

50+ Sunday School Class

All Saints Presbyterian Church
Austin, TX

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Christ in the Minor Prophets

All Saints Presbyterian Church, Austin, TX
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Winter-Spring 2020

Taught by Rev. Craig Chapman

Class Schedule – Winter/Spring 2020

New Series – Christ in the Minor Prophets

- Jan 12 – 1: *Hosea* (14)
- Jan 19 – 2: *Joel* (3)
- Jan 26* – Guest speaker: Rev. John Trapp. (9:15: Baptism Class)
- Feb 2 – 3: *Amos* (9)
- Feb 9* – Guest speaker: Rev. Jordan Griesbeck
- Feb 16* – Guest speaker: Daniel Wang
- Feb 23 – 4: *Obadiah* (1)
- Mar 1 – 5: *Jonah* (4)
- Mar 8 – 6: *Micah* (7). (9:15: Eucharist Class)
- Mar 15 – 7: *Nahum* (3)
- Mar 22* – No Class (Spring Break)

Class Schedule – Winter/Spring 2020

New Series – Christ in the Minor Prophets

- Mar 29 – 8: *Habakkuk* (3)
- Apr 5* – Guest speaker: Rev. Josh Keller
- Apr 12 – No Class (Easter)
- Apr 19 – 9: *Zephaniah* (3)
- Apr 26 – 10: *Haggai* (2)
- May 3* – Guest speaker: Kim Hall
- May 10 – 11: *Zechariah* (14)
- May 17 – 12: *Malachi* (4)
- May 24 – Class Resumes in September

* - Craig away/preaching

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Why this series
 - “The Minor Prophets” – a misnomer
 - Luke 24:27—
“And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.”
 - All Hebrew prophets prophecy of Messiah.
 - What did each prophet say about the coming Messiah?
- Be thinking, because I’m going to ask—
What difference should this make on Monday?

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- World of Hosea
 - After King Solomon died (931 BC), the Kingdom was divided into North (Israel) and South (Judah).
 - Hosea's Ministry: in Israel, during King Jeroboam II (c.793-753 BC), until Samaria fell (722 BC). ~50 years.
 - Contemporary with Amos (to Israel), Isaiah & Micah (to Judah).
 - Began when Israel & Judah were peaceful and prosperous, but problems loomed.
 - Social
 - Political
 - Religious

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- World of Hosea
 - Social Problems
 - Growing gap between rich and poor
 - Breakdown in public morality
 - Corrupt legal system
 - Hosea 4:2—*There is only cursing, lying and murder, stealing and adultery; they break all bounds, and bloodshed follows bloodshed.*

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

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 - Political Problems
 - 745 BC – King Zechariah (son of King Jeroboam II) was assassinated after only 6 months on the throne
 - Next 12 years – 5 different kings (4 were assassinated)
 - Fear of invasion from world's greatest empire, Assyria (occurred in 722 BC and Israel was deported)

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- World of Hosea

- Religious Problems

Israel perpetually violated its covenant with God

- Hosea 8:11—*Though Ephraim [Israel] built many altars for sin offerings, these have become altars for sinning.*
- Hosea 8:12—*I wrote for them the many things of my law, but they regarded them as something alien*
- Hosea 4:1—*There is no faithfulness, no love, no acknowledgment of God in the land*
- Hosea 5:4—*Israel has “...a spirit of prostitution...in their heart; they do not acknowledge the Lord”*

- Syncretism – Israel combined worship of Yahweh with pagan Canaanite practices for worshipping Baal (god of rain and fertility)

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Question:

If you were God ...

... how would you feel?

... how might you respond?

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Message of Hosea

- “Hosea” means “salvation” (from the verb *yasha*’ = to save)

- Hosea 1:2

“Go, take to yourself an adulterous wife and children of unfaithfulness, because the land is guilty of the vilest adultery in departing from the LORD”

- John Calvin

God “...speaks not here of an unchaste woman only, but of a woman of wantonness, which means a common harlot ... who has long habituated herself to wantonness, who has exposed herself to all, to gratify the wish of all, who has prostituted herself, not once, nor twice, nor to few men, but to all.”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Message of Hosea
 - 1:3 – *“So he went and took Gomer...”*
 - They have children (1:4-9)
 - She eventually leaves him to continue her adultery, even prostitution. ...
 - How does God ask Hosea to respond?
 - James Montgomery Boice:
 - Chapter 3 - *“The Greatest Chapter of the Bible”*

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Hosea 3

- *And the LORD said to me, “Go again, love a woman who is loved by another man and is an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the children of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love cakes of raisins.”² So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a lethech of barley.³ And I said to her, “You must dwell as mine for many days. You shall not play the whore, or belong to another man; so will I also be to you.”*
- 3:2 - *“So I bought her...”* – What does this mean?

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Hosea 3
 - Adultery → Prostitution → Destitute → Sold as a Slave
 - God asks his prophet to walk into the town square and buy back his wife at auction
 - *“...for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a lethech of barley”*
 - The equivalent of the “going rate” for a slave ...

