

## *Spiritual Failure Leads to Israel's Fall* **II Kings 17**

### **How Israel fell (1-6)**

- ❖ Hoshea (II Kgs. 15:19,20) is engulfed in a foreign policy nightmare; and he vacillates between Egypt and Assyria, Hos. 7:11, 12:1.
- ❖ Failure to pay off Assyria invites an invasion, but unlike in I Kgs. 20:1 and II Kgs. 6:24, God sends no prophet with a word of relief.

### **Why Israel fell (7-23)**

- ❖ Emphasis for Israel's fall = breaking 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> commandment. Note gods listed in 16 and emphasis on Jeroboam's "original sin" in 21,22. They = like *the nations* (3x) and thus to be *cast from God's sight* (3x)
- ❖ Israel's destruction / exile was predicted should they turn from God, I Kgs. 9:6,7, 14:15, Dt. 4:25-27 (God actually sent Assyria, Isa. 10:5,6).

### **What happened in Israel after it fell (24-41)**

- ❖ Israel is not left empty but is repopulated with foreigners. Lions are used again as punishment, recall I Kgs. 13:24, 20:35,36. Unlike the Israelites, the transplants are quick to honor God.
- ❖ Assyria will be judged one day too, Isa. 10:12, Nahum 3:1,2.
- ❖ The results of the exile = religiously chaotic Samaritans.
- ❖ For the unlikely future of these three groups, see Isa. 19:23-25.



What can Judah hopefully learn from the fall of the North?

Anything for us Americans here?