

# The Wise Choice

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November 4, 2025

# HOSEA

God's Faithful Love For An Unfaithful People

**Craig Smith • Nov. 9, 2025 • The Wise Choice**

**The final plea: return** - *"Return, O Israel, to the LORD your God. Your sins have been your downfall!" (Hosea 14:1)*

- **Confession from your heart** - *"Take words with you and return to the LORD. Say to Him: 'Forgive all our sins and receive us graciously, that we may offer the fruit of our lips.'" (Hosea 14:2)*

- **Re-direction in your life** - *"Assyria cannot save us; we will not mount war-horses. We will never again say 'Our gods' to what our own hands have made, for in you the fatherless find compassion." (Hosea 14:3)*

**The final promise: restoration** - *"I will heal their waywardness and love them freely, for my anger has turned away from them." (Hosea 14:4)*

- **Inner spiritual transformation** - *"I will be like the dew to Israel; he will blossom like a lily." (Hosea 14:5a)*

- **Deeper spiritual strength** - *"Like a cedar of Lebanon he will send down his roots; his young shoots will grow. His splendor will be like an olive tree, his fragrance like a cedar of Lebanon." (Hosea 14:5b-6)*

- **Broader spiritual influence** - *"Men will dwell again in his shade. He will flourish like the grain. He will blossom like a vine, and his fame*

*will be like the wine from Lebanon.” (**Hosea 14:7**)*

*“O Ephraim, what more have I (you) to do with idols? I will answer him and care for him. I am like a green pine tree; your fruitfulness comes from me.” (Hosea 14:8)*

**The final challenge: choice** - *“Who is wise? He will realize these things. Who is discerning? He will understand them. The ways of the LORD are right; the righteous walk in them, but the rebellious stumble in them.” (**Hosea 14:9**)*

*The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*

**(2 Pet. 3:9)**

*Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. (**Matt. 3:8**)*