

# Hosea 12

Heeding The Prophets Warning

# Introduction

- Trei Asar – The prophet now reverts to his previous theme of relaying the Almighty's contentions with the Jewish people for their misdeeds - seeking once more to inspire them to repent., he draws a distinction between the sinful nation of Israel and the people of Judah, who were still loyal to Hashem. Although the latter were also eventually exiled for their sinful ways, the following verse refer to a point in time when this was not yet the case.
- Some interpret this to be the time when the kingdom of Israel was first split in two. Whereas Jeroboam shortly thereafter introduced idolatry to the nation of the ten tribes and led the people astray.

# Introduction

- Judah still remained faithful to Hashem and continued to cling to His ways (Radak). Alternatively this prophecy depicts the generation of the destruction of the kingdom of Israel, at which time Hezekiah ruled over the land of Judah and led them in a renaissance of Torah scholarship and spiritual growth.

# Judah

- Hos 12:2 Ephraim is grazing on wind and pursuing the east wind. All day he multiplies lies and ruin: making a pact with Assyria, while carrying oil to Egypt.
- Hos 12:3 Adonai also has a dispute with Judah: He will punish Jacob for his ways, repaying him for his deeds.
- Hos 12:4 In the womb he grasped his brother's heel, and in his vigor he strove with God.
- Hos 12:5 Yes, he wrestled with the angel and won; he wept and sought his favor. At Bethel he will find us, and there He will speak with us.

# Judah

Trei Asar pages 118-119

Look at all that I have granted Jacob (and how his descendants repay my kindness). While yet in his mother's womb, he seized the heel of his brother Esau (in an effort to prevent him from emerging first and earning for himself the birthright), displaying thereby the superhuman strength that I bestowed upon him (Rashi) Indeed, such a feat is nothing short of miraculous. A baby while still in the womb has no power or control over his limbs, and it is certainly not capable of piercing its placenta as well as that of its twin and grasping the latter's heel. Obviously, then, this was a sign from above that in the end of days, the descendants of Jacob will conquer and subjugate those of Esau (Ibn Ezra; Radak)

Genesis 25:23 – 27, Romans 9:10

# Judah

- But My wonders with their father Jacob did not end there. Years later, I enabled him to struggle with an angel of God and indeed, to prevail over him.
- This too was not a natural event. This was also a sign of the destiny of the Jewish nation.
- Genesis 32:25-31
- Why, then, do the children of Jacob not remember these facts and take them to heart? Why do they not turn to Me for salvation rather than relying on alliance with heathen nations (Ibn Ezra; Metzudos David )

# Hashem The God of Hosts

- Hos 12:6 Even Adonai Elohei-Tzva'ot—Adonai is His memorial-Name.
- Hos 12:5 (12:6) ויהוה אלהי הצבאות יהוה זכרו:
- Just as He was then the God of Hosts, ruling over all that exists in the heavens above and on the earth below, so is He still the Almighty God. And His appellation (lit. His remembrance – the Name by which He is remembered) is יהוה

Which denotes that He is the Master of all existence (Rashi, Mahari Kara' Metzudos David)

# Character of Ephraim

- **Hos 12:8** A merchant loves to extort, with deceptive balances in his hand.
- Hos 12:9 Now Ephraim has said: “How rich I have become! I found wealth by myself. I won’t be guilty of any sin with any of my property.”
- **He is a Merchant – Good Businessman**
- **He is deceitful in dealings**
- **He boasts about His Majesty**
- **He is hypocritical**
- **Claims Innocence when guilty of many sins**
- **America is a mirror image of Ephraim – Started out walking with God and soon forgot who the blessings came from.**

# God Reminds Them of His Deliverance

- **Hos 12:10** “Yet I have been Adonai your God, since the land of Egypt. I will yet again make you dwell in tents, as in the days of the moed. (feasts)
- Trei Asar pg. 122 (Ref. to Sukkot) For I am the very God Whom your ancestors came to recognize in the land of Egypt. There I delivered you with miracles and overt manifestations of My power, and there I dwelt with you directly through My Divine Providence rather than through any celestial intermediary. In this manner I fed you and housed you in tents (in the wilderness) and I have dealt with you similarly whenever you have hearkened to My voice. So, too, shall I yet deliver you from the lands of the gentiles in which you will be dispersed. At that time I will house you in tents in the wilderness and show you My miracles just as I did when I delivered you from Egypt, until I eventually return you to the land of your fathers. (Radak, comm. Ibid; cf Ibn Ezra; Mahari Kara)

