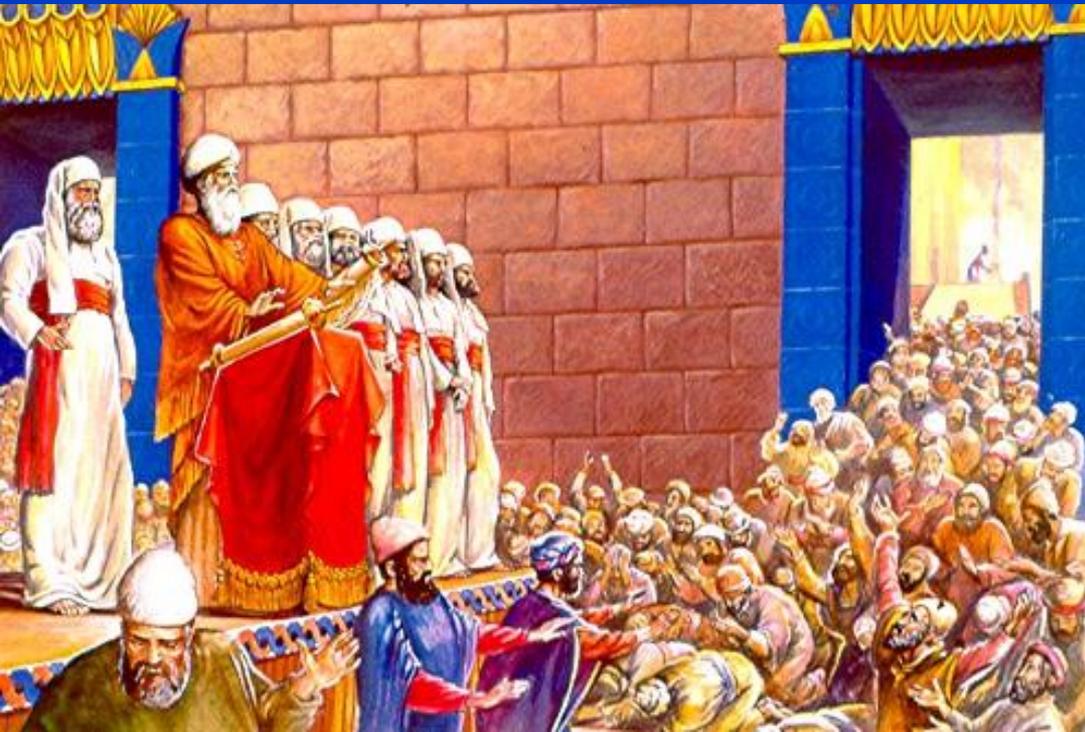


- Idolatry is tied to the sin of immorality
- Israel could not recognize their immoral state because of a lack of knowledge of God's Torah (Hosea 4:6)
- Our modern democratic societies despise absolutes
- This worldview is the same that Ephraim/Israel held
- The result is moral confusion

SUMMONS TO APPEAR

IN THE (STATE) _____ COURT OF _____ COUNTY _____ ACTION-LAW.
Number _____
Plaintiff/Petitioner: _____
vs
Defendant/Respondent: _____
QUALIFIED ORDER
day of _____
THIS _____ with a final decree dated (_____

- Priests, people, and royal house are summoned
- First summons, then prophecy of exile, next is evidence, finally is judgment
- Purpose of Israel's government and religious authorities is to guide, educate, and protect
- Instead they organized in order to profit from it



Will God harm His own people?



- Vs. 3 makes it clear that God will harm His own people
- Jesus has not changed all this!
- The Word continues to speak to Hosea as agent of the Father's message, but not the author of it
- Hebrew literary couplets: two words that are used synonymously, but have technically different meanings
- God personally knows and sees Israel's behavior

A spirit of harlotry



- **Ma'alelim** = evil deeds
- It's Israel's fault that they are no longer near to YHWH
- Are we oriented towards the true God, or the god of our own making?
- Ephraim's arrogance is proof enough of their guilt
- **Avon** = iniquity, guilt but it also included punishment



- The mention of flocks and herds harkens back to the time of Egypt and the exodus Exodus 10:8 – 9
- In Hosea the reference is to an overwhelming amount of animals to be sacrificed to impress YHWH
- All of these sacrifices would be too late
- 1Samuel 15:18 – 26
- God was not going to accept Saul’s “repentance”

APPEASING THE GODS....



