



Lesson Seven: A Good Harvest? Hosea 9 and 10 Robby Higginbottom | April 7, 2026

Hosea 9:1-3, 10:15 and 10:1-4, 11-15

- ^{9:1} Rejoice not, O Israel! Exult not like the peoples;
for you have played the whore, forsaking your God.
You have loved a prostitute's wages on all threshing floors.
- ² Threshing floor and wine vat shall not feed them, and the new wine shall fail them.
- ³ They shall not remain in the land of the LORD, but Ephraim shall return to Egypt,
and they shall eat unclean food in Assyria....
- ¹⁰ Like grapes in the wilderness, I found Israel.
Like the first fruit on the fig tree in its first season, I saw your fathers.
But they came to Baal-Peor and consecrated themselves to the thing of shame,
and became detestable like the thing they loved.
- ¹¹ Ephraim's glory shall fly away like a bird—no birth, no pregnancy, no conception!
- ¹² Even if they bring up children, I will bereave them till none is left.
Woe to them when I depart from them!
- ¹³ Ephraim, as I have seen, was like a young palm planted in a meadow;
but Ephraim must lead his children out to slaughter.
- ¹⁴ Give them, O LORD—what will You give? Give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts.
- ¹⁵ Every evil of theirs is in Gilgal; there I began to hate them.
Because of the wickedness of their deeds I will drive them out of My house.
I will love them no more; all their princes are rebels.
- ^{10:1} Israel is a luxuriant vine that yields its fruit.
The more his fruit increased, the more altars he built;
as his country improved, he improved his pillars.
- ² Their heart is false; now they must bear their guilt.
The LORD will break down their altars and destroy their pillars.



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³ For now they will say: “We have no king,
for we do not fear the LORD; and a king—what could he do for us?”

⁴ They utter mere words; with empty oaths they make covenants;
so judgment springs up like poisonous weeds in the furrows of the field....

¹¹ Ephraim was a trained calf that loved to thresh, and I spared her fair neck;
but I will put Ephraim to the yoke; Judah must plow; Jacob must harrow for himself.

¹² Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap steadfast love; break up your fallow ground,
for it is the time to seek the LORD, that He may come and rain righteousness upon you.

¹³ You have plowed iniquity; you have reaped injustice; you have eaten the fruit of lies.
Because you have trusted in your own way and in the multitude of your warriors,

¹⁴ therefore the tumult of war shall arise among your people, and all your fortresses shall be destroyed,
as Shalman destroyed Beth-arbel on the day of battle; mothers were dashed in pieces with their children.

¹⁵ Thus it shall be done to you, O Bethel, because of your great evil.
At dawn the king of Israel shall be utterly cut off.

Discussion Questions:

1. Why is prosperity dangerous for God’s people in the Bible and for us? (See Deut 8:11-20.)
2. Why are we tempted to think that our life is a “good harvest” when it’s not?
3. “Every evil of theirs is in Gilgal.” Every evil of ours is in Eden. Discuss.
4. Jesus says that He is the “True Vine” (John 15:1). What does this say about Israel, us, and Jesus?
5. How does John 15 teach us how to have a good harvest in our lives?
6. Explain the Bible’s teaching about reaping and sowing (Gal 6:7-10; 2 Cor 9:6).
How have we experienced this reality positively and negatively in our lives?
7. Talk about specific ways that we can sow for ourselves righteousness,
break up our fallow ground, and seek the Lord (Hos 10:12).

Let’s pray that the Lord would help us to abide in Him and bear much fruit.