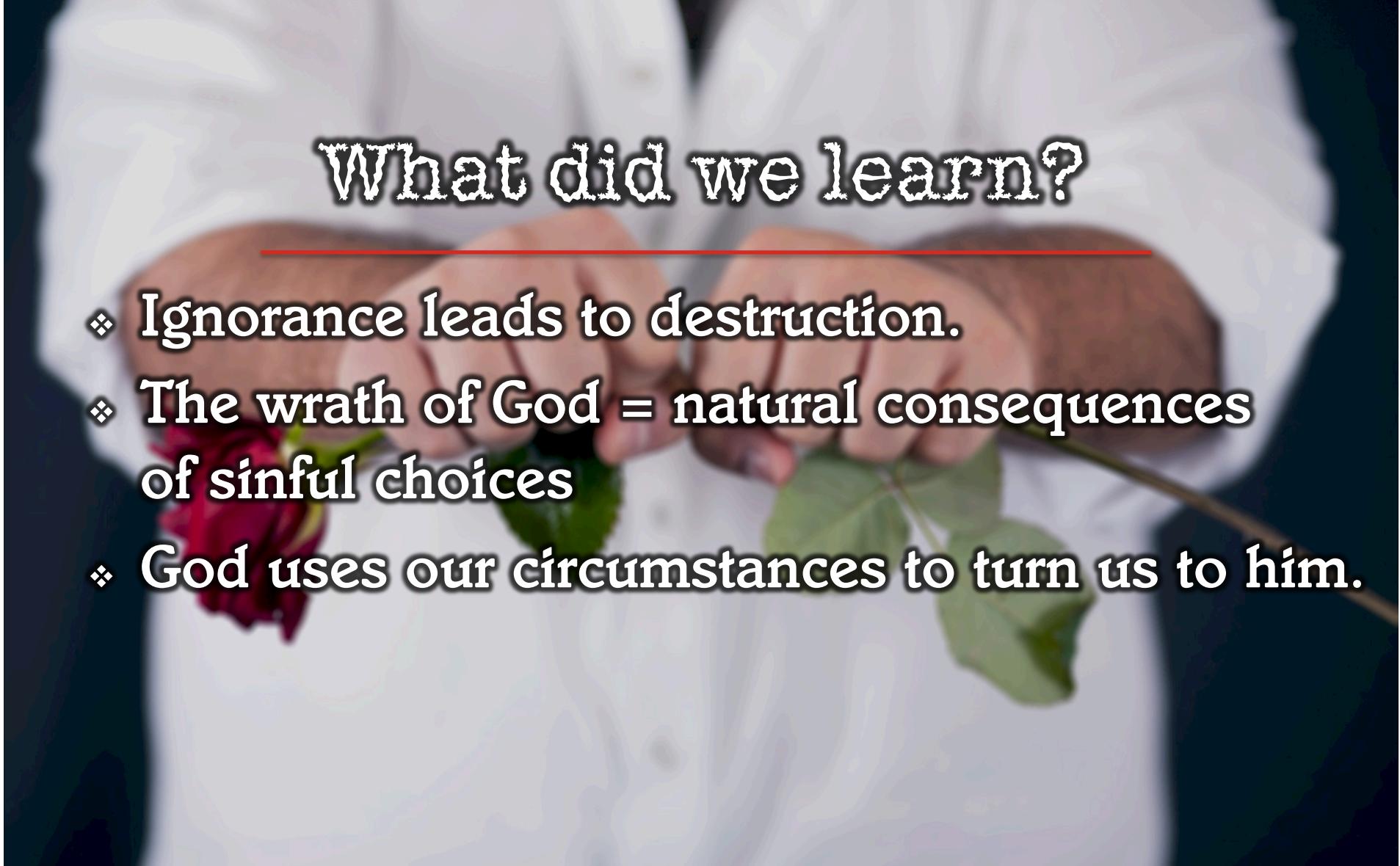
Hosea 6:3

**“Let us acknowledge the LORD;
let us press on to acknowledge him.
As surely as the sun rises,
he will appear;
he will come to us like the winter rains,
like the spring rains that water the earth.”**



Corporate laments:

