



“God’s Relentless Love”

The Lion will Roar: The Faithful Holy One Will Gather and Settle His People

Hosea 11:1-12

“When ‘the Lion roars,’ when God calls his people, his once-wayward people will come home, even though trembling. But, like the prodigal son in Jesus’ parable, they will find the Father full of mercy: running to him, embracing and kissing him, even celebrating him with the fattened calf.”

Richard Phillips

I. The LORD’s *Scrapbook* of Israel (vs. 1-7)

- A. Infancy *“Loved, Adopted!”*
- B. Toddler *“Called, Learned to Walk!”*
- C. Youth *“Playful and Happy!”*
- D. Teenage/Adolescence *“Independent, Rebellious, Wandering!” vs. 7*

II. The LORD’S *Passion* for Israel (vs. 8-9)

- A. All Possible Emotions are Aroused
- B. Just *Anger* vs. Tender *Mercy* = *Relentless Love*

III. The LORD’S *Promise* to Israel (vs. 10-12)

- A. The LORD will *Roar like a Lion*
- B. His People will *Respond and Come Home*

John 6:39

Hosea 11:1-12

1 "When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.
2 But the more they were called, the more they went away from me.
They sacrificed to the Baals and they burned incense to images.
3 It was I who taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by the arms;
but they did not realize it was I who healed them.
4 I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love.
To them I was like one who lifts a little child to the cheek, and I bent down to feed them.
5 "Will they not return to Egypt and will not Assyria rule over them because they refuse to repent?
6 A sword will flash in their cities; it will devour their false prophets and put an end to their plans.
7 My people are determined to turn from me. Even though they call me God Most High,
I will by no means exalt them.
8 "How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, Israel?
How can I treat you like Admah? How can I make you like Zeboyim?
My heart is changed within me; all my compassion is aroused.
9 I will not carry out my fierce anger, nor will I devastate Ephraim again.
For I am God, and not a man— the Holy One among you. I will not come against their cities.
10 They will follow the Lord; he will roar like a lion.
When he roars, his children will come trembling from the west.
11 They will come from Egypt, trembling like sparrows, from Assyria, fluttering like doves.
I will settle them in their homes," declares the Lord.
12 Ephraim has surrounded me with lies, Israel with deceit.
And Judah is unruly against God, even against the faithful Holy One.

John 6:39

And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day.