# God Sends His Prophets

- **Hos 12:11** I also spoke through the prophets and I multiplied visions. Now through the prophets I will make parables.
- You will be as my mouth (Jer. 15:19); say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God' (Ezek. 3:11); speak to the house of Israel (Ezek. 3:1); you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God' (Ezek. 2:4); the Lord has given me the tongue of those who are taught (Isa. 50:4); the law will be in your mouth (Exod. 13:9); he made my mouth like a sharp sword (Isa. 49:2); let him who has my word speak my word truthfully (Jer. 23:28); I will speak of your testimonies before kings (Ps. 119:46); let the redeemed of the Lord say so (Ps. 107:2); the prophets spoke in your name to our kings and all the people (Dan. 9:6); I speak of what I have seen with my Father (John 8:38); speak to the people in the temple all the words of this life (Acts 5:20); they could not withstand the wisdom and Spirit with which he spoke (Acts 6:10); you were enriched in him with all speech and knowledge (1 Cor. 1:5); our words are not by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit (1 Cor. 2:13); we believe, therefore we speak (2 Cor. 4:13); you desire proof that Christ is speaking in me (2 Cor. 13:3); the traditions you were taught, whether by word of mouth or letter (2 Thess. 2:15); the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord (Jas. 5:10); God did according to Moses' word (Exod. 8:13).

# God Spoke By The Prophets

- **God spoke by the prophets**
- You have commanded by your servants the prophets (Ezra 9:11); God spoke to our forefathers by the prophets (Heb. 1:1); as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets (Luke 1:70); the Lord spoke through his servants the prophets (2 Kgs. 21:10; 2 Kgs. 24:2); I spoke through my servants the prophets of Israel (Ezek. 38:17); his teachings which he gave us by his servants the prophets (Dan. 9:10); are not these the words which the Lord proclaimed by the former prophets? (Zech. 7:7); did not my words which I commanded my servants the prophets overtake your fathers? (Zech. 1:6); the words which the Lord sent by his Spirit through the former prophets (Zech. 7:12); the word of the Lord came to Ezekiel the priest, son of Buzi (Ezek. 1:3); the Lord warned Israel through the prophets (2 Kgs. 17:13); the Lord has raised up prophets for us in Babylon (Jer. 29:15); this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet (Matt. 1:22); what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets (Acts 3:18); God spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets (Acts 3:21); the mystery of God which he announced to his slaves the prophets (Rev. 10:7); you admonished them by your Spirit through the prophets (Neh. 9:30); I have hewn them by the prophets (Hos. 6:5).

# God Sends Prophets

- I sent my servants the prophets (Jer. 7:25; Jer. 44:4); the Lord has sent you all his servants the prophets (Jer. 25:4); I sent my servants the prophets to them repeatedly (Jer. 29:19); I raised up some of your sons to be prophets (Amos 2:11); I will send prophets and apostles (Luke 11:49); when the Israelites cried to the Lord, he sent a prophet (Judg. 6:8); anoint Elisha prophet in your place (1 Kgs. 19:16). will send you prophets and wise men and scribes (Matt. 23:34); will send prophets and apostles (Luke 11:49); when the Israelites cried to the Lord, he sent a prophet (Judg. 6:8); anoint Elisha prophet in your place (1 Kgs. 19:16).

# Prophets Sent By God

- **Prophets sent by God**
- God was angry with Amaziah and sent a prophet (2 Chr. 25:15); God sent Amos to prophesy (Amos 7:14–15); the Lord sent prophets to bring the people back to him (2 Chr. 24:19); I have appointed you a prophet to the nations (Jer. 1:5); the Lord sent me to prophesy (Jer. 26:12); I will send you Elijah the prophet (Mal. 4:5); the Lord said to me, ‘Go prophesy to my people Israel’ (Amos 7:15); the Lord had sent Haggai (Hag. 1:12).

# Looking Back

- Hos 12:14 So by a prophet Adonai brought Israel up out of Egypt, and by a prophet he was kept.
- Hos 13:4-5; Exo 12:50-51, Exo 13:3; 1Sa 12:8; Psa 77:20; Isa 63:11-12; Amo 2:11-12; Mic 6:4; Act 3:22-23, Act 7:35-37
- Yeshua's Warning – Matthew 24
  
- **Signs of the End of the Age**
- Mat 24:3 As He was sitting on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, when will these things happen? What will be the sign of Your coming and of the **end of the age?**"
- Mat 24:4 Yeshua answered them, "Be careful that no one leads you astray!
- Mat 24:5 For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Messiah,' and will lead many astray.
- Mat 24:6 You will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must happen but it is not yet the end.
- Mat 24:7 For nation will rise up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines and earthquakes in various places.
- Mat 24:8 But all these things are only the beginning of birth pains.

# Looking Back

- **Mat 24:9** Then they will hand you over to persecution and will kill you. You will be hated by all the nations because of My name.
- Mat 24:10 And then many will fall away and will betray one another and hate one other.
- Mat 24:11 **Many false prophets will arise and lead many astray.**
- Mat 24:12 Because lawlessness will multiply, the love of many will grow cold.
- Mat 24:13 But the one who endures to the end will be saved.
- Mat 24:14 This Good News of the kingdom shall be proclaimed in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

-