

# **The Teachings of Hosea**

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# **The Teachings of Hosea**

by Jonathan Cooper

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# Introduction

One of the ways I've been studying the Word of God is by making a list of everything that each book of the Bible teaches. This has resulted in more than a thousand pages of material. Although it's interesting and I've learned a lot from writing it, that's a lot of bullet points to read through!

This isn't intended to summarize each book of the Bible because that's what my "Chapter Summary of the Bible" is for. It's also not intended to offer in-depth commentary because that's what my regular commentary is for. This book is simply a collection of points that I found interesting.

I hope there's some material here that you find edifying.

Jon Cooper  
4/29/2024

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# Chapter 1

**Hosea 1:1:** "The word of the LORD that came unto Hosea, the son of Beerī, 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."

- The words in this book came from the Lord. They are the words of God, not the words of men.
- God gave the words in this book to Hosea.
- Hosea was a prophet.
- Hosea was a descendant of Beerī.
- Hosea ministered during the days of Uzziah.
- Hosea ministered during the days of Jotham.
- Hosea ministered during the days of Ahaz.
- Hosea ministered during the days of Hezekiah.
- Uzziah was a king of Judah.
- Jotham was a king of Judah.
- Ahaz was a king of Judah.
- Hezekiah was a king of Judah.
- Hosea ministered during the days of Jeroboam.
- Jeroboam was a king of Israel.
- Jeroboam a descendant of Joash.

**Hosea 1:2:** "The beginning of the word of the LORD by Hosea. And the LORD said to Hosea, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land hath

committed great whoredom, departing from the LORD."

- This book repeats the fact that the words in this book came from God and were given to Hosea.
- God commanded Hosea to get married.
- God commanded Hosea to marry a sexually immoral woman.
- The reason God commanded Israel to marry a woman who was sexually immoral was because the Jews were guilty of great immorality.
- The Jews had departed from the Lord and become tremendously immoral.
- God used Hosea as an object lesson. God was holy, but His wife (the children of Israel) was deeply immoral. God illustrated that by having Hosea marry a woman who was deeply immoral.
- There were times when God used prophets as object lessons, to teach things to the people.
- There were times when the prophets had to suffer greatly in order to serve the Lord, and had to do very unpleasant things in order to proclaim the message that God gave them.
- There were times when being a prophet wasn't easy, and made life much worse.
- Even though Hosea was faithful, God gave him an awful wife because God wanted to use that situation to teach His people an important lesson.
- Sometimes the things that God does in order to work through us are painful and makes us unhappy.
- In the days of Hosea there were sexually immoral women



in the land, in spite of the fact the Mosaic Law commanded that they be put to death. This means the people weren't following the law, but were allowing sin to have free reign in their society.

**Hosea 1:3:** "So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim; which conceived, and bare him a son."

- Hosea married Gomer.
- Gomer was a sexually immoral woman.
- Gomer was the descendant of Diblaim.
- Hosea had a son with Gomer.
- Hosea obeyed the Lord and did what God commanded him to do.

**Hosea 1:4:** "And the LORD said unto him, Call his name Jezreel; for yet a little while, and I will avenge the blood of Jezreel upon the house of Jehu, and will cause to cease the kingdom of the house of Israel."

- God is the one who named Hosea's son.
- God commanded Hosea to name his son Jezreel.
- The reason God commanded Hosea to name his son Jezreel was because God was going to avenge the blood of Jezreel.
- The name of Hosea's son was prophetic, and revealed what God was going to do in the near future.
- Sometimes God gave people prophetic names.
- Innocent blood had been shed in Jezreel by the house of

Jehu.

- The house of Jehu had committed a terrible crime.
- God was going to avenge the innocent blood that had been shed.
- We must not shed innocent blood.
- God punishes nations for shedding innocent blood.
- God was so angry at the shedding of this innocent blood that He was going to destroy the entire nation of Israel. He was going to put an end to the kingdom of Israel.
- There are times when God destroys nations for shedding innocent blood.
- God warned the people in advance that He was going to destroy the kingdom of Israel. He didn't destroy it without warning.
- God told the people why He was going to destroy the nation.

**Hosea 1:5:** "And it shall come to pass at that day, that I will break the bow of Israel, in the valley of Jezreel."

- When this prophecy was fulfilled, God was going to destroy the military might of Israel.
- God was going to destroy the military might of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.
- Since the house of Jehu shed innocent blood in Jezreel, that was where God was going to destroy their military power. He would punish them in the same place where they had sinned.
- God has the power to destroy the military might of

nations.

