

Ephraim, A Cake Not Turned

Hosea 7:8 " Ephraim has mixed himself among the peoples; Ephraim is a cake unturned.

Historical accounts say that in the East when a cake was baked, a corner of the hearth was swept clean and the batter was poured out on the clean spot, after which hot embers were put on top. Then the cake was turned over and embers were put on the other side, thus making a cake cook on both sides. The process was repeated until the cake (bread) was uniformly cooked just right for eating. A cake not turned would be burned on one side and raw on the other side.

The description of the tribe of Ephraim is not a good one but before we get into to the characteristics of this tribe, let's take a look at some background information about the man from which the tribe began.

Background:

Gen. 41:45 _____

Gen 41:50-52 _____

Gen. 48:12-20 _____

Calling someone a cake not turned is similar to saying one is half-baked, which means that person has either used poor judgment or simply foolish.

What does Hosea say about the tribe of Ephraim? (Hos. 7:11)? _____

The whole chapter of Hosea 7 applies to the tribe of Ephraim and to the Samaritans. Read Hos. 7 and note what we learn about them:

While this tribe was one of the biggest, it shows how weak God's people can become when they do not allow God into their lives and they do not take heed to His wisdom. The same can happen to us today if we are not careful.

Let's examine some N.T. Scriptures that will help us not repeat the pattern of the tribe of Ephraim.

2 Tim. 2:15 _____

1 John 2:15 _____

2 Cor. 6:13 _____

2 Pet. 1:5-7 _____

2 Pet. 3:18 _____

1 Pet. 5:8-9 _____

Heb. 5:14 _____

Phil. 4: 6, 8 _____