20210919 Hosea 8:1-7

The Wind is Blowing

The main content of today’s text is God’s accusation of Israel’s sin of idolatry. From chapter 1 of Hosea, God pointed out their sins, but they did not repent at all. Israel became a very strong country by God’s grace, but they gave glory to the golden calf, an idol.

Hosea(NKJV) 8:7a

They sow the wind, and reap the whirlwind.

In Hosea 8, the word ‘wind’ stands out. They were special winds that swept through all of Israel.

Hosea(NKJV) 8:5-8:6a

5 Your calf is rejected, O Samaria! My anger is aroused against them--How long until they attain to innocence?

6a For from Israel is even this： A workman made it.

The first wind that blew was the “golden calf.” It was Israel’s greatest heyday after King David and Solomon. It was ruled by Jeroboam II. When he became king, the surrounding countries had serious internal problems, and during that time he took control of the trade in the Mediterranean Sea, strengthening the army and the country. The Bible says that all this was the grace of God who had compassion on Israel, but Israel gave all the glory to the golden calf, and a golden calf fever blew across the country. This golden calf was built by King Jeroboam II, the first king of northern Israel.

Hosea(NKJV) 8:1

Set the trumpet to your mouth! He shall come like an eagle against the house of the LORD, because they have transgressed My covenant And rebelled against My law.

God calls a nation with the strength of an eagle, makes the trumpet of war sound in the land of Israel, and creates a storm of war. They firmly believe that ‘serving the golden calf’ means ‘serving God.’ So, they called themselves “the house of God,” and there was a false belief that they would never be destroyed. Money itself is not a sin. What sin is there when gold is just gold? The moment money becomes an idol, the moment gold becomes a calf, serious problem arises. It becomes a storm and the church sways by that storm. It makes them perceive that God is the one who is giving the money, and it becomes a big problem.

Hosea(NKJV) 8:7

They sow the wind, And reap the whirlwind. The stalk has no bud; It shall never produce meal. If it should produce, Aliens would swallow it up.

God says that all the ‘investment in the golden calf’ they have made is ‘planting the wind,’ and the profit it will bring is a ‘storm of war.’ The result of the golden calf craze is only a craze for war brought by eagles.

The Israelites used God as a tool and met the wind of war. Hosea is shouting “Please, let us know God.” this is not what God wants us to do.

John (NKJV) 3:8

"The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

It is the wind of Holy Spirit. You become a ‘living person’ only when Holy Spirit raises a new wind in you. The Son of God came to this land and restored the ‘breath of God’ that Adam had lost. He has completed all preparations to breathe the breath of God and wind of the Holy Spirit into all people on this earth. He blows this wind into you when you come before the cross. He saves you again and leads you to live vigorously with a different goal. Let us all be those who adore this wind of the Holy Spirit.