- The military might of a nation isn't enough to save it. God can destroy it if He chooses to do so.

**Hosea 1:6:** "And she conceived again, and bare a daughter. And God said unto him, Call her name Loruhamah: for I will no more have mercy upon the house of Israel; but I will utterly take them away."

- Hosea had a daughter with Gomer.
- God is the one who named Hosea's daughter.
- God gave Hosea's daughter a prophetic name.
- God commanded Hosea to name his daughter Loruhamah.
- The reason God named Hosea's daughter Loruhamah was because He was no longer going to have mercy upon the kingdom of Israel.
- In the past God had shown mercy to the kingdom of Israel. Even though they had been ceaselessly wicked, God hadn't destroyed them.
- The time of God's mercy upon Israel had come to an end.
- God was going to destroy the kingdom of Israel and send the people into exile. They would be removed from the promised land.
- God gave the nation of Israel multiple warnings that He was going to destroy their kingdom. He also told them why they were going to do it. (Yet in spite of all this they didn't repent or cry out to Him.)
- There are times when God has mercy on wicked nations

and doesn't destroy them.

- There are times when God stops having mercy on wicked nations and destroys them.

**Hosea 1:7:** "But I will have mercy upon the house of Judah, and will save them by the LORD their God, and will not save them by bow, nor by sword, nor by battle, by horses, nor by horsemen."

- God said that He was going to have mercy on the house of Judah. He wouldn't destroy that nation at this time.
- God was going to save the house of Judah.
- God wasn't going to use the military might of Judah to save them. Instead He was going to save them without the use of military weapons.
- In ancient times, people used bows in battle.
- In ancient times, people used swords in battle.
- In ancient times, people used horses in battle.
- In ancient times, people used horsemen in battle.
- God chose to show mercy to Judah but not to Israel.

**Hosea 1:8:** "Now when she had weaned Loruhamah, she conceived, and bare a son."

- Gomer weaned Loruhamah.
- After Gomer weaned her daughter, she had a son.

**Hosea 1:9:** "Then said God, Call his name Loammi: for ye are not my people, and I will not be your God."

- God is the one who named Hosea's second son.
- God gave Hosea's second son a prophetic name.
- God commanded Hosea to name his son Loammi.
- The reason God commanded Hosea to name his son Loammi was because the children of Israel were wicked. Since they departed from the Lord and refused to serve Him, He would not be their God. Since they rejected God, God rejected them.
- God named Hosea's children in a way that communicated His message to the people of Israel. He used their names to warn the nation of its impending destruction.
- There are times when God puts us in difficult situations, and makes our life painful, in order to proclaim His message and minister to others.
- God's primary concern isn't our comfort or happiness. There may be times when we have to suffer in order to serve the Lord.

**Hosea 1:10:** "Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered; and it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people, there it shall be said unto them, Ye are the sons of the living God."

- Although the children of Israel had rejected God, this rejection wouldn't last forever. One day they would be the people of God and would faithfully serve Him.
- The day was coming when God would no longer reject the children of Israel.
- The day was coming when there would be an enormous

number of Israelites.

- God wasn't going to utterly destroy the children of Israel. He will never allow them to be wiped out.
- One day the children of Israel will be called the sons of the living God. One day they will be His people and He will be their God.
- God will never utterly reject the children of Israel forever.

**Hosea 1:11:** "Then shall the children of Judah and the children of Israel be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land: for great shall be the day of Jezreel."

- When this prophecy is fulfilled, the children of Judah and Israel will once again be one united nation. In the future they won't be separate kingdoms.
- Although God was going to destroy the kingdom of Israel, He wasn't going to utterly wipe them out. Instead the day would come when the children of Israel united with the children of Judah into a single unified nation.
- When this prophecy is fulfilled, the children of Judah and Israel will have a single ruler.
- The children of Judah and Israel will appoint themselves a ruler.
- When this prophecy is fulfilled, the day of Jezreel will be great. (It's not entirely clear what that means).

## Chapter 2

**Hosea 2:1:** "Say ye unto your brethren, Ammi; and to your sisters, Ruhamah."

- God gave Hosea a message.
- The message that God gave to Hosea was for Ammi, described as a brother.
- The message that God gave to Hosea was for Ruhamah, described as sisters (plural).
- The target of this message appears to be nations, not individuals. It seems that God is speaking to the children of Israel.

