



Daily Verse and Comment

Hosea 7:1-4

(1) "When I would have healed Israel, then the iniquity of Ephraim was uncovered, and the wickedness of Samaria, for they have worked falsehood. And the thief comes in, the troop of robbers plunders outside. (2) And they consider not within their hearts that I remember all their evil. Now their own doings have hemmed them in; they are before My face. (3) They make the king glad with their wickedness, and the rulers with their lies. (4) They *are* all adulterers, like an oven heated by the baker; he stops stirring, from kneading the dough, until it is leavened.

A Faithful Version

We cannot fail to see the same conditions prevailing in our nation. For [God](#) to bring about [repentance](#) and healing, He must first restore a knowledge of His standards. But when He does, the faithlessness becomes very apparent. It sounds much like Paul saying, "When the commandment came, [sin](#) revived and I died" ([Romans 7:9](#)).

Unfortunately, when God exposed the Israelites' sins, they did not repent as Paul did. Genuine repentance is impossible without a consciousness of sin. Hosea's indictment is that Israel was not conscious of their faithlessness to God: "They [did] not consider in their hearts." This shows how "far gone" they were under sin's addiction. They had become almost completely numb to their spiritual state. Spiritually speaking, they were sleepwalking through life, unaware of the social disaster they had created and in which they were wallowing. Faithlessness was the "norm" and generally accepted.

When this faithlessness combines with marriage and promiscuous sex, very few people will change, despite all the evidence of how destructive this sin is! Syphilis, gonorrhea, herpes, chlamydia, AIDS, broken homes, increased

illegitimacy, rebellious children, teens bearing children, and latch-key kids—who see their parents only at bedtime because both parents work to provide them "with the better things in life"—are just some of the effects.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[The Seventh Commandment \(1997\)](#)

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