

# Reaping the Whirlwind

## Hosea 6-8

Many think they repent when it is not the offense but the penalty that troubles them.

-Thomas Watson

### I. The Wrong Approach

## II. The Wrong Affections

## III. The Wrong Understanding

### Into the Bible

1. In Hosea 6:1, Israel is urged to return to the same God who is judging them, acknowledging that He will heal the very wounds He has inflicted. We affirm God for restoring lives that are broken (Psalm 147:3), why does He sometimes need to break us before the healing begins? (Deuteronomy 32:39, Job 5:17-18, Hebrews 12:6)

### Application

2. Idolatry is very transactional in nature—if I do these things for my god, then I can expect these results in return. But true worship is a matter of heart commitment. (Hosea 6:4-6) In Matthew 23:13-26, Jesus harshly condemns the Pharisees for their empty worship practices. They were doing all the right things expecting God to reward them for their obedience but missing the right heart attitude. In light of this, how should we evaluate our own approach to worshipping God both daily and weekly? What do I bring to God and what do I expect from Him?

3. Hosea 8:7 uses the striking phrase of “sowing the wind” only to “reap the whirlwind”. Galatians 6:7-8 seem to echo this. Why should we be concerned about the consequences of a pattern of seemingly minor sins?

### **For Families**

4. Talk with your children about why God wants our heart to be right before our obedience.