

Hosea 12–14 Outline: Walking in the Love of God

Oct 11, 2026

The people have not changed, so God's judgment has not changed, and yet God's promise has not changed. The minor prophets show the depth of our sin and point to the Jesus they could only hope for.

1. The people have not changed (Hosea 12)

- God's love is given (11:10–11), yet Israel answers with lies, deceit and falsehood (11:12–12:1).
- Israel is called Jacob (12:2–3): the heel grabber and supplanter, who now supplants the one true God with other gods.
- Jacob wrestled with God and left with a limp and a new name; Israel will struggle and limp too.
- A cheating merchant boasting in riches (12:7); prophets sent and ignored (12:10); more sin and silver idols (13:1–2).

2. God's judgment has not changed (Hosea 13)

- From riches to ruins: they will live in tents again, as in the wilderness (12:9).
- Like morning mist, dew, chaff and smoke (13:3): here today, gone tomorrow.
- God as lion, leopard and bear (13:7–8): the coming nations are His plan of judgment, not His weakness.
- 13:14, statement or question? Either way the answer is the same: "compassion is hidden from my eyes."
- Summary (13:15–16): the east wind, Assyria, will come; Samaria shall bear her guilt.

3. And yet God's promise has not changed (Hosea 14)

- A call to repent (14:1–3): turn around, and bring words: "Take away all iniquity."
 - More than "I am sorry" or "forgive me": it says I hate my sin, take it away.
 - Be specific: Assyria will not save us; no more "Our God" to the work of our hands.
 - For us: government, money and popularity will not save us.
- When we turn, God is there (14:4–7): "I will heal their apostasy; I will love them freely." Like the prodigal's father, He runs to meet us.
- Dew now gives life (14:5–8): the image of fading worship (6:4) and swift judgment (13:3) becomes fruit. "From me comes your fruit."
- Consequences remain, but God goes with us: Assyria still came, yet He cares for His people there.
- No spiritual bypass: we travel back through the hard places while He repairs and restores them.

Do you hear the invitation?

- Do we feel the severity of our sin and the judgment of God?
- Do we see His call to repent, to cry out "take away all my iniquity"?
- Do we see His love that greets us as we turn and leads us to fruit?
- Do we know Jesus in this way?