

# Hosea 14:1-9

- This chapter provides hope for Israel's future.
- As a nation Israel will be restored in the distant future, but NOT until they have been changed by the Lord. Israel's salvation and obedience is not something they will accomplish. The Lord will need to do the work for them.
- The hope and restoration spoken of here is NOT the return from Babylon under Cyrus. The people returned from Babylonian captivity, but were again dispersed by the Romans.
- This is speaking of a restoration from the 722 BC Assyrian dispersion (and, also, the 70 AD dispersion by the Romans when that dispersion joined the Assyrian dispersion of 722 BC.)

Hosea 14:1 – “Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God,  
for you have stumbled because of your iniquity.”

5771 [e]	3782 [e]	3588 [e]	430 [e]	3068 [e]	5704 [e]	3478 [e]	7725 [e]
ba·'ā-wō-ne·kā.	קָשַׁלְתָּא	ki	בֵּלֹהֶקָּא;	Yah·weh	'ad	yíš·rā·'ēl,	עֲבָה
because of your iniquity	you have stumbled	for	your God	Yahweh	to	Israel	And return
Prep-b   N-csc   2ms	V-Qal-Perf-2ms	Conj	N-mpc   2ms	N-proper-ms	Prep	N-proper-ms	V-Qal-Imp-ms   3fs

1. Israel is called to return.
2. Israel's disobedience and dispersion is the result of their iniquity (or, guilt).

14:2 – “Take with you words

and return to the Lord;

say to him,

“Take away all iniquity;

accept what is good,

and we will pay with bulls

the vows of our lips.”

5375 [e]	3605 [e]	413 [e]	559 [e]	3068 [e]	413 [e]	7725 [e]	1697 [e]	5973 [e]	3947 [e]
tiš sā	kāl-	'ē·lāw,	'im·rū	Yah·weh;	'el-	wé·šū·bū	də·bā·rim	'im·mā·kem	qə·hū
take away	all	to Him	Say	Yahweh	to	and return	words	with you	Take
V-Qal-Imperf-2ms	N-msc	Prep   3ms	V-Qal-Imp-mp	N-proper-ms	Prep	Conj-w   V-Qal-Imp-mp	N-mp	Prep   2mp	V-Qal-Imp-mp

8193 [e]	6499 [e]	7999 [e]	2896 [e]	3947 [e]	5771 [e]
še·pā·tē·nū.	פָּרִים	וְנִשְׁלָמָה	טֹב	וְקַחְ	עֲוֹנָה
of our lips	the sacrifices	for we will offer	graciously	and Receive [us]	iniquity
N-fdc   1cp	N-mp	Conj-w   V-Piel-ConjImperf.Cohort-1cp	N-ms	Conj-w   V-Qal-Imp-ms	N-cs

1. Israel is told to bring words.

2. Four parts:

- a. Take away iniquity (guilt)
- b. Accept what is good (or, literally “take good”)
- c. Israel pays with bulls their vow

- d. Israel had made a vow with their words (lips)
3. The Hebrew says “that we offer our lips as bullocks” which means instead of sacrificed bulls we offer our words/lips. This is not a work of sacrifice, but a confession.

**14:3 – “Assyria shall not save us;  
we will not ride on horses;  
and we will say no more, ‘Our God,’  
to the work of our hands.  
In you the orphan finds mercy.”**

5750 [e]	559 [e]	3808 [e]	7392 [e]	3808 [e]	5483 [e]	5921 [e]	3467 [e]	3808 [e]	804 [e]
'ō-wd	nō-mar	wē-lō-	nir-kāb,	lō	sūs	'al-	yō-wō-šī-'ē-nū,	lō	'aš-šūr
עַזְׁדָּם	נֹמֵר	וְלֹא־	נִרְכֶּב	לֹא־	סֻסָּה	עַל־	יְוֹשִׁיבָנוּ	לֹא־	אַשּׁוּרִים
anymore	will we say	nor	we will ride	not	horses	on	shall save us	not	Assyria

Adv V-Qal-Imperf-1cp Conj-w | Adv-NegPrt V-Qal-Imperf-1cp Adv-NegPrt N-ms Prep V-Hifil-Imperf-3ms | 1cp Adv-NegPrt N-proper-fs