**Hosea 2:2:** "Plead with your mother, plead: for she is not my wife, neither am I her husband: let her therefore put away her whoredoms out of her sight, and her adulteries from between her breasts;"

- At this point in history the children of Israel were no longer the wife of God. In the past they had been the wife of God, but God had put them away (divorced them) because they had been unfaithful to Him.
- At this point in history the Israelites weren't God's people, and God wasn't their God. There was a separation between them.
- God commanded Israel to put away their immorality and idolatry and sin, and repent of their evil deeds.
- Because Israel was the wife of God, her idolatry was a form of adultery. (Israel was seeking after other gods and serving them, instead of serving the Lord her husband.)

- In order to be saved you must repent. Repentance isn't optional.

**Hosea 2:3:** "Lest I strip her naked, and set her as in the day that she was born, and make her as a wilderness, and set her like a dry land, and slay her with thirst."

- If the children Israel didn't repent then God would punish them.
- If the Israelites didn't repent then God would punish them by casting them out into the wilderness.
- If the Israelites didn't repent then God would punish them by relocating them to a dry land.
- If the Israelites didn't repent then God would punish them by killing them with thirst.
- There are times when God punishes nations for their wickedness.
- The Israelites could have avoided the judgment of God if they had repented of their wickedness.
- There are times when God punishes nations by casting them into the wilderness.
- God has power over nations.
- God has power over the destiny of nations.

**Hosea 2:4:** "And I will not have mercy upon her children; for they be the children of whoredoms."

- If the children of Israel didn't repent then God wouldn't have mercy on their children.



- God doesn't always have mercy on children. He treats the children of the righteous differently than He treats the children of the wicked.
- God puts a difference between the children of idolaters and the children of the righteous.
- In the sight of God it's bad to be a child who's born out of wedlock.
- It's bad to have children outside of marriage.
- People shouldn't have children outside of marriage.
- If we want God to have mercy on our children then we need to repent, seek the Lord, and do what's right.

**Hosea 2:5:** "For their mother hath played the harlot: she that conceived them hath done shamefully: for she said, I will go after my lovers, that give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, mine oil and my drink."

- The children of Israel had been unfaithful. They had sought after other gods and worshiped them.
- It angers God when nations seek after other gods and worship them.
- We must not seek after other gods, and we must not worship them.
- The children of Israel believed that their idols were responsible for their prosperity.
- The children of Israel believed that their idols had given them bread.
- The children of Israel believed that their idols had given them water.

- The children of Israel believed that their idols had given them wool.
- The children of Israel believed that their idols had given them flax.
- The children of Israel believed that their idols had given them oil.
- The children of Israel believed that their idols had given them drink.
- It's evil to give idols credit for the blessings God has given us.
- God is the one who has given us our blessings, not idols.
- God is the one who gives us our food, drink, and possessions.
- The children of Israel believed that their idols loved them and had done great things for them.

**Hosea 2:6:** "Therefore, behold, I will hedge up thy way with thorns, and make a wall, that she shall not find her paths."

- Since the Israelites had gone after idols, God was going to put thorns in the path of Israel so the nation would be unable to continue down the same paths as before.
- Since the Israelites refused to repent, God was going to make it difficult for Israel to keep sinning in order to guide the nation to righteousness.

**Hosea 2:7:** "And she shall follow after her lovers, but she shall not overtake them; and she shall seek them, but shall not find them: then shall she say, I will go and return to my first

husband; for then was it better with me than now."

- In the future, the children of Israel would seek after false gods but wouldn't find them.
- In the future, the children of Israel would return to God because He would prevent them from finding and serving the false gods they once served.
- In the future, God was going to bring the children of Israel back to Him by making it impossible for them to keep sinning as they had in the past. He was going to put idolatry out of their reach.
- The reason the children of Israel will one day return to God is because they will realize their lives were better when they served God.
- God has a plan for saving the children of Israel. They won't always be wicked and idolatrous.

**Hosea 2:8:** "For she did not know that I gave her corn, and wine, and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold, which they prepared for Baal."

- God was the one who gave the Israelites corn.
- God was the one who gave the Israelites wine.
- God was the one who gave the Israelites oil.
- God was the one who gave the Israelites an abundance of silver.
- God was the one who gave the Israelites an abundance of gold.
- Corn is a blessing from God.
- Wine is a blessing from God.

