# Disobedience & Destruction Hosea 4 & 5

"What each one honors before all else, what before all things he admires and loves, this for him is God."

-Origen

I. The Verdict

## II. The Sentence

### Into the Bible

1. Hosea's ministry is to challenge both Israel and Judah with God's impending judgment. God uses Hosea to warn His people that intermarrying into and adopting elements of the neighboring cultures would forfeit the blessings of their unique covenant status with God. Is this warning for Israel only or does the New Testament contain similar warnings to us? (1 Peter 2:9-12, Romans 12:1-2, 1 John 2:15-17, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

2. As we saw in the earlier passages in Hosea, Israel had turned to pagan idols for their provision rather than God who actually blessed their harvests. In the current chapters they had begun to trust their security to earthly power rather than God-military might and diplomacy. Why is putting our hope and trust in earthly authorities and power to keep us safe and secure seriously misplaced? (2 Chronicles 20:1-6, Psalm 20:6-8, Romans 13:1, John 18:36)

#### Application

3. In Hosea 5:3 God tells Israel that He sees them clearly and nothing escapes His sight. Why is this oversight both a warning and a reassurance to us as Christians? (Proverbs 15:3, Ecclesiastes 12:13-14, Hebrews 4:13, 1 John 3:19-21)

4. God's judgment rightfully falls on those who rebel against Him and reject His offer of salvation. (Romans 2:1-9) How is God's disciplining of us different in its intent? (Hebrews 12:5-11)

### For Families

**5.** Talk with your children about the security of putting our trust in God to keep us safe.