3490 [e]	7355 [e]	834 [e]	3027 [e]	4639 [e]	430 [e]
yā-tō-wm.	yē·ru·ham	bə·kā	'ă·śer-	yā·dē·nū; lə·ma·'ă·sēh	'ě·lō·hē·nū
יתּוּם:	יְרֻחָם	בְּךָ	אֲשֶׁר־	לִמְעָשָׂה	אֱלֹהִינוּ

N-ms V-Pual-Imperf-3ms Prep | 2ms Pro-r N-fdc | 1cp Prep-I | N-msc N-mpc | 1cp

1. Israel is abandoning all other hopes of salvation:
  - a. They will not trust Assyria
  - b. They will not trust their horses (Israel military might)
  - c. They will not trust the works of their hands (idols, and maybe ritual sacrifices)
2. Only in the LORD will they find mercy.
3. They recognize themselves as orphaned. They are without family.

**14:4 – “I will heal their apostasy;  
I will love them freely,  
for my anger has turned from them.”**

4480 [e]	639 [e]	7725 [e]	3588 [e]	5071 [e]	157 [e]	4878 [e]	7495 [e]
mim·men-nū.	'ap·pî	šāb	kî	ne·dā·bāh;	'ō·hā·bēm	mə·šū·bā·tām,	'er·pā
מִמְנָנוּ	אֲפִי	שָׁבָת	כִּי	נִרְבָּה	אֲהָבָם	מִשְׁוְבָתָם	אָרְפָּא

Prep | 3ms N-msc | 1cs V-Qal-Perf-3ms Conj N-fs V-Qal-Imperf-1cs | 3mp N-fsc | 3mp V-Qal-Imperf-1cs

1. The Lord responds to Israel’s awakening:
  - a. The Lord will heal Israel’s apostasy or backsliding
  - b. The Lord will love Israel without them being obligated to do anything (sacrifices, etc.)
  - c. The Lord’s anger has been turned from Israel.

**14:5 – “I will be like the dew to Israel;  
he shall blossom like the lily;  
he shall take root like the trees of Lebanon;”**

5221 [e] we·yak and lengthen	7799 [e] kaš·šō·wō·šan·nāh; like the lily	6524 [e] yip·rah He shall grow	3478 [e] lə·yiš·rā·'ēl, to Israel	2919 [e] kaṭ·ṭal like the dew	1961 [e] 'eh·yeh I will be
Conj-w   V-Hifil-ConjImperf.Jus-3ms	Prep-k, Art   N-cs	V-Qal-Imperf-3ms	Prep-I   N-proper-ms	Prep-k, Art   N-ms	V-Qal-Imperf-1cs

3844 [e] kal·le·bā·nō·wn. like Lebanon	8328 [e] šā·rā·šāw his roots
Prep-k, Art   N-proper-fs	N-mpc   3ms

1. The Lord will be the life source to Israel ("dew")
2. With the Lord's life source Israel will:
  - a. Blossom like the lily
  - b. Take root like the giant cedars in Lebanon
3. Key is the Lord is now Israel's life

**14:6 – “his shoots shall spread out;  
his beauty shall be like the olive,  
and his fragrance like Lebanon.”**

3844 [e] kal·le·bā·nō·wn. like Lebanon	7381 [e] lōw his	1935 [e] we·ré·ah and fragrance	2132 [e] hō·w·dōw; His beauty	1961 [e] wî·hî shall be	3127 [e] yō·nə·qō·w·tāw, His branches	1980 [e] yê·la·kū Shall spread
Prep-k, Art   N-proper-fs	Conj-w   N-ms	N-msc   3ms	Prep-k, Art   N-ms	Conj-w   V-Qal-ConjImperf.Jus-3ms	N-fpc   3ms	V-Qal-Imperf-3mp

1. Here the fruit of Israel's growth is identified:
  - a. Growth with fruit: Shoots spread out. These are the branches supported by the roots.
  - b. Visual Appeal: Beauty like the olive tree.
  - c. Scent Appeal: Fragrance like the smell of the cedar trees in Lebanon.
2. The word for "beauty" comes from *hod* which means "splendor, majesty, vigor"

**14:7 – “They shall return and dwell beneath my shadow;  
they shall flourish like the grain;  
they shall blossom like the vine;  
their fame shall be like the wine of Lebanon.”**