- Oil is a blessing from God.
- Silver is a blessing from God.
- Gold is a blessing from God.
- It's not wrong to eat corn.
- It's not wrong to drink wine.
- It's not wrong to consume oil.
- It's not wrong to have silver.
- It's not wrong to have gold.
- The Israelites took the blessings that God had given them and gave them to Baal. They used God's blessings to worship idols.
- The Israelites didn't know that God was the one who gave them their blessings.

**Hosea 2:9:** "Therefore will I return, and take away my corn in the time thereof, and my wine in the season thereof, and will recover my wool and my flax given to cover her nakedness."

- Since the children of Israel were giving God's blessings to Baal, God was going to take them away.
- God was going to take away Israel's corn.
- God was going to take away Israel's wine.
- God was going to take away Israel's wool.
- God was going to take away Israel's flax.
- There's a time for corn.
- There's a season for wine.
- God had given the children of Israel wool and flax as

clothing.

- It's not a sin to wear garments of wool.
- It's not a sin to wear garments of flax.
- There are times when God punishes nations by taking away corn.
- There are times when God punishes nations by taking away wine.
- There are times when God punishes nations by taking away wool.
- There are times when God punishes nations by taking away flax.
- It's a bad thing to have corn taken away.
- It's a bad thing to have wine taken away.
- It's a bad thing to have wool taken away.
- It's a bad thing to have flax taken away.

**Hosea 2:10:** "And now will I discover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and none shall deliver her out of mine hand."

- In order to punish the children of Israel, God was going to expose the wickedness and vileness of Israel to the nations.
- None of Israel's false gods or idols would be able to save them from the hand of God. The Lord was going to punish them and they wouldn't be able to escape.
- One of the ways God punishes nations is by exposing their wickedness and corruption and sin.

- There are times when God exposes a nation's sin before He destroys that nation.

**Hosea 2:11:** "I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts."

- In order to punish the children of Israel, God was going to take away their gladness.
- In order to punish the children of Israel, God was going to take away their feast day celebrations.
- In order to punish the children of Israel, God was going to take away their new moon celebrations.
- In order to punish the children of Israel, God was going to take away their sabbaths.
- In order to punish the children of Israel, God was going to take away their solemn feasts.
- There are times when God punishes nations by taking away their gladness.
- There are times when God punishes nations by taking away their celebrations.
- There are times when God punishes nations by taking away their feasts.
- It's good to be glad.
- It's good to have celebrations.
- It's not wrong to feast.
- The feast days that God gave to Israel were blessings.
- The new moon celebrations that God gave to Israel were

blessings.

- The sabbaths that God gave to Israel were blessings.
- The solemn feasts that God gave to Israel were blessings.

**Hosea 2:12:** "And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees, whereof she hath said, These are my rewards that my lovers have given me: and I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall eat them."

- In order to punish the children of Israel, God was going to destroy the nation's vines.
- In order to punish the children of Israel, God was going to destroy the nation's fig trees.
- The children of Israel gave their idols the credit for their vineyards. They didn't give the credit to God.
- The children of Israel gave their idols the credit for their fig trees. They didn't give the credit to God.
- Vineyards are a blessing from God.
- Fig trees are a blessing from God.
- It's very evil to give idols credit for the blessings that God has given us.
- Our blessings come from God.
- God was going to turn Israel's vineyards into a forest.
- God was going to give Israel's crops to animals, who would eat them. Animals would enjoy them instead of the children of Israel.
- There are times when God uses forests to punish nations.
- There are times when God uses animals to punish

nations.

- There are times when God punishes nations by turning their crops over to animals, who eat them.

**Hosea 2:13:** "And I will visit upon her the days of Baalim, wherein she burned incense to them, and she decked herself with her earrings and her jewels, and she went after her lovers, and forgot me, saith the LORD."

- God was going to visit the children of Israel on the days when they worshiped Baalim.
- The children of Israel worshiped Baalim.
- The children of Israel burned incense to Baalim.
- The children of Israel dressed themselves up in order to chase after their idols and false gods, and worship them.
- The children of Israel forgot the Lord.

**Hosea 2:14:** "Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her."

- God was going to lure the children of Israel back to Him.
- God was going to bring the children of Israel into the wilderness.
- God was going to speak good and comfortable words to the children of Israel when they were in the wilderness.

