

Feeding on Wind

Hosea 12-13:9

Introduction:

1. Hosea begins chapter 12 by declaring that Ephraim (Israel) was feeding on wind and following after the east wind.
2. What a vivid illustration of so many people today. People are wasting their lives feeding on things of no _____ substance.
3. In this lesson we will learn exactly how Israel was feeding on wind, as well as God's response to Israel. We will also learn how people should respond when they realize they are spending their lives feeding on wind.

Feeding on wind – how did it happen?

Hosea explains clearly to Israel why they were feeding on wind.

1. Materialism – 12:8
 - Israel was consumed with _____ and wealth.
 - *“If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.
Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.”*

Colossians 3:1-2
2. _____ - 12:7
 - Paul warned the believer of the temptations that come with a desire to be _____ . 1 Timothy 6:9-11
 - Are we handling our material riches honestly or has greed and materialism gripped our hearts? Our attitude towards _____ reveals the answer to those questions. 1 Timothy 6:17-19
3. Idolatry – 13:2-3
 - Idolatry steals our _____ away from God.
4. _____ - 13:1, 6
 - God had blessed them, but their hearts were exalted and they _____ God.

Feeding on wind – how did God respond?

1. God _____ them through His Word. 12:10-11
 - In love and grace, God gives us His Word to _____ the error of our way and to convict us of our sin.
 - *“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”*
Hebrews 4:12
 - *“Is not my word like as a fire? saith the Lord; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?”* **Jeremiah 23:29**
2. God would _____ them through trials.
 - Since they refused to heed God’s Word through Moses (the law) and the prophets, God would have to bring judgment. 12:2, 14, 13:6-8
 - Christian, when God allows trials in your life, may those trials draw you to God’s Word and cause you to _____ attentively to the Word of the Lord.

Feeding on wind – what was the answer?

1. When people are wasting their lives or destroying their lives by feeding on wind, there is only one answer - _____ to God and _____ His Word. 12:6, 13:9
2. When we _____ ourselves, turn to God, and believe His Word, God will gladly help us.
3. Christian, have you been feeding on wind and following after the wind? Turn to God today in humility, listen to His Word, and _____ it. Don’t delay like Israel. Now is the time.
 - *“For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.”* **1 Thessalonians 2:13**