



#### PRAY:

Father show us who you are. Show us your person, your power, your purposes. Overwhelm us with a knowledge of you that penetrates our minds and imbeds itself in the deepest recesses of our hearts. Let this knowledge so change our hearts that it results in our lives being lived in light of who you are, what you have done and what you say is true about us in Jesus Christ.

Notes Thoughts Questions:



### AS YOU READ THROUGH TODAY'S PASSAGES REFLECT ON THESE QUESTIONS:

What are some things revealed in these passages about the person and character of God? Who is he? What is he like?

What are some things that God has done to reveal who he is?

Who are you in light of God's work? What is it that God is saying about you?

How should knowing who God is, what he has done and what he says about you change how you live?



### Jehoahaz Reigns in Israel

13 In the twenty-third year of Joash the son of Ahaziah, king of Judah, Jehoahaz the son of Jehu began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and he reigned seventeen years. <sup>2</sup> He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and followed the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin; he did not depart from them. <sup>3</sup> And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel, and he gave them continually into the hand of Hazael king of Syria and into the hand of Ben-hadad the son of Hazael. <sup>4</sup> Then Jehoahaz sought the favor of the LORD, and the LORD listened to him, for he saw the oppression of Israel, how the king of Syria oppressed them. <sup>5</sup> (Therefore the LORD gave Israel a savior, so that they escaped from the hand of the Syrians, and the people of Israel lived in their homes as formerly. <sup>6</sup> Nevertheless, they did not depart from the sins of the house of Jeroboam, which he made Israel to sin, but walked in them; and the Asherah also remained in Samaria.) <sup>7</sup> For there was not left to Jehoahaz an army of more than fifty horsemen and ten chariots and ten thousand footmen, for the king of Syria had destroyed them and made them like the dust at threshing. 8 Now the rest of the acts of Jehoahaz and all that he did, and his might, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel? <sup>9</sup> So Jehoahaz slept with his fathers, and they buried him in Samaria, and Joash his son reigned in his place.

#### Jehoash Reigns in Israel

<sup>10</sup> In the thirty-seventh year of Joash king of Judah, Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and he reigned sixteen years. <sup>11</sup> He also did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin, but he walked in them. <sup>12</sup> Now the rest of the acts of Joash and all that he did, and the might with which he fought against Amaziah king of Judah, are they not written in the Book of the Chronicles of the Kings of Israel? <sup>13</sup> So Joash slept with his fathers, and Jeroboam sat on his throne. And Joash was buried in Samaria with the kings of Israel.

#### The Death of Elisha

<sup>14</sup> Now when Elisha had fallen sick with the illness of which he was to die, Joash king of Israel went down to him and wept before him, crying, "My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" <sup>15</sup> And Elisha said to him, "Take a bow and arrows." So he took a bow and arrows. <sup>16</sup> Then he said to the king of Israel, "Draw the bow," and he drew it. And Elisha laid his hands on the king's hands. <sup>17</sup> And he said, "Open the window eastward," and he opened it. Then Elisha said, "Shoot," and he shot. And he said, "The LORD's arrow of victory, the arrow of victory over Syria! For you shall fight the Syrians in Aphek until you have made an end of them." <sup>18</sup> And he said, "Take the arrows," and he took them. And he said to the king of Israel,

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"Strike the ground with them." And he struck three times and stopped. <sup>19</sup> Then the man of God was angry with him and said, "You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck down Syria until you had made an end of it, but now you will strike down Syria only three times."

<sup>20</sup> So Elisha died, and they buried him. Now bands of Moabites used to invade the land in the spring of the year. <sup>21</sup> And as a man was being buried, behold, a marauding band was seen and the man was thrown into the grave of Elisha, and as soon as the man touched the bones of Elisha, he revived and stood on his feet.

<sup>22</sup> Now Hazael king of Syria oppressed Israel all the days of Jehoahaz. <sup>23</sup> But the LORD was gracious to them and had compassion on them, and he turned toward them, because of his covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and would not destroy them, nor has he cast them from his presence until now.

