

Hosea 11

New King James Version (NKJV)

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God's Continuing Love for Israel

1 "When Israel was a child, I loved him,
And out of Egypt I called My son.

2 As they called them,[a]
So they went from them:[b]
They sacrificed to the Baals,
And burned incense to carved images.

3 "I taught Ephraim to walk,
Taking them by their arms:[c]
But they did not know that I healed them.

4 I drew them with gentle cords,[d]
With bands of love,
And I was to them as those who take the yoke from
their neck.[e]

I stooped and fed them.

5 "He shall not return to the land of Egypt;
But the Assyrian shall be his king,
Because they refused to repent.

6 And the sword shall slash in his cities,
Devour his districts,
And consume them,
Because of their own counsels.

7 My people are bent on backsliding from Me.
Though they call to the Most High,[f]
None at all exalt Him.

8 "How can I give you up, Ephraim?

How can I hand you over, Israel?

How can I make you like Admah?

How can I set you like Zeboiim?

My heart churns within Me;

My sympathy is stirred.

9 I will not execute the fierceness of My anger;

I will not again destroy Ephraim.

For I am God, and not man,

The Holy One in your midst;

And I will not come with terror.[g]

10 “ They shall walk after the LORD.

He will roar like a lion.

When He roars,

Then His sons shall come trembling from the west;

11 They shall come trembling like a bird from Egypt,

Like a dove from the land of Assyria.

And I will let them dwell in their houses,”

Says the LORD.

God’s Charge Against Ephraim

12 “ Ephraim has encircled Me with lies,

And the house of Israel with deceit;

But Judah still walks with God,

Even with the Holy One[h]who is faithful.