



Hosea

faithful to the unfaithful



Hosea 1:1-11

Our Three Questions

1. What does the text say?

- Authorial intent to the intended audience.

2. What does the text mean?

- The timeless theological truth.

3. How does this apply today?

- What we ought to do with/because of this truth.

Hosea 1:1-11

¹ The word of the LORD that came to Hosea, the son of Beerī, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel. ² When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea,

Hosea 1:1-11

“Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD.”³ So he went and took Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

Hosea 1:1-11

⁴ And the LORD said to him, “Call his name Jezreel, for in just a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. ⁵ And on that day I will break the bow of Israel in the Valley of Jezreel.”

Hosea 1:1-11

⁶ She conceived again and bore a daughter. And the LORD said to him, “Call her name No Mercy, for I will no more have mercy on the house of Israel, to forgive them at all. ⁷ But I will have mercy on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the LORD their God.

Hosea 1:1-11

I will not save them by bow or by sword or by war or by horses or by horsemen.”

⁸ When she had weaned No Mercy, she conceived and bore a son. ⁹ And the LORD said, “Call his name Not My People, for you are not my people, and I am not your God.”

Hosea 1:1-11

10 Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered. And in the place where it was said to them, “You are not my people,” it shall be said to them, “Children of the living God.”

Hosea 1:1-11

¹¹ And the children of Judah and the children of Israel shall be gathered together, and they shall appoint for themselves one head. And they shall go up from the land, for great shall be the day of Jezreel.

Preview

- **1:1**
 - Understanding the historical context
- **2:2-9**
 - God's commands for Hosea
 - The illustration of unfaithfulness
 - The consequence of infidelity
- **2:10-11**
 - Hope for the people of God

Hosea 1:1

¹ The word of the LORD that came to Hosea, the son of Beerī, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.

Understanding Context

- Israel has a complicated history ...
- After Solomon, David's son, the kingdom divides between the North (Israel) and the South (Judah)
- Hosea is a prophet living in Israel (the north), during the time of Jeroboam, the son of Joash
- This is around 740 BC

Understanding Context

- History of three kings
- Jeroboam, son of Nebat
 - 1 Kings 11:26-40, 12:2-33
- Jehu (who unseats Ahab's children)
 - 2 Kings 9-10
- Jeroboam, son of Joash (time of Hosea)
 - 2 Kings 14:23-27

Understanding Context

Jeroboam, son of Nebat

- Talented worker for Solomon
 - 1 Kings 11:28
- Ahijah prophecies, king of 10/12 tribes
 - 1 Kings 11:29-37
- The need for fidelity to the Lord
 - 1 Kings 11:38

1 Kings 12:27-33

Jeroboam's sin

1 Kings 12:27 – Motive

1 Kings 12:28 – The golden calves

1 Kings 12:31 – New temple priests

1 Kings 12:32 – New feasts

1 Kings 12:33 – Made up in his head

Understanding Context

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Understanding Context

Jehu

- **A commander of the army of Israel**
 - **2 Kings 9:4-5**
- **Elisha prophecies, king of 10/12 tribes**
 - **2 Kings 9:6**
- **Dethrone the house of Ahab and Jezebel**
 - **Ahab and Jezebel reside in Jezreel**
 - **2 Kings 9:7-10:27**

2 Kings 10:29-31

29 But Jehu did not turn aside from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin—that is, the golden calves that were in Bethel and in Dan. **30** And the LORD said to Jehu, “Because you have done well in carrying out what is right in my eyes, and have done to the house of Ahab according to all that was in my heart, your sons of the fourth generation shall sit on the throne of Israel.”

2 Kings 10:29-31

³¹ But Jehu was not careful to walk in the law of the LORD, the God of Israel, with all his heart. He did not turn from the sins of Jeroboam, which he made Israel to sin.

Understanding Context

- History of three kings
- Jeroboam, son of Nebat
 - 1 Kings 11:26-40, 12:2-33
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2 Kings 14:23-27

²³ In the fifteenth year of Amaziah the son of Joash, king of Judah, Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, began to reign in Samaria, and he reigned forty-one years. ²⁴ And he did what was evil in the sight of the LORD. He did not depart from all the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, which he made Israel to sin.