- Placating, persuading, or making a deal with a god is from the pagan god systems
- God says He prefers obedience to sacrifices
- The changing of Israel's religious system happened slowly over time, with small changes mounting up
- Israel betrayed God by marrying foreigners

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE COVENANTS

- Big problems when Israelites took on gentile spouses
- Marriage with gentiles was against the Law of Moses
- Would the children be Hebrew or gentile?
- Israel's relationship with God was based on 1 thing: the Covenants of Abraham and Moses
- God was enacting the terms for breaking the Covenants



THE WARNING IS SOUNDED

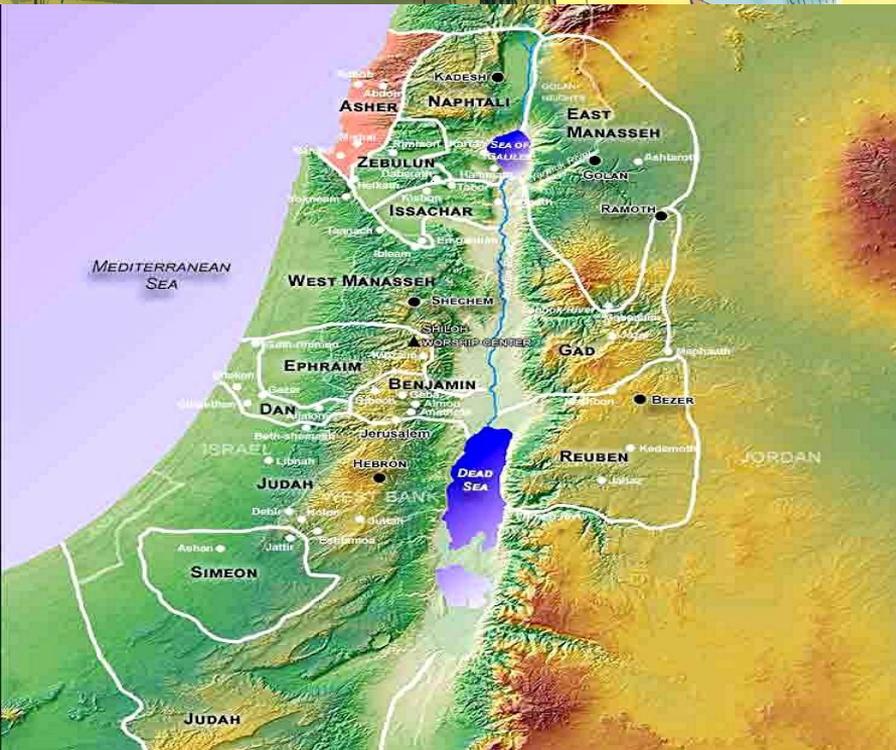
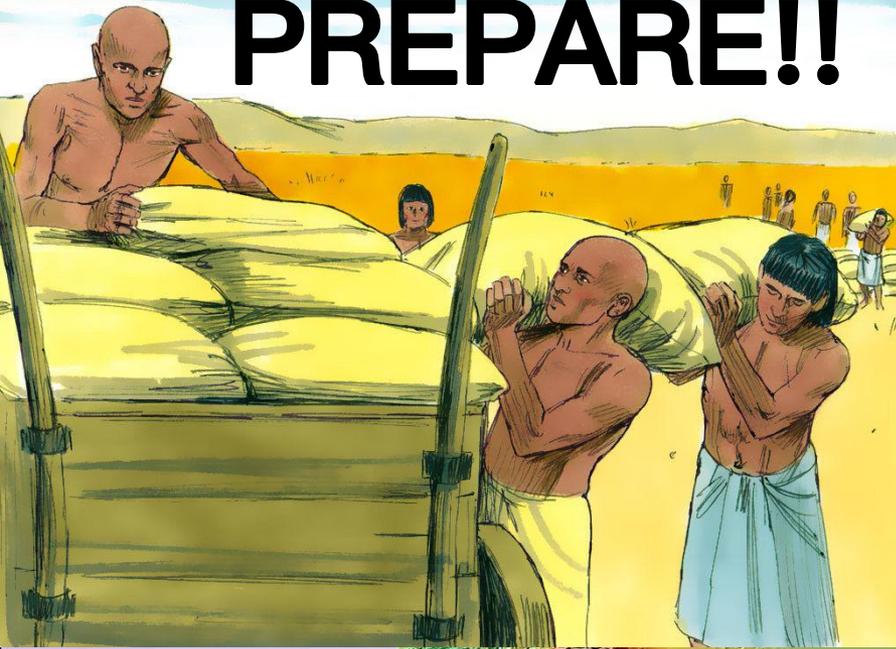
- Vss. 8 – 11 is about a Watchman sounding the alarm
- Shofar and trumpet here are used synonymously
- Syrians allied with Israel to attack Judah
- 2 Kings 16:5 – 9
- Pekah king of Israel, Ahaz king of Judah
- Speaking of a time that is 732 – 735 B.C.
- The attack begins against the territory of Benjamin





- The Syrian-Israel attack on Judah began at Gibeah and followed a route to Ramah, then Bethel
- Judah went to Assyria and paid a huge sum to get them to be their allies
- The Day of Punishment = when Samaria was taken
- Neither Israel nor Judah prepared; they didn't believe God and so their circumstances were much worse

PREPARE!!



- The Egyptian connection when God warned, and Joseph and Pharaoh heeded
- Judah compared to those who move boundary markers
- Deut. 27:17 A curse!
- God set the boundaries for the tribes in Israel
- It was HIS land, not theirs!
- Ephraim's major crime was their lack of faithfulness
- Deut. 28:1 - 10