

“The Test Of Prosperity” Hosea 13:4-6

I. Twin Truths About Israel Prior to its Demise

Q - “Adversity makes men, Prosperity, makes monsters.” Victor Hugo writer of *Les Misérables*

A) Israel Experienced Renewed Prosperity

Hosea 1:1 & Jeroboam II

Hosea 12:8 Ephraim has said "Ah, but I am rich; I have found wealth for myself ...

B) Israel Experienced Progressive Turmoil

Hosea 7:6-7, 11

II. The Test of Prosperity

“Let’s see if I can handle it LORD?”

A) What is the Result of Israel’s Prosperity?

1) Forgot that it was God who gives the power to attain wealth

Hosea 2:8, Deuteronomy 8:11-17

2) Multiplied Idols and False Worship

Hosea 10:1, 13:2

3) They built more palaces

Hosea 8:14

4) Israel’s Sin *Increased*

Hosea 4:6-7 ... *The more they increased, the more they sinned against me*

Proverbs 9:10

5) Israel longed for More Wealth

Hosea 7:13-14

Q - “Measure wealth not by the things you have, but by the things you have for which you would not take money.”

Anonymous

B) What were the Consequences of turning away from God?

Hosea 13:6 & Hosea 11:5

1) Trusting in other nations for Help: Hosea 8:9-10

2) Erecting Substitutes for God: Hosea 8:4-7

3) Ingrained Habits became an Obstacle to return: Hosea 5:3-4

III. How Can I Prepare for the Test of Prosperity?

A) Repent Now see Hosea 10:12, 5:15

B) Be Intentional Along the Way

1) Increase your giving when you get increases in pay or bonuses

2) On vacation endeavor to take one day

3) Fast and Pray 1 meal a week

4) When something “good” happens - thank the LORD.

5) Memorize verses that remind you that it is God who gives prosperity: Deuteronomy 8:18; 3 John 1:2

6) Remember the Gospel: 2 Corinthians 8:9

7) Grad School Level - Life Verse: Proverbs 30:7-9

Assyrian Judgment 734-701 B.C.

<u>Prophet</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Location</u>	
Jonah	793-753	Nineveh	
Hosea	750-722	Northern Israel	3 invasions: 740-734 B.C., 722 B.C., 701 B.C.
Amos	760-750	Northern Israel	(722 Fall of Samaria - Assyrian Exile)
Micah	735-701	Judah	
Nahum	663-612	Judah	
Isaiah	740-701	Judah	

Babylonian Judgement 605-586 B.C.

<u>Prophet</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Location</u>	
Jeremiah	626-586	Judah	
Zephaniah	640-609	Judah	
Joel	597-586	Judah	3 Invasions: 605 B.C., 597 B.C., 586/7 B.C.
Obadiah	597-586	Judah	(586 Fall of Jerusalem - Babylonian Exile)
Habakkuk	605	Judah	
Ezekiel	597-586	Babylon	
Daniel	605-539	Babylon	

Restoration Period 539-400 B.C.

<u>Prophet</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Location</u>	
Haggai	520	Jerusalem	Rebuilding of Temple Finished 515 B.C.
Zechariah	520	Jerusalem	(538/9 B.C. Return from Exile)
Malachi	450-400	Jerusalem	

Preaching Schedule

<u>DATES</u>	<u>BOOKS</u>	<u>Subject/Topic</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>BOOKS</u>	<u>Subject/Topic</u>
Oct 14	Intro	1) Intro to Minor Prophets	Jan 13	Jonah	13) The Missionary God
Oct 21	Hosea	2) This is your last chance	Jan 20	Obadiah	14) Reveling in Disaster
Oct 28	Hosea	3) No Rivals	Jan 27	Micah	15) Messiah & the Latter Days
Nov 4	Hosea	4) God's Amazing Love	Feb 3	Micah	16) What the LORD Requires
Nov 11	Amos	5) Social Justice is Godly	Feb 10	Nahum	17) Nineveh's Impending Fall
Nov 18	Amos	6) The Day of the LORD	Feb 17	Zephaniah	18) Judgement & Singing
Nov 25	Amos	7) Judgement & Salvation	Feb 24	Haggai	19) Rebuilding Project
Dec 2		New Members Sunday	Mar 3	Zechariah	20) Repent & Return to God
Dec 9	Amos	8) Recognizing Hand of LORD	Mar 10	Zechariah	21) 8 Visions
Dec 16	Joel	9) The Day of the LORD	Mar 17	Zechariah	22) Joshua the High Priest
Dec 23	Joel	10) The Day of the Church	Mar 24	Malachi	23) Return to Me
Dec 30	Habakkuk	11) Righteous Live by Faith	Mar 31	Summary	24) Minor Prophets
Jan 6	Habakkuk	12) Hope: Always Rejoicing			