**Hosea 2:15:** "And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt."



- God was going to give Israel vineyards.
- God was going to give Israel the valley of Achor, which would be a door of hope for them.
- When God lured Israel back to Him, the children of Israel would sing.
- In the early days of the children of Israel, the people sang.
- The children of Israel sang to the Lord when God delivered them from slavery in Egypt.
- It's good for the people of God to sing to the Lord.
- There are times when God blesses nations with vineyards.

**Hosea 2:16:** "And it shall be at that day, saith the LORD, that thou shalt call me Ishi; and shalt call me no more Baali."

- When Israel returns to the Lord, the people will call God "Ishi" instead of "Baali".

**Hosea 2:17:** "For I will take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth, and they shall no more be remembered by their name."

- God is going to remove the name of Baalim from the people of Israel.
- The Israelites would no longer call God "Baali" because it was too close to "Baalim", the false god.

**Hosea 2:18:** "And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will

make them to lie down safely."

- When Israel returns to the Lord, God will make a covenant with the beasts of the field.
- When Israel returns to the Lord, God will make a covenant with the fowls of heaven (birds).
- When Israel returns to the Lord, God will make a covenant with the creeping things of the ground (insects).
- In the end-times, God will make a covenant with the animals, birds, and insects. There will be peace in the animal kingdom, and animals will no longer harm people. (This will be fulfilled in the millennium.)
- When Israel returns to the Lord, God will remove the bow and the sword from the world. Nations will no longer have weapons, or have any need for weapons. (This will be fulfilled in the millennium.)
- When Israel returns to the Lord, God will remove battles from the world. Nations will no longer wage war against one another.
- When Israel returns to the Lord, both people and animals will lie down in safety. It will be a time of tremendous peace. (All of these things seem to be speaking of the millennium.)
- God is the one who is going to bring peace to the animal kingdom.
- God is the one who is going to bring peace to the nations.
- God is the one who is going to end warfare.
- Only God can bring true peace to this world.

**Hosea 2:19:** "And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies."

- When God gave this prophecy to Hosea, the Israelites were no longer the wife of God. However, in the end-times God will take Israel back, and they will never be separated from Him again. He will betroth Israel to Him forever.
- When Israel repents in the end-times, Israel will never stray from God again. The nation will never again serve idols, but will remain faithful to God forever.
- God will give Israel righteousness.
- God will make Israel a just nation.
- God will show Israel great loving kindness.
- God will show Israel great mercy.

**Hosea 2:20:** "I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the LORD."

- God will take Israel back in faithfulness.
- In that day the Israelites will know the Lord.
- The Israelites won't always be separated from God. One day they'll be saved.
- One day the Israelites will know the Lord.

**Hosea 2:21:** "And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the LORD, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth;"

- When God takes Israel back, He will hear the heavens.
- When God takes Israel back, the Israelites will hear the earth.

**Hosea 2:22:** "And the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall hear Jezreel."

- When God takes Israel back, the earth will hear the corn.
- When God takes Israel back, the earth will hear the wine.
- When God takes Israel back, the earth will hear the oil.
- When God takes Israel back, the Israelites will hear Jezreel.
- When God takes Israel back, He will bless them with corn.
- When God takes Israel back, He will bless them with wine.
- When God takes Israel back, He will bless them with oil.

**Hosea 2:23:** "And I will sow her unto me in the earth; and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to them which were not my people, Thou art my people; and they shall say, Thou art my God."

- In the past, God withdrew His mercy from Israel. In the future He will show mercy to Israel.
- In the past, God had rejected Israel. In the future, Israel will become His people again.
- In the past, Israel had rejected God. In the future, they will worship God alone.
- In the future, Israel will be the people of God and He will

be the God of Israel.

## Chapter 3

**Hosea 3:1:** "Then said the LORD unto me, Go yet, love a woman beloved of her friend, yet an adulteress, according to the love of the LORD toward the children of Israel, who look to other gods, and love flagons of wine."

- God commanded Hosea to love a woman who was an adulteress.
- The woman had a friend.
- The woman was beloved.
- Even though the woman was a beloved, she was still a wicked adulteress.
- God loved the children of Israel, even though they were wicked and idolatrous.
- The children of Israel were guilty of spiritual adultery. They left God and loved false gods.
- The children of Israel were drunkards. They loved wine instead of the Lord.
- The reason God commanded Hosea to love a woman who wasn't faithful to him was because God loved Israel, who wasn't faithful to Him. God was using Hosea to illustrate both His love for Israel, and Israel's wicked behavior.
- God loved Israel in spite of the fact that Israel was wicked and idolatrous, and in spite of the fact that Israel didn't love Him. God's love for Israel didn't depend on Israel's obedience to Him or love for Him.