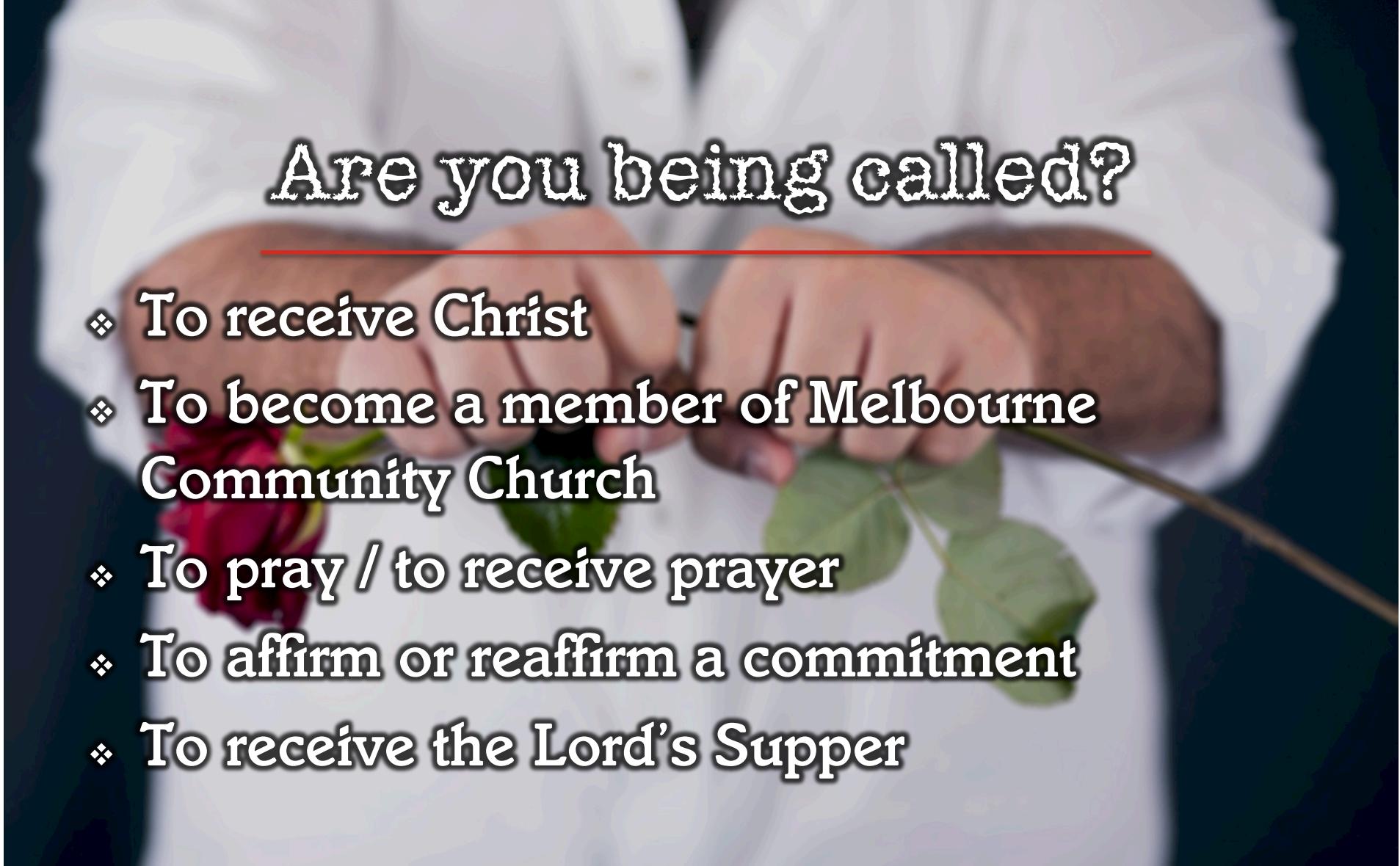
- ❖ Hosea 6:1-3
- ❖ Psalm 12, 44, 60, 74, 80, 90
- ❖ Jeremiah 14:1-10; 14:19-15:4
- ❖ Isaiah 63:15-64:11



What did we learn?

- ❖ Ignorance leads to destruction.
- ❖ The wrath of God = natural consequences of sinful choices
- ❖ God uses our circumstances to turn us to him.





Are you being called?

- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the Lord's Supper



Life Begins in the Womb

- ❖ Luke 1:15
- ❖ Luke 1:41
- ❖ Psalm 22:9-10
- ❖ Psalm 139:13
- ❖ Isaiah 49:1
- ❖ Jeremiah 1:4-5