

Hosea 6:1–7:16

True and False Repentance

In chapters six and seven of Hosea the nation of Israel is experiencing some difficult times, and Israel wanted God’s blessings to be restored, but God desired the nation to repent. The discussion for Hosea chapters six and seven will focus on biblical repentance. Biblical repentance goes beyond remorse, regret, or feeling bad about sin; but biblical repentance is a changing of one’s mind about sin and walking in a new direction. As with anything else repentance can be genuine or disingenuous; therefore we must be careful how we approach God.

Objectives:

- To understand biblical repentance.
 - To understand the difference between true and false repentance.
 - To understand the true condition of the nation of Israel.
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Questions and Answers

Hosea 6:1-3

- A. Why was the nation of Israel facing such grave circumstances?
- B. What did the nation of Israel decide to do about their circumstances? (1)
- C. Why did Israel believe they would be redeemed in 3 days? What was the problem? (2)
- D. Do you believe Israel was sincere in saying “Come and let us return unto the Lord:”?
- E. What did Israel desire from the Lord as a result of their repentance, and what do the former and latter rain represent? (3)
- F. What steps are involved in sincere repentance?
- G. Israel used all the right words, but why didn’t God accept their repentance? (6:6-8, 7:10, 13, 16a,b)

Hosea 6:4–7:16

- H. Explain why God considers Israel [**both southern and northern kingdom**] loyalty as morning dew. What's the nature of dew? (4)
- I. Why does God not accept Israel's sacrificial offerings? (6 &7)
- J. God declares both Judah [**southern kingdom**], and Ephraim [**northern kingdom**] guilty of what particular sin? (10)
- K. God desired to heal Israel, but what prevented their healing? (7:1-3)

The analogies God used for Israel.

Hosea 6:4	Early dew. The dew is temporary
7:4-8	Overheated oven. An oven too hot will burn
7:9	Un-noticed gray hair. Getting older without taking notice.
7:11-12	Silly dove. Dove is a bird of peace, but Israel was at war with God.
7:16.	Deceitful bow. Even though Israel had tools they were not effective.

Application of the analogies.

These analogies describe Israel's devotion to God; therefore we must ask ourselves the following questions concerning our devotion to God.

- How lasting is our devotion to God? [morning dew]
- How deep is our devotion to God? [over heated oven]
- How strong is our devotion to God? [un-noticed gray hair]
- How serious is our devotion to God? [silly dove]
- How dependable is our devotion to God? [deceitful bow]