

**17 December 2023 – Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group**

**"Israel Finds Hope in Judgment" -- Hosea 13:2-16**

1. In what especially heinous sin did Israel engage (vv. 2-3)?
2. What role did God claim to have toward Israel that no one else could claim (vv. 4-6)?
3. How did the nation of Israel respond to God's care and protection (v. 6b)?
4. To what three strong and ferocious animals did God compare Himself because Israel had become proud and turned away from the LORD their God (vv. 7-8)?
5. Why did God determine to destroy Israel (v. 9)?
6. What would happen to Israel's king (vv. 10-11)?
7. How did God treat the many years of Israel's wickedness and the multitude of her sins (vv. 12-13)?
8. What did God promise He would do for Israel (v. 14)?
9. Before this promise happened, what would be stripped away from Israel (v. 15)?
10. What would happen to the center of Israel's power (v. 16)?
11. What does the word "Savior" mean?
12. How do some people set themselves up to be a "savior"? What is the problem with expecting human beings to fulfill our desire to live a good life?
13. Should we reject human beings as being our "savior" when they have given many good benefits to the world (e.g. medicine, inventions like the automobile and airplane, helpful institutions, etc.)?
14. How could God call Himself Israel's only savior (v. 4) when there were many men, such as deliverers like Gideon and kings like David, who saved Israel from terrible trouble?
15. When are you most inclined to forget about God?

16. As you observe and celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus and His coming into the world, how can you and your family enjoy the blessings of prosperity without forgetting or ignoring the LORD?
17. How can you detect when something is becoming an idol in your life?
18. Is death natural or unnatural?
19. Why do people fear death? Are those who say they have no fear of death telling the truth?
20. How can you face death without fear?