

Finishing Well  
(Hosea 5; Phil 3:8-14)

Hosea Is Speaking to a Nation That Started Well, But Finished Poorly - Hos 6:4; 7:8

- The Cause: A failure of faithfulness - Hos 4:1; 5:3
- Warning Signs of a failing relationship:
  - ...loss of warmth - Matt 15:8
  - ...loss of the personal - Hos 6:6
  - ...cynical, critical attitudes
  - ...lack of creativity/spontaneity
  - ...absence of revelation/self-disclosure
- How did we get that way?
  - ...passivity
  - ...pollution - Hos 5:3; 7:8
  - ...pride - Hos 5:5

How God May Respond:

- Like a Moth - Hos 5:12
  - ...destruction from within
  - ...loss of the precious - Ps 39:11
  - ...a wasting away - Ps 31:10; 106:15; Is 10:16
- Like a Lion - Hos 5:14
  - ...sudden, open attack from without

God's Intent: - Hos 5:15

- Own our loss/dilemma
  - ...nothing changes until we are honest
- Acknowledge our guilt - I Jo 1:9; Col 2:13
  - ...I agree with you... thank you for your forgiveness
- Seek His face - Ex 33:11; Ps 27:7-9
  - ...intimate, personal sharing
- Earnestly Seek Him - Heb 11:6; Jo 14:21
  - ..."That I might know you" at every opportunity

ALWAYS PRESSING ON SO THAT WE NEVER FALL BACK - Phil 3:8-14