<sup>24</sup> When Hazael king of Syria died, Ben-hadad his son became king in his place. <sup>25</sup> Then Jehoash the son of Jehoahaz took again from Ben-hadad the son of Hazael the cities that he had taken from Jehoahaz his father in war. Three times Joash defeated him and recovered the cities of Israel.



# II TIMOTHY 3

#### **Godlessness in the Last Days**

**3** But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. <sup>2</sup> For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, <sup>3</sup> heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, <sup>4</sup> treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, <sup>5</sup> having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. <sup>6</sup> For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, <sup>7</sup> always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth. <sup>8</sup> Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith. <sup>9</sup> But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.

#### All Scripture Is Breathed Out by God

<sup>10</sup> You, however, have followed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, <sup>11</sup> my persecutions and sufferings that happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra—which persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. <sup>12</sup> Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, <sup>13</sup> while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

<sup>14</sup> But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it <sup>15</sup> and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Notes Thoughts Questions:



# **HOSEA 5-6**

## **Punishment Coming for Israel and Judah**

**5** Hear this, O priests!

Pay attention, O house of Israel!

Give ear, O house of the king!

For the judgment is for you;

for you have been a snare at Mizpah

and a net spread upon Tabor.

<sup>2</sup> And the revolters have gone deep into slaughter,

but I will discipline all of them.

<sup>3</sup> I know Ephraim,

and Israel is not hidden from me;

for now, O Ephraim, you have played the whore;

Israel is defiled.

<sup>4</sup> Their deeds do not permit them

to return to their God.

For the spirit of whoredom is within them,

and they know not the LORD.

<sup>5</sup> The pride of Israel testifies to his face;

Israel and Ephraim shall stumble in his guilt;

Judah also shall stumble with them.

<sup>6</sup> With their flocks and herds they shall go

to seek the LORD,

but they will not find him;

he has withdrawn from them.

<sup>7</sup> They have dealt faithlessly with the LORD;

for they have borne alien children.

Now the new moon shall devour them with their fields.

<sup>8</sup> Blow the horn in Gibeah,

the trumpet in Ramah.

Sound the alarm at Beth-aven;

we follow you, O Benjamin!

<sup>9</sup> Ephraim shall become a desolation

in the day of punishment;

among the tribes of Israel

I make known what is sure.

<sup>10</sup> The princes of Judah have become

like those who move the landmark;

upon them I will pour out

my wrath like water.

<sup>11</sup> Ephraim is oppressed, crushed in judgment,

because he was determined to go after filth.

But I am like a moth to Ephraim,

and like dry rot to the house of Judah.

When Ephraim saw his sickness,

and Judah his wound,

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then Ephraim went to Assyria,
and sent to the great king.
But he is not able to cure you
or heal your wound.
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- For I will be like a lion to Ephraim,
  and like a young lion to the house of Judah.
  - I, even I, will tear and go away;

    I will carry off, and no one shall rescue.
- I will return again to my place, until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face, and in their distress earnestly seek me.

### **Israel and Judah Are Unrepentant**

- **6** "Come, let us return to the LORD; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.
- After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him.
- Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth."
- What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
  What shall I do with you, O Judah?
  Your love is like a morning cloud,
  like the dew that goes early away.

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- For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.
- But like Adam they transgressed the covenant; there they dealt faithlessly with me.
- Gilead is a city of evildoers, tracked with blood.
- As robbers lie in wait for a man, so the priests band together; they murder on the way to Shechem; they commit villainy.
- In the house of Israel I have seen a horrible thing;Ephraim's whoredom is there; Israel is defiled.
- <sup>11</sup> For you also, O Judah, a harvest is appointed.

When I restore the fortunes of my people,

# JOURNAL A PRAYER TO THE LORD FROM YOUR READING TODAY.