

Beginnings Famous & Endings

Hosea 14:9

“Who is wise? Let them realize these things. Who is discerning? Let them understand. The ways of the Lord are right; the righteous walk in them, but the rebellious tumble in them”

God asks Job *were you there in the beginning?* The Bible is consistent. The message has always been about truth. Who get's the truth? Proverbs tells us descriptions of the wise. Jesus has conflicts with the religious because they disagree with the claims of Jesus. Wisdom is given to Solomon. As his life progressed, it appears his wisdom became less and less. At times, we are left asking the same question. *Why did God allow it this way?*

Hosea begins with his marriage to a prostitute. It ends with the search for wisdom. This book is all about Israel being lost to the world. If we are lost then where do we go for wisdom? Sometimes we are just reading the Bible like here in Hosea. The cool part is that the Bible speaks to us in different ways all the time. A troubled person could come to this verse and be comforted. Why? Because God will bring us back to him if we search for him. Just because you go the wrong way as Hosea and Israel did, does not necessarily mean disaster.

I feel this Hosea verse is famous because it shows consistency. God the Father says return to me. Jesus came and asked the people to follow him. The message is the same. The wicked will persist. Wisdom can be gained. This should remind us that God will never stop trying to pick us up. In Romans 8 it says we can never be separated from the love of God. What it really means is God is always in it. Wise, smart, rich, or poor does not matter.

Putting it all together is that wisdom, truth, and second chances take time. Who is discerning? God is. Yet, he wants us to be too. We have to fall to get up. Gaining wisdom comes from experiencing trials. Wisdom also comes when we chose to get up. The wicked seem to stumble a lot. If we chose God then our paths are straight. We walk upright in the Lord. There are plenty of passages that tell the same story. The same truth.

So, does it mean that the wise in God will always succeed? No, but your chances are better. The wicked do win. Yes, they do, but pitfalls are disastrous for them. They have only themselves to blame, and only themselves to save them. The passage above reminds us that in the Lord is smarter, safer, and wiser when you need help. Having God there to help you through is better than nothing at all. History tends to repeat itself. Why? Learning takes time.

Job 33:29 says “**Behold, God does all these things, twice, three times, with a man.**”