

Hosea

GOD'S FAITHFUL LOVE
FOR HIS FAITHLESS PEOPLE

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Repentance God Rejects Hosea 5:1-7

Parents often have to deal with children who say they are sorry while making it very clear by their tone they are not. Sometimes, their failed attempts can almost be humorous, until we realize that we, too, can apologize to our heavenly Father and do so in such a way as to demonstrate that we aren't truly repentant of our wrongdoing. Such was the case with Israel. They made a big show of seeking after God, but in their hearts they held on to their sin, so God rejected them. From this passage we learn that. . .

God rejects the wrong repentance

- I. **God rejects repentance that comes from a heart of idolatry.**
 - A. Idolatry is a matter of the heart.
 - B. Idolatry results in defiling actions.
 - C. Idolatry ruins your relationship with God.

II. God rejects repentance that comes from a heart of pride.

- A. Pride is evident to God.
- B. Pride results in destruction.

III. God rejects repentance that comes from a heart of hypocrisy.

- A. Hypocrisy focuses on external actions.
- B. Hypocrisy fails to impress an all-knowing God.
- C. Hypocrisy ignores heinous sins.

Two concluding qualifications:

1. This does not mean that as God goes deeper with you, the times you've repented before don't count. It means that as God convicts you of sin, you handle it rather than ignore or excuse it.
2. This does not mean that if you feel guilty, you are guilty. Once sin has been confessed and addressed, no guilt need remain, even if you feel unforgiven. Accept and claim God's forgiveness by faith, choosing to believe God's Word over your feelings (1 John 3:19-20).