

Outline of
Hosea



Introduction

Writer

Hosea. All that is known of him is what he reveals in his prophecy.

Time

The word of the LORD that came unto Hosea, the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam, the son of Joash, king of Israel. (Hosea 1:1)

In spite of the fact that Hosea mentions the four kings of Judah first and the one king of Israel last, he was a prophet to the northern kingdom, as the content of the book reveals. He was contemporary with Amos, another prophet to Israel, and also contemporary with Micah and Isaiah, prophets to Judah. His ministry extended over half a century, and he lived to see the fulfillment of his prophecy in the captivity of Israel.

Theme

“Return unto the LORD.”

Come, and let us return unto the LORD; for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up. (Hosea 6:1)

“Return” occurs fifteen times.

“Ephraim” occurs thirty-six times.

“Backsliding” occurs three times. Hosea and Jeremiah are the two prophets who talk about backsliding and the cure for it.

What Jeremiah was to Judah at the time of the captivity of the southern kingdom, Hosea was to Israel, over a century before, at the time of the captivity of the northern kingdom. Both spoke out of a heartbreaking personal experience.

Personal experience

Hosea’s experience was in the home; Jeremiah’s was in the nation. Jeremiah was commanded not to marry; Hosea was commanded to marry a harlot or, as he brutally stated the case, “a wife of whoredoms” (Hosea 1:2, KJV). He married Gomer, and she bore him two sons and a daughter. Afterward she played the harlot again, and Hosea put her out of his home. But God commanded him to take again this Unfaithful harlot, to bring her back into his home, and to love her again. In effect, God said to Hosea, “Now you are prepared to speak for Me to Israel — Israel has played the harlot, but I love her and will yet bring her back into her homeland.”

Source: Dr. John Vernon McGee (1904 – 1988), THRU THE BIBLE RADIO NETWORK

HOSEA: **A. HUMAN UNFAITHFULNESS**

SINS:

1. INFIDELITY
2. INDEPENDENCE
3. INTRIGUE
- *4. IDOLATRY
5. IGNORANCE
- *6. IMMORALITY
7. INGRATITUDE

SINNERS

1. PRIESTS
2. PROPHETS
3. PRINCES
4. PROFITEERS

SUFFERING

1. BARRENNESS
2. BLOODSHED
3. BANISHMENT

B. DIVINE FAITHFULNESS

1. GOD CAN'T LET THEM OFF
2. GOD CAN'T LET THEM GO
3. GOD CAN'T LET THEM DOWN

I. PERSONAL — The prophet and his faithless wife, Gomer

Chapters 1 – 3

A. Marriage of Hosea and Gomer, the harlot Chapter 1

B. Gomer proves faithless; Israel proves faithless; God proves faithful Chapter 2

C. Hosea commanded to take Gomer again Chapter 3



II. PROPHETIC — The Lord and the faithless nation Israel

Chapters 4 – 14

A. Israel plays the harlot Chapters 4, 5

1. Israel guilty of lawlessness, immorality, ignorance of God's Word, and idolatry, Chapter 4
2. Israel turns from God; God turns from Israel; deterioration within follows, Chapter 5

B. Israel (Ephraim) will return in the last days; presently to be judged for current sins Chapter 6

C. Israel (Ephraim) could escape judgment by turning to God who loves her (key, 11:8) Chapters 7 – 12

1. Israel (silly dove) turns to Egypt and Assyria, Chapter 7
2. Israel turns to golden calves and altars of sin, Chapter 8
3. Israel (backsliding heifer) turns to land productivity; will be driven from the land, Chapters 9, 10
4. Israel turns from God – must be judged; God will not give her up, Chapters 11, 12

D. Israel (Ephraim) will turn from idols to God in the last days Chapters 13, 14

1. Israel will be judged in the present, Chapter 13
2. Israel will be saved in the future, Chapter 14

Yet I have been the Lord your God
 since the land of Egypt;
 and you were not to know any god except Me,
 for there is no savior besides Me.

Hosea 13:4

Quiz on Hosea

1. Hosea, at the command of God, took a wife. What was her name?

2. What name means “for I will no more have mercy on the house of Israel”?

3. In Chapter 4, what does God say about lack of knowledge?

4. In Chapter 4, what does God say is not present in the land?

5. What does God prefer to burnt offerings, in Chapter 6?

6. In Chapter 9, how were the Israelites like when the Lord found them?

7. In the first verse of Chapter 11, God calls Israel his what?

8. Who uses a fraudulent scale in Chapter 12?

9. According to Chapter 14 of Hosea, what is Israel to do to the Lord?

10. The Book of Hosea ends with God’s promise to restore Israel. In it the scent of Israel is compared to the wine of which country?

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