

wide spread in our world, in our country today. And God said through Hosea. My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge, because thou hast rejected knowledge, I also will reject thee. "Is God going to reject our nation because of the way it has turned away from that knowledge which was at the very foundation of our life? Well, I don't know how many Christians can really throw stones at the unChristian world on this regard, because I fear that even among Christians we have an amazing ignorance of the things of God. We do not know the Scripture as we should. We like to quote from Tim. that All Script. is inspired of God, but I fear that too often we stop there instead of going on -- All Scripture is inspired of God and is profitable that the man of God may be thoroughly furnished - - " All Scripture is profitable.

I have occasionally seen a church that has a sign on the front that says, "No creed but the NT". That is an unChristian statement. The creed of Christianity is the entire Bible. We have no right to limit ourselves to any part of the Bible. But even if we would not limit ourselves in our terminology, how often we fail to study whole sections of the Scripture. How often we fail to get the great truths and meanings that are there in some of the minor prophets, and in various parts of the major prophets, in the books of I and II Chron., in some of the lesser known epistles of the NT. "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." We need to know the Word of God. We need to know the truth that God has for us. But Hosea is speaking also of other aspects of the ignorance of the rejection of knowledge. Hosea 2:8 says, (this is back in the first three chapters where he is speaking of his relation with his wife who had deserted him and who was -- had gone off into sin) he says here in vs. 8, For she does not know that I gave her corn and wine and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold which they prepared for Baal." She did not realize what he was doing for her even though she had ~~gone~~ gone into such sin and desertion as she had. He gives this about his relation to his wife, but it certainly has an application to people as a whole and Hosea draws that application very clearly in ch. 11 vs. 2-3. He says, As he called them ~~to~~ they went from Him, they sacrificed unto Baal and they burned incense unto graven images. I taught Ephraim to go also taking them by their arms, but they knew not that I healed them." Oh how easy it is for the world to fail to realize that God is controlling and directing everything and giving them all the blessings