2 Kings 14:23-27

25 He restored the border of Israel from Lebo-hamath as far as the Sea of the Arabah, according to the word of the LORD, the God of Israel, which he spoke by his servant Jonah the son of Amittai, the prophet, who was from Gath-hepher.

2 Kings 14:23-27

²⁶ For the LORD saw that the affliction of Israel was very bitter, for there was none left, bond or free, and there was none to help Israel. ²⁷ But the LORD had not said that he would blot out the name of Israel from under heaven, so he saved them by the hand of Jeroboam the son of Joash.

Understanding Context

What we learn about Jeroboam

- **He is not a righteous king**
 - **He continues to the sins of Jeroboam, son of Nabat**
- **He is used by God to expand the borders of Israel**

Understanding Context

Hosea's context

- Israel, generation after generation, continues in their rebellion.
- Hosea's begin his ministry in the midst of Israel's military success
- God's wrath is coming

Hosea 1:2-3

² When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, “Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD.” ³ So he went and took Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

Hosea 1:2-3

“Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD.”

Hosea’s marriage is an object lesson that parallels God’s relationship to Israel.

Hosea 1:2-3

“³ So he went and took Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.”

Their first child is certainly Hosea's

Hosea 1:4-5

⁴ And the LORD said to him, “Call his name Jezreel, for in just a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel. ⁵ And on that day I will break the bow of Israel in the Valley of Jezreel.”

Hosea 1:4-5

- **Why name a child like this?**
- **The historic significance of Jezreel**
- **The coming significance of Jezreel**
 - **For the house of Jehu**
 - **For Israel**

Hosea 1:6-7

⁶ She conceived again and bore a daughter. And the LORD said to him, “Call her name No Mercy, for I will no more have mercy on the house of Israel, to forgive them at all. ⁷ But I will have mercy on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the LORD their God. I will not save them by bow or by sword or by war or by horses or by horsemen.”

Hosea 1:6-7

3^b she conceived and bore him a son.

6 She conceived again and bore a daughter.

The question of faithfulness

Hosea 1:6-7

The name “no mercy” or “not loved”

- No more compassionate kindness and grace. God’s patience is spent.

Different decrees for the north and the south

Hosea 1:8-9

⁸ When she had weaned No Mercy, she conceived and bore a son. ⁹ And the LORD said, “Call his name Not My People, for you are not my people, and I am not your God.”

The reality of Hosea's marriage

The reality of God's relationship with Israel

Hosea 1:10-11

10 Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered. And in the place where it was said to them, “You are not my people,” it shall be said to them, “Children of the living God.”

Hosea 1:10-11

¹⁰ Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered.

¹⁷ I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore.

- Genesis 22:17a

Hosea 1:10-11

Not my people → Children of God

Romans 5:6-10

- “weak”, “ungodly”, enemies”
 - Reconciled to God through Jesus

Romans 8:1, 15-17

- Not condemned
 - Children of God

Hosea 1:10-11

11 And the children of Judah and the children of Israel shall be gathered together, and they shall appoint for themselves one head. And they shall go up from the land, for great shall be the day of Jezreel.

Unified people – bringing together those who were previously enemies.

Hosea 1:10-11

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A singular leader that they all submit to.

Hosea 1:10-11

Jesus

- He is the head of the Church
 - Ephesians 1:22, 5:23 & Colossians 1:18
- Through Him, those who were not God's people are His people
- He has turned our fortunes, through the cross

What do we learn?

