



*Go for God!*

## THE BOOK OF HOSEA

### CHAPTERS 4 – 6

## “MY PEOPLE PERISH FOR LACK OF KNOWLEDGE!”

### > CHAPTER 4 - “HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD”

(v1) The results of “no truth or mercy or knowledge of God”:

> There is “*swearing (the Hebrew translation speaks of false swearing, making promises with no intention on fulfilling them) – lying – killing – stealing – adultery – no restraint*” – This is the way of our politics and culture today!

(v2-6) “God’s people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” - Warren Wiersbe writes, “The basic sin was ignorance; there was “no knowledge of God in the land.” “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” (Hos 4:6). This means much more than knowledge about God: it refers to a personal knowledge of God. The Hebrew word describes a husband's most intimate relationship with his wife (Gen 4:1; 19:8). To know God is to have a personal relationship with Him through faith in Jesus Christ (John 17:3).”

> All Christians must realize that the Word of God is “living and powerful” for life, family, country, and culture, notice:

- His Word “preserves our families” - Deuteronomy 6:24,25 - *And the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that He might preserve us alive, as it is this day. Then it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to observe all these commandments before the Lord our God, as He has commanded us.'*
- His Word “prosper our way” – Joshua 1:6-9 - *Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."*
- His Word “blesses our lives” - Psalm 1 - *Blessed is the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,*

*Nor stands in the path of sinners,  
Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;  
But his delight is in the law of the Lord,  
And in His law he meditates day and night.  
He shall be like a tree  
Planted by the rivers of water,  
That brings forth its fruit in its season,  
Whose leaf also shall not wither;  
And whatever he does shall prosper.  
The ungodly are not so,  
But are like the chaff which the wind drives away.  
Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment,  
Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.  
For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,  
But the way of the ungodly shall perish.*

- *His Word “brings answers to prayer” - John 15:1-8 – “I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. “I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.*
- *His Word “saves us from the great tribulation” - Revelation 3:7-13*

(v7-11) *“Because they have ceased OBEYING THE LORD” - What is OBEDIENCE? - God summons people to active obedience to His revelation. Man's failure to obey God results in judgment. In the Old Testament covenant between God and man, obedience was the basis for knowing God's blessing and favor (Ex 19:5; 24:1-8). In the New Testament, the obedience of Christ stands in contrast to the disobedience of Adam. The disobedience of Adam brought death, but the perfect obedience of Christ brought grace, righteousness, and life (Rom 5:12-21).*

(v12-18) What happens when we forsake God's counsel? – Read Proverbs 1:20-33.

(v19) In the church we must combat the “winds of false doctrine” - Ephesians 4:14-15 – *“that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head — Christ”*

## > CHAPTER 5 - “HEAR O’PRIEST, TAKE HEED O’ISRAEL”

(v1-7) *“they do not know the LORD”:*

- Warning to CHURCH LEADERS & CHURCH GOERS! - 2 Timothy 4:1-5

*I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.*

(v8-14) Judgment is coming! – Let’s read 2 Kings 17:24-41

(v15) Speaks of the restoration Israel in the last days! – Matthew 23:37-39 –

*“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! See! Your house is left to you desolate; for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’”*

## > CHAPTER 6 - “COME LET US RETURN TO THE LORD”

(v1-6) Warren Wiersbe sheds great light upon shallow hearts for God, “When you read these words, you get the impression that the nation is sincerely repenting and seeking the Lord, but when you read what God says, you see how shallow their “confession” really was. “They do not return to the Lord their God, nor seek Him” (7:10). “They have spoken lies against Me” (v. 13). “They return, but not to the Most High” (v. 16). What went wrong with this “confession”?

To begin with, their concern was for healing and not for cleansing. They saw their nation in difficulty and wanted God to “make things right.” but they did not come with broken hearts and surrendered wills. They wanted happiness, not holiness, a change of circumstances, but not a change in character. Many times in my own ministry I’ve met people

**in trouble who treated God like a celestial lifeguard who should rescue them from danger but not deliver them from their sins. They shed tears of remorse over their suffering, but not tears of repentance over their sin.”**

**(v7-11) Blessing or cursing is a result of our obedience or disobedience to the Word of God, Deuteronomy Ch. 28 declares this truth.**

**> All Christians “Come and be SEPARATE!”- 2 Cor. 6:11 – 7:1**