

THE BOOK OF HOSEA

Introduction & Chapters 1 - 3

Date: 755 - 710BC

HOSEA: *“The LORD Saves”*

Theme: *God’s Faithful Love*

Key verses: Hosea 4:1,6; 11:7-9

OUTLINE OF HOSEA

Chapter 1-3- The adultery of Hosea’s wife Gomer

Chapter 4-7- Unveils the sins of Israel

Chapter 8-10- Judgment of Israel

Chapter 11-14- Pictures the restoration of Israel (Hosea redeems Gomer)

Chapters 1 - 3: “ADULTEROUS GOMER—FAITHFUL HOSEA”

Chapters 4 - 14: “ADULTEROUS ISRAEL—FAITHFUL GOD”

- Hosea prophesied during the later years of and after Amos in Israel, which is also referred to as the Northern Kingdom or also Ephraim. Jeroboam II (782-731BC) was the king of Israel. After Jeroboam five more kings ruled, each with a short reign, four of them were murdered and the last was taken captive by the Assyrians.

- While to the South, we have what is called the Southern Kingdom or Judah, Isaiah and Micah were the prophets to the South. The kings of Judah during this time were:

Uzziah- 767-739BC

Jotham- 739-731BC

Ahaz- 731-715BC

Hezekiah- 715-686BC

- Hosea’s ministry continued into the Assyrian captivity of the Northern Kingdom.

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> **Sins of Israel:** Hosea shares approximately 150 sins in regards to Israel’s tragic condition. There was some outward prosperity but moral corruption was rampant, while spiritual adultery through idolatry filled the land. The lack of justice corrupted the people.

> **God’s Love:** God’s unconditional love is poured out upon Israel to win them back to Himself, but Israel’s hardened hearts and religious ritual overrides true worship. In **Hosea 14:1** it says *“O Israel, return to the LORD your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity.”*

Chapter 1 - “Adulterous Gomer—Faithful Hosea”

Chapter 1- Marriage & Three Sons (Hosea marries Gomer – Her name means “complete.”)

(v4-5) 1st Son- Jezreel- “God Scatters” (The name Jezreel signified the great slaughter that God would bring on the house of Jehu because of the violent acts which he had committed (2 Kings 9).)

(v6-7) 2nd Son- Lo-Ruhamah- “No Mercy” (verse 7 regarding Judah being saved – 2 Kings ch. 19 (Assyrians attacked Judah in 701 B.C.)

(v8) 3rd Son- Lo-Ammi- *“Not My People”*

(v10 – 2:1) Hosea declares that one day, which is, *Israel’s future restoration*, the representative meanings of these names will be reversed to:

(v10a) God will no longer say you are *“not my people,”* but rather *“you are sons of the living God”*.

(v10b) God will no longer scatter, but gather Judah and Israel under *“one head”*, the Messiah, Y’shua, Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. (Zechariah 10:9 - *“I will sow them among the peoples, and they shall remember Me in far countries; they shall live, together with their children, and they shall return.”*)

(v11) God will have mercy; God says, *“mercy is shown”*. (New Testament commentary on God’s mercy through Jesus Christ is found in **Hebrews 2:17-18** - *Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.*; also **Hebrews chapter 8**.)

Chapter 2 - “Adultery Judged & Restoration Promised”

(v2a) God says, *“she is not My wife, nor am I her Husband!”*

(v2B-5a) Sin of IDOLATRY!

(v5b-9) Sin of UNTHANKFULNESS!

(v10-13) Sin of HYPOCRISY!

(v13)- “Baals” - **2 Kings 17:7–18**

(v14-23) Restoration promised!

(v23) Paul proclaims Hosea in **Romans 9:1-26**

Chapter 3 - “Davidic Kingdom Reaffirmed in the Latter Days”

(v1-3) Hosea was called to go purchase his wife from her adultery at an equal cost of 30 pieces of silver, whereas, our Lord was sold to be betrayed for the same amount, how shameful.

How did God purchase His people? Paul declares in **Acts 20:28-29** - *Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. Hebrews 13:20-21* - *Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.*

(v4-5) Israel will be restored in the **“LATTER DAYS!”**

(Romans 11:25–29, citing Isaiah 59:20–21; 27:9; Jeremiah 31:33–34, says: *In this way all Israel will be saved. As it is written: “The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins.” As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies for your sake; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, for God’s gifts and his call are irrevocable.* Here, Paul emphasizes the “irrevocable” nature of Israel’s calling as a nation. Isaiah predicted that a “remnant” of Israel would one day “be called the Holy People, the Redeemed of the LORD” (Isaiah 62:12). Paul speaks of the “full inclusion” of Israel in the future (Romans 11:12). Regardless of Israel’s current state of unbelief, a future remnant will in fact repent and fulfill their calling to establish righteousness by faith (Romans 10:1–8; 11:5). This conversion will fulfill Moses’ prediction of Israel’s permanent restoration to the land (Deuteronomy 30:1–10). God’s larger redemptive plan involves both Jews and Gentiles. When Paul says Israel will be “saved,” he means their deliverance to this physical inheritance as integral to God’s ultimate plan (Romans 11:30–36). So how will “all Israel be saved” and restored in the land? The details of this deliverance are filled out in passages such as Zechariah 8–14 and Revelation 7–19, which speak of end-times Israel at Christ’s return. The key verse describing the coming to faith of the future remnant of Israel is Zechariah 12:10, “I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.” This occurs during the tribulation prophesied in Daniel 9:24–27. The apostle John references this event in Revelation 1:7. The faithful remnant of Israel is epitomized in Revelation 7:1–8 and 11:1–12. These faithful ones the Lord will save and bring back to Jerusalem “in truth and righteousness” (Zechariah 8:7–8, NASB).¹

¹ Understanding End Times Prophecy by Paul Benware