

¹Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.²After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.³Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.⁴O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away.⁵Therefore have I hewed them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth: and thy judgments are

as the light that goeth forth.⁶For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.⁷But they like men have transgressed the covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me.⁸Gilead is a city of them that work iniquity, and is polluted with blood.⁹And as troops of robbers wait for a man, so the company of priests murder in the way by consent: for they commit lewdness.¹⁰I have seen an horrible thing in the house of Israel: there is the whoredom of Ephraim, Israel is defiled.¹¹Also, O Judah, he hath set an harvest for thee, when I returned the captivity of my people.