

The Book of HOSEA

Name means: Salvation

Date: 748 – 722 BC 26 years until defeat and exile by the Assyrians 2 Kings 15-17

Prophet to Israel, the Northern Kingdom

A contemporary with: Amos, a prophet from Judah to Israel, the Northern Kingdom
Micah, a prophet to Judah, the Southern Kingdom
Isaiah, a prophet in Jerusalem with message to Judah and Israel

The ministry of both Hosea, and later Jeremiah, included the prophesy of defeat and exile.
Both not only warned of coming judgement and exile, but lived long enough to see it.

THEME Hosea 6:1 Return to the Lord”return” occurs 15 times in Hosea

KEY VERSE Hosea 6:6 I desire steadfast love, and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God, rather than burnt offerings. RSV Steadfast love: **Hesed** covenant love, “mercy” NKJV & KJV

Jesus quoted this verse in Matthew 9:13 and 12:7

Not all prophets have books in the Bible.

Samuel was the first prophet. Around 1,050 BC 1Sam 9:9 The last was John the Baptist
Acts 3:24 Peter preaching at Pentecost ...all the prophets since Samuel.

OVERVIEW OF HOSEA

Chapters 1-3 Analogy of Marriage

I. Personal

Chapters 4-14 Sin, Judgement and Restoration

II. Prophetic

Analogy of Hosea’s Marriage

HOSEA	GOD
1. Marriage- a covenant relationship- Gomer	God’s covenant relationship with Israel
2. Gomer broke the relationship- became a harlot	Israel turned to other gods
3. Gomer becomes destitute and no one wants her	Israel separated from God
4. Hosea buys her back and restores her	God takes Israel back, and is returning for the church

**Sin is not simply the breaking of rules or laws,
it is infidelity towards God in a covenant relationship.**

Genesis 1:27 and 2:24 God ordains marriage.

Leviticus 20:10 “...the adulterer and the adulteress, shall surely be put to death.”

Hebrews 13:4 Marriage is honorable in all

Exodus 34:13-16 Isaiah 62:4& 5 (Beulah: married) Jeremiah 3:14

The strength of any nation is reflected in the strength of it’s families.

Chapters 1-3 Analogy of Marriage

I. Personal

- 1:1 Days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah in Judah, Jeroboam in Israel. Jeroboam was a bad king.
- 1:2 God takes responsibility if He told Hosea to marry a harlot, or if He let Hosea marry a woman he loved who became a harlot. God had an illustration of His covenant love. GO or GO AHEAD?
- 1:3 Gomer is a real person, the daughter of a real man, who had a real name. Plural: Harlotry, not an act but a characteristic.
- 1:4 First son is Jezreel. "God scatters"
- 1:5 break the bow in the Valley of Jezreel. Break the military power of Israel.
- 1:6 A daughter, Lo-Ammi "No Mercy, No pity"
- 1:9 A son, Lo-Ammi "Not My people"
- 1:10, 11 & 2:1 Restoration of Israel as sand of the sea. You are sons of the Living God.
- 1) One head, up out of the land, Day of Jezreel, Israel & Judah as one. United Kingdom Messianic ?
- 2) "My people" 3) "mercy is shown"
- 2:16 KJV shall call me Ishī not Baalī Husband and not master.
- 3:1 & 2 Hosea buys Gomer back in a slave auction

Chapters 4-14 Sin, Judgement and Restoration

II. Prophetic

- 4:1 No knowledge of God in the land.
- 4:4-10 Corrupt priesthood. 4:6 The priests have no knowledge of God :10 ceased obeying the Lord
- 4:12 Like flipping a coin to make decisions
- 4: 13 & 14 No punishment for the harlotry of your wives and daughters- because men are guilty.
- 5:5 Israel and Judah will both fall. Israel in 722 BC, and Judah in 597 & 586 BC
- 5:14-15 Until they repent
- 6:1-3 A recitation, a memory verse, something they know but do not believe.
- 6:4 Israel, your faithfulness is like a morning cloud, morning dew.
- 6:6 **I desire "hesed" (covenant love) mercy knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.**
- 7:7 Trusting in foreign kings, but not their God.
- 7:11 Ephraim is like a silly dove, back & forth between Assyria and Egypt
- 8:2 Pretending to know God, but rejecting Him. 8:7 Sow the wind, and reap the whirlwind.
- 8:12 The law is considered a strange thing. Like social justice warriors today- think they know.
- 9:3 They shall return to exile- Egypt and Assyria. :17 Wanderers among the nations.
- 10:3 We have no king. :13 You have plowed wickedness, and reaped iniquity.
- 11:1 When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called My son. :7 bent on backsliding
- 12:9 and 13:4 But I am the Lord your God,
- 14: Israel is invited to return to God and be restored.