

Ephraim's Iniquity

7:1 **W**HEN I ^awould heal Israel,

The iniquity of Ephraim is uncovered,

And the evil deeds of Samaria,

For they deal ^bfalsely;

The thief enters in,

^cBandits raid outside,

2 And they do not ¹consider in their hearts

That I ^aremember all their wickedness.

Now their ^bdeeds are all around them;

They are before My face.

3 ^aWith their wickedness they make the ^bking glad,

And the princes with their ^clies.

4 They are ^aall adulterers

Like an oven heated by the baker,

Who ceases to stir up *the fire*

From the kneading of the dough until it is leavened. On the ¹day of our king, the
princes ^abecame sick with the heat of wine;

5 He stretched out his hand with ^bscoffers,

6 For their hearts are like an ^aoven

As they approach their ¹plotting;

Their ²anger ³smolders all night,

In the morning it burns like a flaming fire.

7 All of them are hot like an oven,

And they consume their ^arulers;

All their kings have fallen.

^bNone of them calls on Me.

8 Ephraim ^amixes himself with the ¹nations;

Ephraim has become a cake not turned.

9 ^aStrangers devour his strength,

Yet he ^bdoes not know *it*;

Gray hairs also are sprinkled on him,

Yet he does not know *it*.

10 Though the ^apride of Israel testifies against him,

Yet ^bthey have neither returned to the LORD their God,

Nor have they sought Him, for all this.

11 So ^aEphraim has become like a silly dove, ^bwithout ¹sense;

They call to ^cEgypt, they go to ^dAssyria.

12 When they go, I will ^aspread My net over them;

I will bring them down like the birds of the sky.

I will ^bchastise them in accordance with the ¹proclamation to their assembly.

13 ^aWoe to them, for they have ^bstrayed from Me!

Destruction is theirs, for they have rebelled against Me!

I ^cwould redeem them, but they speak lies against Me.
14 And ^athey do not cry to Me from their heart
When they wail on their beds;
For the sake of grain and new wine they ¹ ^bassemble themselves,
They ^cturn away from Me.
15 Although I trained *and* strengthened their arms,
Yet they ^adevise evil against Me.
16 They turn, *but* not ¹upward,
They are like a ^adeceitful bow;
Their princes will fall by the sword
Because of the ² ^binsolence of their tongue.
This *will be* their ^cderision in the land of Egypt.
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^a Ezek. 24:13; Hos. 6:4; 7:13; 11:8

^b Hos. 4:2

^c Hos. 6:9

¹ Lit., *say to their heart*

^a Ps. 25:7; Jer. 14:10; 17:1; Hos. 8:13; 9:9; Amos 8:7

^b Jer. 2:19; 4:18; Hos. 4:9

^a Rom. 1:32

^b Jer. 28:1-4; Hos. 7:5; Mic. 7:3

^c Hos. 4:2; 11:12

^a Jer. 9:2; 23:10

¹ I.e., a festive occasion

^a Is. 28:1, 7

^b Is. 28:14

^a Ps. 21:9

¹ Lit., *ambush*

² So with some ancient versions; M.T., *baker*

³ Lit., *sleeps*

^a Hos. 13:10

^b Is. 64:7

^a Ps. 106:35

¹ Lit., *peoples*

^a Is. 1:7; Hos. 8:7

^b Hos. 4:6

^a Hos. 5:5

^b Is. 9:13

^a Hos. 11:11

^b Hos. 4:6, 11, 14; 5:4

¹ Lit., *heart*

^c Hos. 8:13; 9:3, 6

^d Hos. 5:13; 8:9; 12:1

^a Ezek. 12:13

^b Lev. 26:14-39; Deut. 28:15

¹ Lit., *report*

^a Hos. 9:12

^b Jer. 14:10; Ezek. 34:6; Hos. 9:17

^c Jer. 51:9; Hos. 7:1; Matt. 23:37

^a Job 35:9-11; Hos. 8:2; Zech. 7:5

¹ Or, with Gr. and many ancient mss., *gash themselves*

^b Judg. 9:27; Amos 2:8; Mic. 2:11

^c Hos. 13:16

^a Nah. 1:9

¹ Or possibly, *to the Most High*

^a Ps. 78:57

² Lit., *indignation*; or, *cursing*

^b Ps. 12:3, 4; 17:10; 73:9; Dan. 7:25; Mal. 3:13, 14

^c Ezek. 23:32; Hos. 9:3, 6

ⁱ *The New American Standard Bible*, (La Habra, California: The Lockman Foundation) 1977.