**Hosea 3:2:** "So I bought her to me for fifteen pieces of silver, and for an homer of barley, and an half homer of barley:"

- Hosea obeyed the Lord.
- Hosea showed love to his wife, who had left him and was guilty of adultery.
- Hosea bought back his adulterous and wicked wife. He paid 15 pieces of silver and 1.5 homers of barley in order to redeem her.
- Hosea had to buy his wife back, even though she was his wife and she was the one who wronged him. She was wicked, and yet he had to pay the price.

**Hosea 3:3:** "And I said unto her, Thou shalt abide for me many days; thou shalt not play the harlot, and thou shalt not be for another man: so will I also be for thee."

- Hosea told his wife that she would live with him for many days.
- Hosea told his wife that she would no longer be a harlot. She would have to remain faithful to Hosea.
- Hosea told his wife that she could no longer go after other men.
- Hosea told his wife that he would live with her, and would be faithful to her, and would take care of her.

**Hosea 3:4:** "For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without

teraphim:"

- In the future, the children of Israel wouldn't have a king for a long time.
- In the future, the children of Israel wouldn't have a prince for a long time.
- In the future, the children of Israel wouldn't have the ability to make sacrifices for a long time.
- In the future, the children of Israel wouldn't have priests for a long time.
- In the future, the children of Israel wouldn't have idols for a long time.

**Hosea 3:5:** "Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the LORD their God, and David their king; and shall fear the LORD and his goodness in the latter days."

- After all these things came to pass, the children of Israel would seek the Lord their God.
- After all these things came to pass, the children of Israel would seek David their king.
- After all these things came to pass, the children of Israel would fear the Lord.
- After all these things came to pass, the children of Israel would fear the goodness of the Lord.
- These things will come to pass in the latter days.
- We should seek the Lord.
- We should fear the Lord.
- The Lord is good.

- In the end, God is going to save Israel. They won't be separated from Him forever.

## Chapter 4

**Hosea 4:1:** "Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land."

- God used Hosea to proclaim His word to Israel.
- This message was for the children of Israel.
- The Lord had a controversy with the Israelites. He was angry with them.
- There was no truth in Israel.
- There was no mercy in Israel.
- There was no knowledge of God in Israel.
- God becomes angry with nations when they lack truth.
- God becomes angry with nations when they lack mercy.
- God becomes angry with nations when they lack knowledge of Him.
- We must seek truth and hold on to it.
- We must be merciful.
- We must pursue the knowledge of God.

**Hosea 4:2:** "By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth



blood."

- The Israelites were guilty of swearing.
- The Israelites were guilty of lying.
- The Israelites were guilty of shedding innocent blood.
- The Israelites were guilty of stealing.
- The Israelites were guilty of committing adultery.
- God hates swearing.
- God hates lying.
- God hates the shedding of innocent blood.
- God hates stealing.
- God hates committing adultery.
- We must not swear.
- We must not tell lies.
- We must not shed innocent blood.
- We must not steal.
- We must not commit adultery.
- God punishes nations for swearing.
- God punishes nations for lying.
- God punishes nations for shedding innocent blood.
- God punishes nations for stealing.
- God punishes nations for committing adultery.
- God holds people accountable for their actions.
- God holds nations accountable for their actions.

**Hosea 4:3:** "Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away."

- Because the Israelites were wicked, the land itself would mourn.
- Because the Israelites were wicked, everyone who lived in the land would languish.
- Because the Israelites were wicked, the livestock would die.
- Because the Israelites were wicked, the birds would die.
- Because the Israelites were wicked, the fish would die.
- There are national consequences for sin.
- When the people of a nation are guilty of swearing, and lying, and shedding innocent blood, and stealing, and committing adultery, the very land itself will be affected. The livestock, birds, and fish will die, and those who live in the land will languish.
- The sins of a nation can impact the animals who live in that nation.

**Hosea 4:4:** "Yet let no man strive, nor reprove another: for thy people are as they that strive with the priest."

- God said that people shouldn't rebuke one another, because they wouldn't listen to rebuke.
- God compared the children of Israel to people who refused to listen to priests, and who were wise in their own eyes.

