



**VOLUME: 22 / ISSUE: 8**

**CONTROVERSY: Part 2**

**AUGUST 2022**

Our Scripture text says: *Therefore shall the land mourn (lament), and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish (droop), with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away. Yet let no man strive, nor reprove another: for thy people are as they that strive with the priest. Therefore shalt thou fall in the day, and the prophet also shall fall with thee in the night, and I will destroy thy mother (Israel as a nation). My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge (knowing God), I will also reject (refuse) thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten (become oblivious to) the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children (Hosea 4:3-6).*

In the Book of Hosea, the prophet of God deliberately declares incriminating statements against Israel. Israel's idolatry caused them to violate God's Law morally, socially, and spiritually. This led to poverty and natural famine. However, since the whole nation was guilty, leaders as well as the people, no one was in a position to blame anyone else.

The same destructive things are now taking place in America. Presently, America is under duress, illegal usurpation, coupled with sorrow. America is wasting away like the emaciated prisoners of Auschwitz.

Nearly every week we witness mass murder in America. The spirit of abortion/murder has been fomenting for so long that the same spirit is hemorrhaging our culture and taking the lives of many who live outside the womb.

“*Blood toucheth blood*” earlier in

**verse 2**, speaks of murder after murder. This is occurring in America due to rejecting the God of the Bible. Without national repentance there is no hope for America.

The church in America is terribly adrift. Many are not preaching the Word of God, which demands knowledge of Jehovah. Most have no idea who God is; that He must be revered and honored.

For there to be stability within America, the church must be both the salt and the light of the earth.

**Firstly**, Jesus said, *“Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost (or become stupid) his savour, where with shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out (or thrown away), and to be trodden under foot of men” (Matthew 5:13).*

The word “lost” (#3471 in *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*), *moros* in Greek, from which we get our word *moron*; means: *to be dull, stupid, blockheaded, and absurd.*

We are now witnessing immeasurable absurdity throughout our land. It is imperative everyone have knowledge of God. Men will never have knowledge of God until they hear the Word of God, *“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God” (Romans 10:17).*

America's children lost knowledge of God when prayer was taken out of our schools. Many in this generation know very little about God or about America and its inception. It is a shame but this generation knows very little about their American Heritage. Many don't know who the president was during the Civil War, or who the first U.S. president was,

and most have no clue why we celebrate Memorial Day.

**Secondly**, Jesus said, *“Ye are the light of the world, A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid (kept secret)” (Matthew 5:14).* Admittedly, the church has lost its saltiness and light. The church was to be a well-lit city that could not be hidden in a dark and despairing world.

Seemingly the church has become insignificant, irrelevant, and having no purpose in society. I question, is the modern church going to make America a better place? What a shame, disgrace, and reproach many so called Christians have brought upon the God of our salvation.

I believe an event is coming to America that will cause our land to languish with the beast of the field and the fowls of the air. That event will probably be nuclear in nature.

I have said for quite some time the Ukrainian war will encourage other despots to make their move concerning worldly power and greed. China will go for Taiwan. Israel will unilaterally attack Iran. North Korea will go after South Korea. The other remaining nations will take sides and, sadly, we will be in World War III. I do not say these things to trouble you but I say them because of the sin that has destroyed America.

In **verse 4** of our Scripture text, we see the prophet of God indicts everyone; no man is to strive or reprove another. The reason no one was qualified to reprove another is because God had a “controversy” *with all people.*

Hosea previously declared there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land. The

prophet was declaring; *don't point your fingers at someone else and pass the blame.*

We all are partly responsible for the chaos and sin that fills America: yet why are we not hearing sermons about sin? Jehovah's greatest complaint was against the priest.

Admittedly most preachers are afraid to say anything about sin lest they offend someone. The modern pastoral hireling wants to be liked and embraced; therefore they will not say anything that would make them unpopular. Compromise has destroyed the spiritual integrity of many a godly minister. Be assured a compromised preacher will never preach against sin! Some are so compromised Satan is blackmailing them spiritually and they cannot cry against sin.

Nearly every week I hear of some who have fallen from God's grace and that breaks my heart. Let me say, prayer and the Word of God will keep temptations at bay. This is why Jehovah was so upset with the priest. The Temple priest during the days of Hosea had profaned God's Temple.

Many today are profaning God's house. As believers, we rarely hear sermons that challenge us to overcome sin so as to inherit the kingdom of God. If we do not overcome, we will not inherit eternal life, *"To him that overcometh (gets the victory) will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame (prevailed), and am set down with my Father in His throne"* (Revelation 3:21).

Some may ask the question: *What are we supposed to overcome?* We are to overcome sin, temptations, trials, and sufferings! Following Christ and bearing ones cross faithfully will make us overcomers!

In **verse 5**, Hosea declares Israel will fall and stumble and the false prophets will fall with them. We witness today the proliferation of false prophets and how they have

become legion.

I have heard so many *false prophecies* before, during, and after the Trump administration that I can't number them. These false prophets continue their false prophesies and never make things right. Instead, they continue onward with their woefully adulterated false prophecies.

Do we not believe, if Elohim wanted Donald Trump to have a second presidential term, He could have fulfilled those prophecies? Is the God of the Bible so powerless He can no longer deal in the affairs of men? Has Jehovah lost His mighty power that Elijah witnessed on Mount Carmel? Can He no longer put into the hearts of men what He wills? Can not the God of Abraham turn a king's heart like the course of a river? *"The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will"* (Proverbs 21:1). Why are we grappling with false prophecies when the Word of God declares, *"For God hath put in their hearts to fulfill his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled"* (Revelation 17:17).

Either God is God or He is not? I still believe Christ is Lord of all. The church had better soon awakened itself, lest many more souls become deceived and perish in the end.

In **verse 6**, the prophet declares, *"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge"*. Often times I hear this verse misquoted in reference to human reasoning coupled with secular knowledge. That interpretation is not accurate.

This is about people having knowledge of God. The prophet is referring to **verse 1** because that is where Jehovah begins His controversy when He declares, *"there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God"*. It is knowledge of God that Hosea is addressing when he says,

*"my people are destroyed for lack of knowledge"*. The truth is many today have no true knowledge of God.

In **verse 6**, Jehovah declares He will reject the people and the priest altogether. He declares the priest shall be no more priest unto Him because they have forgotten His Word.

Jehovah then delivers a very disturbing decree when He says, *"I will also forget thy children"*. Is it me or does it seem to you this generation has no consciousness of God?

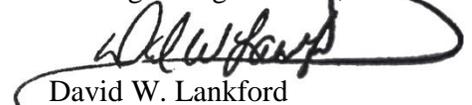
We read in **Judges 2:10**, *"... and there arose another generation after them, which knew not the LORD, nor yet the works which he hath done for Israel"*.

In the past 25-40 years, we have lost the power of God within our churches and therefore the children of this generation know nothing of His Holy Ghost power! We no longer witness or hear Holy Ghost testimonies declaring His wondrous saving grace and power. Does the modern church no longer have anything to testify about?

Truly we need a restoration concerning the knowledge of God or days of mourning are ahead just over the horizon. For this reason please join us Labor Day Weekend for our **"Revival in America"** meeting at the Hickory Metro Convention Center in Hickory, North Carolina. I would love to see many of you and bless you with some old fashion Holy Ghost hospitality!

Please come and bring someone with you. Registration is free and will help us plan proper seating. Our singers and musicians will emphasize old songs and hymns.

Serving Alongside You,



David W. Lankford  
Pastor / Evangelist