

***4 Hear this word, you cows of Bashan on Mount Samaria,  
you women who oppress the poor and crush the needy  
and say to your husbands, "Bring us some drinks!"***

- Bashan – a rich fertile area, known for well-nourished cattle
- Bring us some drinks – In order to satisfy their insatiable desire for parties, banquets, orgies, they cry out for more money, which their husbands through oppression of the poor.

✓ Does the depravity of humanity ever surprise you?

✓ How important is it to you to stay up to date on current events?

***<sup>2</sup> The Sovereign LORD has sworn by his holiness:***

- The Sovereign Lord
- Sworn by his holiness

✓ Who remains the advocate?

✓ Unpacking the Sovereignty of God

- God is Sovereign over the Universe
- God is Sovereign over the Nations
- God is Sovereign over Salvation
- God is Sovereign over our Suffering
- God is Sovereign over His Global Mission

*“The time will surely come  
when you will be taken away with hooks,  
the last of you with fishhooks.*

- The Victory Steele of Esarhaddon
- Discovered 1888 in present-day Syria, commemorating the return of Esarhaddon after his army's 2nd battle and victory over Pharaoh Taharqa of Egypt in 671 BC. Note mace club in left hand with rope ending in a ring that passes through the lips of the two conquered kings kneeling before him.



<sup>3</sup> *You will each go straight out  
through breaches in the wall,  
and you will be cast out toward Harmon,”  
declares the LORD.*

<sup>4</sup> *“Go to Bethel and sin;  
go to Gilgal and sin yet more.*

- Going to Bethel and Gilgal

- Romans 1:21 <sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup> Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles.

<sup>5</sup> *Bring your sacrifices every morning,  
your tithes every three years. <sup>f</sup>  
Burn leavened bread as a thank offering  
and brag about your freewill offerings—  
boast about them, you Israelites,  
for this is what you love to do,”  
declares the Sovereign LORD.*

- Lev. 2:11 ‘Every grain offering you bring to the LORD must be made without yeast, for you are not to burn any yeast or honey in a food offering presented to the LORD. <sup>12</sup> You may bring them to the LORD as an offering of the firstfruits, but they are not to be offered on the altar as a pleasing aroma.
- Lv 27:30 <sup>30</sup> ‘A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.
- Dt. 14:28,29 <sup>28</sup> At the end of every three years, bring all the tithes of that year’s produce and store it in your towns, so that the Levites (who have no allotment or inheritance of their own) and the foreigners, the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns may come and eat and be satisfied, and so that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hands.



<sup>6</sup> *"I gave you empty stomachs in every city  
and lack of bread in every town,  
yet you have not returned to me,"  
declares the LORD.*

<sup>7</sup> *"I also withheld rain from you  
when the harvest was still three months away.  
I sent rain on one town,  
but withheld it from another.  
One field had rain;  
another had none and dried up.*

<sup>8</sup> *People staggered from town to town for water  
but did not get enough to drink,  
yet you have not returned to me,"  
declares the LORD.*

<sup>9</sup> *"Many times I struck your gardens and vineyards,  
destroying them with blight and mildew.  
Locusts devoured your fig and olive trees,  
yet you have not returned to me,"  
declares the LORD.*

<sup>10</sup> *"I sent plagues among you  
as I did to Egypt.  
I killed your young men with the sword,  
along with your captured horses.  
I filled your nostrils with the stench of your camps,  
yet you have not returned to me,"  
declares the LORD.*

<sup>11</sup> *"I overthrew some of you  
as I overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah.  
You were like a burning stick snatched from the fire,  
yet you have not returned to me,"  
declares the LORD.*

<sup>12</sup> *"Therefore this is what I will do to you, Israel,  
and because I will do this to you, Israel,  
prepare to meet your God."*

- Meet your God
  - ✓ What are the two sides of this statement?

<sup>13</sup> *He who forms the mountains,  
who creates the wind,  
and who reveals his thoughts to mankind,  
who turns dawn to darkness,  
and treads on the heights of the earth—  
the LORD God Almighty is his name.*

- Unpacking the profound Resume of God

Three Takeaways from Lesson 3

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.