- The children of Israel were wicked and wouldn't listen to rebuke.

**Hosea 4:5:** "Therefore shalt thou fall in the day, and the prophet also shall fall with thee in the night, and I will destroy thy mother."

- The nation of Israel would fall in the daytime. (The priests did their work during the day, and that's when the nation would fall.)
- The prophet would fall in the nighttime. (The prophets had their visions in the night, and that's when they would fall.) This seems to be a reference to false prophets.
- God was going to destroy the nation of Israel. (The nation itself was depicted as the mother, with its people referred to as children.)
- God was going to destroy the false prophets who were in Israel.

**Hosea 4:6:** "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children."

- The children of Israel were being destroyed.
- The reason the children of Israel were being destroyed is because they lacked knowledge. (This seems to be a reference to knowledge of God).
- The reason the children of Israel lacked knowledge was because they had rejected knowledge.
- It's bad to lack knowledge of God.

- It's bad to reject knowledge of God.
- We must not lack knowledge of God.
- We must not reject knowledge of God.
- Since the Israelites rejected knowledge of God, God rejected them.
- The children of Israel had forgotten the law of God.
- Since the Israelites had forgotten the law of God, He was going to forget their children. He would no longer watch over them or care for them, because the people cared nothing for Him or His law, and because they were guilty of terrible sins and refused to repent.
- The Israelites would no longer be holy and set apart in His sight. Since they were wicked and refused to repent, He was rejecting them (although this rejection wouldn't last forever).

**Hosea 4:7:** "As they were increased, so they sinned against me: therefore will I change their glory into shame."

- As the children of Israel became more prosperous, they became increasingly sinful.
- Since the children of Israel had become increasingly wicked, God was going to take away their glory and replace it with shame.
- There are times when God punishes nations by taking away their glory.
- There are times when God punishes nations by sending shame upon them.
- We must not sin against God.

**Hosea 4:8:** "They eat up the sin of my people, and they set their heart on their iniquity."

- The children of Israel were exceedingly sinful.
- The children of Israel had their heart set on iniquity. They loved sin and sought after it, and desired it with their heart.
- It's bad to have our heart set on sin.

**Hosea 4:9:** "And there shall be, like people, like priest: and I will punish them for their ways, and reward them their doings."

- The common people of Israel were wicked.
- The priests of Israel were wicked.
- Since the children of Israel were wicked, God was going to punish them for their sins.
- Since the children of Israel had done evil things, they were going to have to suffer the consequences for their actions.

**Hosea 4:10:** "For they shall eat, and not have enough: they shall commit whoredom, and shall not increase: because they have left off to take heed to the LORD."

- God was going to punish the children of Israel for their sins by not giving them enough food to eat. They would be hungry.
- There are times when God punishes nations by taking away their food supply.

- The children of Israel were guilty of sexual immorality.
- Since the children of Israel were immoral, the nation wasn't going to grow or prosper. God was going to take away their prosperity.
- The children of Israel didn't listen to the Lord. They didn't fear Him or obey Him. Instead they were evil.
- There are times when God punishes immoral nations.

**Hosea 4:11:** "Whoredom and wine and new wine take away the heart."

- The children of Israel were guilty of sexual immorality. They sought after immorality instead of after God.
- The children of Israel were drunkards. They sought after wine instead of after God.
- The children of Israel loved sin and didn't love God.

**Hosea 4:12:** "My people ask counsel at their stocks, and their staff declareth unto them: for the spirit of whoredoms hath caused them to err, and they have gone a whoring from under their God."

- God said that the wicked and sinful Israelites were His people. In spite of their sins they were still His people.
- The children of Israel sought counsel from their idols. They asked false gods for guidance instead of the Lord.
- The children of Israel had a spirit of immorality.
- The children of Israel were adulterous and faithless.
- The children of Israel had left the Lord and gone to other

gods.

**Hosea 4:13:** "They sacrifice upon the tops of the mountains, and burn incense upon the hills, under oaks and poplars and elms, because the shadow thereof is good: therefore your daughters shall commit whoredom, and your spouses shall commit adultery."

