

Scripture Readings

*The Old Testament Scripture reading is received from **Hosea** chapter **6** verses **1-11**, which can be found on page **1094** in the **old testament** of your pew bible.*

¹Come, let us return to the Lord; for he has torn us and will heal us, he has struck us and he will bind up our wounds; after two days he will revive us, on the third day he will restore us, that in his presence we may live. Let us humble ourselves, let us strive to know the Lord, whose justice dawns like morning light, and its dawning is as sure as the sunrise. It will come to us like a shower, like spring rains that water the earth.

O Ephraim, how shall I deal with you? How shall I deal with you, Judah? Your loyalty to me is like the morning mist, like dew that vanishes early. Therefore have I lashed you through the prophets and torn you to shreds with my words; loyalty is my desire, not sacrifice, not whole-offerings but the knowledge of God.

At Admah they have broken my covenant, there they have played me false. Gilead is a haunt of evildoers, marked by a trail of blood; like robbers lying in wait for a man, priests are banded together to do murder on the road to Shechem; their deeds are outrageous. At Israel's sanctuary I have seen a horrible thing: there Ephraim played the wanton and Israel defiled himself. And for you, too, Judah, comes a harvest of reckoning.

*The New Testament Scripture reading is received from **Matthew** chapter **15** verses **32-39**, which can be found on page **23** in the **new testament** of your pew bible...*

³²Jesus called his disciples and said to them, 'I feel sorry for all these people; they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send

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them away unfed; they might turn faint on the way.' The disciples replied, 'Where in this lonely place can we find bread enough to feed such a crowd?' 'How many loaves have you?' Jesus asked. 'Seven.' They replied; 'and there are a few small fishes.' So he ordered the people to sit down on the ground; then he took the seven loaves and the fishes, and after giving thanks to God he broke them and gave to the disciples, and the disciples gave to the people. They all ate to their hearts' content; and the scraps left over, which they picked up, were enough to fill seven baskets. Four thousand men shared in this meal, to say nothing of women and children. He then dismissed the crowds, got into a boat, and went to the neighbourhood of Magadan.

May the Lord God help us to apply this scripture in our lives.