The Lord is patient, but His patience does not mute His justice

The Lord is both holy and personal

Jesus Christ is our redeemer

Application

Worship God alone

Repent of everything else

Emotionally invest in the relationship

Proclaim Christ is King

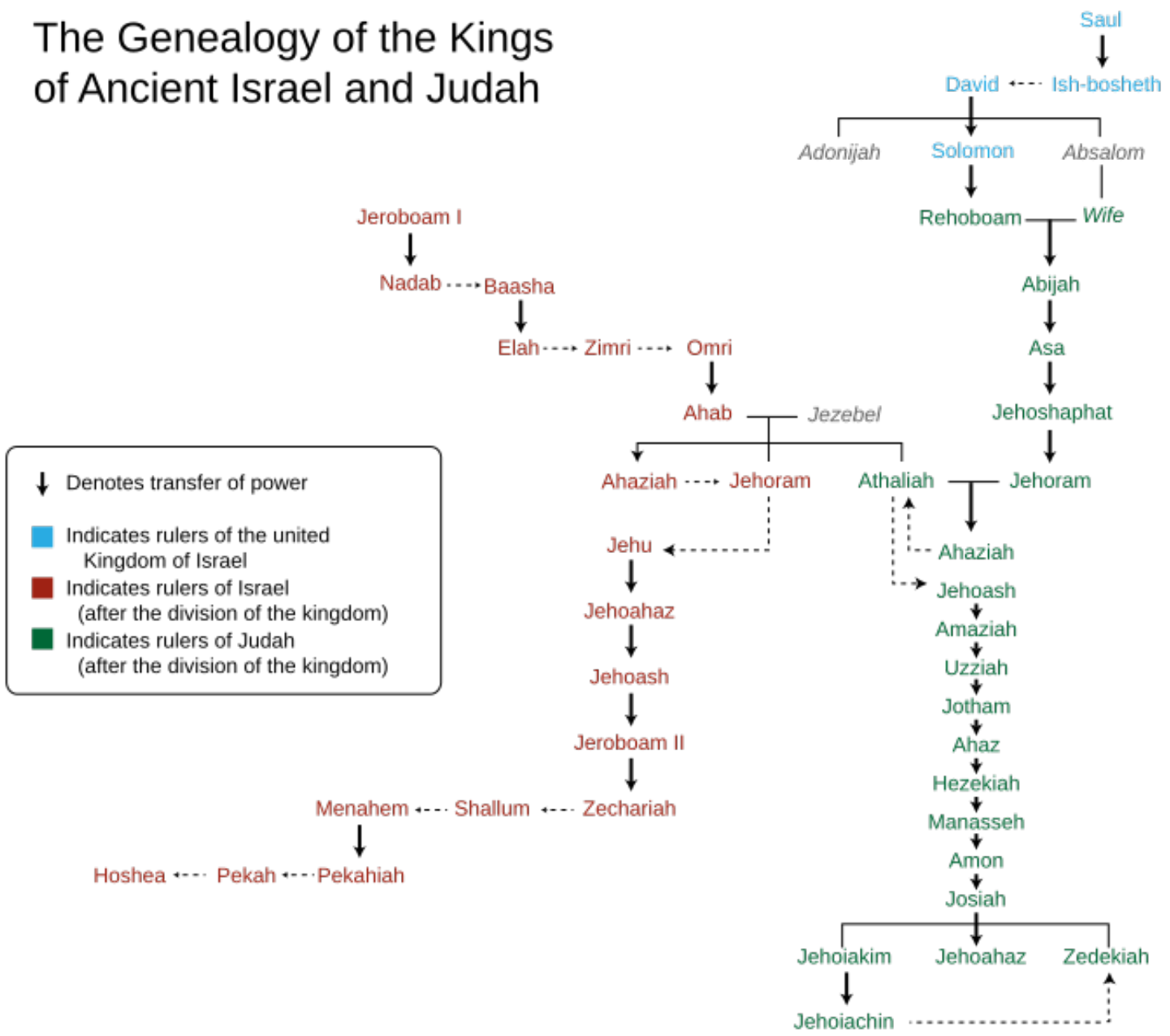
Application

For married couples

Hosea's marriage is not the only one that tells a story.

Ephesians 5:22-33

The Genealogy of the Kings of Ancient Israel and Judah



Questions

- Does the command of the Lord to Hosea, to marry a prostitute, seem offensive to you?
- When you think of how yourself and the Lord, what do you suppose His reaction is to your sin? Do you think of an angry God, a jilted lover, a broken hearted God, maybe something else. Does your picture fit with the picture of Scripture given in Hosea?
 - Do you think that your response to your sin is the same as the Lord's response to your sin?
- If you are married, in what ways does your marriage accurately reflect the relationship between Christ and the Church? Are there ways in which your marriage fails to accurately convey the relationship between Christ and the Church?
- If you aren't married, can you think of a marriage in your life that reflects Christ and the Church? What is your reaction to thinking about that question? Is it difficult to think of a couple or easy?
- After going through Romans as a Church, do you see any parallels between Romans and Hosea?