

# I WILL HEDGE UP THY WAY

## HOSEA 2

Text: Hosea 2:6

(Hosea 2:6) "Therefore, behold, I will hedge up thy way with thorns, and make a wall, that she shall not find her paths."

Introduction:

Many sermons have been preached concerning the hedge. The Bible makes mention of such words 24 times.

However, there are only three different types of hedge used in the Bible.

- The Hedge of Restoration

(Ezekiel 22:30) "And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none."

- The hedge of Protection

(Job 1:10) "Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on

every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land."

- The hedge of Correction

(Hosea 2:6) "Therefore, behold, I will hedge up thy way with thorns, and make a wall, that she shall not find her paths."

Notice

## **1. REASON**

### A. Stubborn character

1. Ordinary means have missed their aim. Notice the word therefore showing that because of former failures the Lord is about to try further measures.☐

(Hosea 2:1-5) "Say ye unto your brethren, Ammi; and to your sisters, Ruhamah. {2} Plead with your mother, plead: for she is not my wife, neither am I her husband: let her therefore put away her whoredoms out of her sight, and her adulteries from between her breasts; {3} Lest I strip her naked, and set her as in the day that she was born, and make her as a wilderness, and set her like a dry land, and slay her with thirst. {4} And I will not have mercy upon her children; for they be the children of whoredoms. {5} For their mother hath

played the harlot: she that conceived them hath done shamefully: for she said, I will go after my lovers, that give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, mine oil and my drink."

2. Extraordinary means are now to be used.

3. Even these means will fail. Men will leap hedges, and scale walls to get at their darling sins

4. Only divine power can overcome the hardened one.

## **2. ROUTE**

A. The means which God uses to reclaim them

1. Sharp affliction: (thorns)

2. Insurmountable difficulties: (wall)

3. Blinding perplexities: (shall not find her path)

4. Utter failures: (she shall follow after but not overtake)

5. Bitter disappointments: (she shall seek them but shall not find them)

These severe chastening are frequently made useful in the early days of religious impression or revival, they are the plowing before the sowing.

### **3. RESULTS**

A. The blessed results which at last is attained.

1. Remembrance aroused: (It was better with me)

2. Confession of sad loss extorted: (then it was better with me than now)

3. Resolution formed: (I will go and return)

4. Affection stirred: (I will return to my first husband.)

### **4. REMINDERS**

The hedge of protection is a hedge to keep evil from us, and the hedge of correction is a hedge to keep us from evil.