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Hosea 3

- v. 3 – Then Hosea says to her, *“You must dwell as mine for many days. You shall not play the whore, or belong to another man; so will I also be to you.”*
 - He’s saying “I want to dwell with you and you with me, not you as a slave, but as my wife. You’ll have sex with no one, including me. But then, I will indeed be yours. I want to rebuild our lives. We’ll do the hard work of getting back together.”
- Derek Kidner—
There were disloyal habits, years in the making, that had to be broken...and painful realities in their relationship that had to be explored together.
- Hosea is paying the price financially, socially, emotionally, to restore relationship, and purchase a new life for his wife

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Message of Hosea
 - Question:
If you were an ancient Israeli, why might you think God had Hosea do this?

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Message of Hosea
 - Question:
If you were an ancient Israeli, why might you think God had Hosea do this?
 - Hosea condemns Israel's spiritual adultery ... but also ...
 - Hosea promises God will pursue and beautify His Bride (Israel) and restore their marriage relationship ...

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Hosea 2

¹⁴...behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her. ¹⁵ And there I will give her her vineyards and make the Valley of Achor [trouble] a door of hope. And there she shall answer as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.

¹⁶ “And in that day, declares the LORD, you will call me ‘My Husband,’ and no longer will you call me ‘My Baal.’ ... ¹⁹ And I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. ²⁰ I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the LORD.

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Hosea 3:4-5

4 ... the children of Israel shall dwell many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or pillar, without ephod or household gods. 5 Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God, and David their king, and they shall come in fear to the LORD and to his goodness in the latter days.

- 3:4 – describes Israel’s exile, destruction of The Temple ...
- 3:5 – “David their king” died in 971 BC. Hosea (750’s BC).

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

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- 3:4 – describes Israel’s exile, destruction of The Temple ...
- 3:5 – “David their king” died in 971 BC. Hosea (750’s BC).
- But David’s descendant, the Son of David, David’s greater Son, ...“in the latter days” – He’s alive!

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- **Christ is the Faithful Husband**

- Come to fulfill Hosea 3:5 ... King David's greater Son

- Christ's Church is the New Israel, betrothed to Christ

- Mark 2:19-20

Jesus refers to himself as the Bridegroom with his disciples

- Matthew 25:1-13 (Parable of the 10 Virgins)

Jesus indicates he's the Bridegroom, coming for the feast

- Ephesians 5:25-26

"²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her"

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- 2 Stages in the Marriage of Christ and His Church
 - This Age: Betrothal
 - 2 Corinthians 11:2—*“I betrothed you to one husband, to present you as a pure virgin to Christ”*
 - The Age to Come: Wedding Feast & Consummation
 - Revelation 19:7-8—*“the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; ⁸ it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure”—for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints”*
- William Hendriksen—
The 1st century Jewish betrothal *“...must not be confused with present-day engagement. It was far more serious and binding. The bridegroom and bride pledged their troth to each other in the presence of witnesses. In a restricted sense this was essentially the marriage.”*

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Hosea points to Christ, the Faithful Husband of God's People
 - Both endured and bore the humiliation/reproach of his unfaithful bride, and then bought back his bride.***

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Hosea points to Christ, the Faithful Husband of God's People
 - Both endured and bore the humiliation/reproach of his unfaithful bride, and then bought back his bride.***
 - But Christ paid a much greater price
 - Took our place as the unfaithful Bride → indebted slave
 - Bore the shame of his unfaithful, unholy Bride
 - Gave her his glory and holiness
- 2 Corinthians 5:21
“God made him who knew no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”
- Revelation 21:2
“I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Christ is the Faithful Husband
- Christ is the Faithful Son

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Christ is the Faithful Husband
- **Christ is the Faithful Son**
 - God refers to Israel as His Son
 - Exodus 4:22 – God instructs Moses to tell Pharaoh: *“Israel is my firstborn son...Let my son go, so he may worship me.”*
 - Hosea 11:1 – *“When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.”*
 - Hosea has unfaithful children by Gomer ...
... and God gives them names of judgment ... including ...
 - “No Mercy”
 - “Not My People”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Hosea 1

⁶ ...“Call her name No Mercy [Lo-Ruhama = “she has not received mercy”], for I will no more have mercy on the house of Israel, to forgive them at all...

⁹ ... “Call his name Not My People [Lo-Ammi], for you are not my people, and I am not your God.”

... but then ... promise of a coming day of restoration...

- Hosea 2

²¹ “And in that day I will answer, declares the LORD ...

²³ ... And I will have mercy on Lo Ruhama [No Mercy], and I will say to Lo-Ammi [Not My People], ‘You are my people’; and he shall say, ‘You are my God.’”

- When is “that day”?

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Matthew 17:5

”This is my son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.”

- Jesus is the Faithful Son, the True Israel
- Therefore, God’s Father-Son relationship with Christ, the True Israel, broadens to include all united to Christ by faith.

- Romans 9:25-26

- *“²⁵ As indeed [God] says in Hosea, “Those who were not my people I will call ‘my people,’ and her who was not beloved I will call ‘beloved.’” ²⁶ “And in the very place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ there they will be called ‘sons of the living God.’”*

- Jesus Christ fulfills the prophecy of Hosea 14:4—
“I will heal their waywardness and love them freely, for my anger has turned away from them.”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Jan 12 – Hosea

- Message of Hosea
 - Christ is the Faithful Husband
 - Christ is the Faithful Son
- Application
 - *What difference should this make on Monday?*

Prayer Requests



Next Week

- Jan 19 – *Joel*