6524 [e] we·yip·re·ħū	1715 [e] dā·gān	2421 [e] ye·hay·yū	6738 [e] be·šil·lōw,	3427 [e] yō·šə·bē	7725 [e] yā·šu·bū
וַיִּפְרֹחׁ and grow	גָּדֵן [like] grain	יְחִי they shall be revived	בְּצִלּוֹ under his shadow	— יְשֻׁבֵּי Those who dwell	יָשַׁבּוּ Shall return
Conj-w   V-Qal-ConjImperf-3mp	N-ms	V-Piel-Imperf-3mp	Prep-b   N-msc   3ms	V-Qal-Prtcl-mpc	V-Qal-Imperf-3mp

3844 [e] s	3196 [e] lə·bā·nō·wn.	2143 [e] kə·yēn	1612 [e] zīk·rōw
לְבָנָן: - .	כְּיֵין of Lebanon	לְבָנָן like the wine	זִקְרֹן Their scent [shall be]
Punc	N-proper-fs	Prep-k   N-msc	N-msc   3ms

1. The reference to “his shadow” (translated “my shadow”) may refer to the nation of Israel and not to the Lord.
2. “They” would then refer to the individual Israelites flourishing under the shadow of the nation of Israel (or, the shadow of the Lord if the nation of Israel is not correct.)

#### 14:8 – “O Ephraim, what have I to do with idols?

**It is I who answer and look after you.**

**I am like an evergreen cypress;  
from me comes your fruit.”**

6030 [e] 'ā·nî·tî	589 [e] 'ă·nî	6091 [e] lā·'ă·shab·bîm;	5750 [e] 'ō·wd	4100 [e] lî	669 [e] 'eþ·ra·yim
עֲנִיתִי have heard	אָנִי I	לְעַצְבִּים with idols	עוֹד anymore	לִי have I to do	מָה־ what
V-Qal-Perf-1cs	Pro-1cs	Prep-l, Art   N-mp	Adv	Prep   1cs	Ephraim [shall say]

4672 [e] nim·šā.	6529 [e] per·yē·kā	4480 [e] mim·men·nî	7488 [e] ra·'ă·nān,	1265 [e] kib·rō·wōš	589 [e] 'ă·nî	7789 [e] wa·'ă·šū·ren·nū,
נִמְצָא: is found	פְּרִיָּה Your fruit	מִנְנִי in Me	גָּרָנִי Green	כְּבָרּוֹשׁ like a cypress tree	אָנִי I [am]	וְאָשָׂרֶנָּה and observed him
V-Nifal-Perf-3ms	N-msc   2ms	Prep   1cs	Adj-ms	Prep-k   N-ms	Pro-1cs	Conj-w   V-Qal-ConjImperf-1cs   3mse

1. Yahweh compares himself to idols.

2. Yahweh is the tree, Israel is the branches that produce the fruit.

- a. John 15:5 – “I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”
- b. Matthew 13:21 – “But since he has no root, he remains for only a season. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he quickly falls away.”

#### 14:9 – “Whoever is wise, let him understand these things;

**whoever is discerning, let him know them;**

**for the ways of the Lord are right,**

**and the upright walk in them,  
but transgressors stumble in them.”**

3588 [e] kî-	3045 [e] wə·yé·dā·'êm;	995 [e] nā·bō·wn	428 [e] 'êl-leh,	995 [e] wə·yā·bēn	2450 [e] ḥā·kām	4310 [e] mî		
כִּי־ for	וַיְדַעַם and let him know them	בָּרוּן [Who is] prudent	אֵלֶּה these things	וַיַּבְנֵן and let him understand	חָכָם wise	מִי Who [is]		
Conj	Conj-w   V-Qal-ConjImperf-3ms   3mp	V-Nifal-Prtcp1-ms	Pro-CP	Conj-w   V-Qal-ConjImperf.Jus-3ms	Adj-ms	Interrog		
.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
bām. בָּם: in them	3782 [e] yik·kā·šə·lū stumble	6586 [e] ū·pō·šə·'îm but transgressors	bām, בָּם in them	1980 [e] yē·lə·kū walk	6662 [e] wə·ṣad·di·qîm and the righteous	3069 [e] Yah·weh Yahweh	1870 [e] dar·kē the ways of	3477 [e] ye·šā·rîm [are] right
Prep   3mp	V-Nifal-Imperf-3mp	Conj-w   V-Qal-Prtcp1-mp	Prep   3mp	V-Qal-Imperf-3mp	Conj-w   Adj-mp	N-proper-ms	N-cpc	Adj-mp