- The children of Israel sacrificed to idols on the tops of mountains.
- The children of Israel burned incense to false gods upon the hills.
- The children of Israel worshiped false gods under oaks.
- The children of Israel worshiped false gods under poplars.
- The children of Israel worshiped false gods under elms.
- The nation of Israel had mountains.
- The nation of Israel had hills.
- The nation of Israel had oak trees.
- The nation of Israel had poplar trees.
- The nation of Israel had elm trees.
- Since the nation of Israel worshiped false gods, the Lord was going to punish them by turning their daughters into whores.
- Since the nation of Israel worshiped false gods, the Lord was going to punish them by turning their wives into whores.
- It's bad when people are sexually immoral.
- It's a punishment from God upon a nation when the

daughters of the people are sexually immoral.

- It's a punishment from God upon a nation when the wives of the people are sexually immoral.
- Open sexual immorality is a punishment from God upon a nation. It's a curse.
- There are times when God punishes a nation for sin by turning that nation over to more sin.
- Sin in and of itself can be a punishment from God upon a nation.

**Hosea 4:14:** "I will not punish your daughters when they commit whoredom, nor your spouses when they commit adultery: for themselves are separated with whores, and they sacrifice with harlots: therefore the people that doth not understand shall fall."

- Since the nation of Israel worshiped false gods, the Lord wasn't going to punish people's daughters when they became whores. Instead He was going to punish the nation by giving it over to immorality.
- Since the nation of Israel worshiped false gods, the Lord wasn't going to punish people's wives when they became whores. Instead He was going to punish the nation by giving it over to immorality.
- There are times when God punishes wicked nations by not punishing people's sin, but instead allowing sin and wickedness to run rampant.
- If God isn't punishing the sins and wickedness of individuals, that's a very bad sign. It means the nation is very wicked in the sight of God, and He has turned that nation over to sin as a judgment against it.



- The children of Israel loved sexual immorality.
- The children of Israel sacrificed to idols.
- The children of Israel worshiped idols with people who were sexually immoral.
- The children of Israel didn't understand. They lacked knowledge of God, and because of this they were going to be destroyed.

**Hosea 4:15:** "Though thou, Israel, play the harlot, yet let not Judah offend; and come not ye unto Gilgal, neither go ye up to Bethaven, nor swear, The LORD liveth."

- The nation of Israel was guilty of idolatry. They were wicked and had departed from God.
- God warned Judah not to follow Israel's example and become immoral and idolatrous as well.
- God warned Judah not to commit the sins that Israel was committing at Gilgal.
- God warned Judah not to commit the sins that Israel was committing at Bethaven.
- God warned Judah not to do what Israel did, which was use the name of the Lord while worshiping idols.
- We must not copy the sins of others. We must not follow wicked and sinful examples.

**Hosea 4:16:** "For Israel slideth back as a backsliding heifer: now the LORD will feed them as a lamb in a large place."

- The nation of Israel had backslidden. They had gone away from God and weren't where they should be.

- Because Israel had backslidden, God was going to scatter them all over the world. (It's not good for a lamb to be fed alone in a large field, because it's dangerous and exposes the lamb to predators.)
- Judah shouldn't copy the behavior of Israel, because God was going to punish Israel and destroy them for its idolatry and immorality.

**Hosea 4:17:** "Ephraim is joined to idols: let him alone."

- The tribe of Ephraim had joined itself to idols. It was an idolatrous tribe that worshiped false gods.
- Judah must not copy the idolatrous example of Ephraim.
- God warned Judah not to be like Israel, or like Ephraim.

**Hosea 4:18:** "Their drink is sour: they have committed whoredom continually: her rulers with shame do love, Give ye."

- The blessings of the children of Israel had turned sour. Judah shouldn't copy Israel, because Israel was in a bad place and was being punished. They weren't experiencing good things.
- The children of Israel were continually unfaithful to the Lord. Their sin wasn't occasional, but was continual.
- The rulers of the children of Israel were shameful.
- The rulers of the children of Israel loved to tell people to give them bribes. They openly demanded bribes and were deeply unjust.
- Rulers must not accept bribes.

- Rulers must not ask for bribes.
- It's shameful when rulers accept bribes.
- It's shameful when rulers ask for bribes.
- God exposed the sins of the rulers of Israel.

**Hosea 4:19:** "The wind hath bound her up in her wings, and they shall be ashamed because of their sacrifices."

- Because Israel was wicked and idolatrous, God was going to quickly take them up and drive them out of the promised land, and scatter them all over the world.
- The day was coming when the children of Israel would be ashamed of the sacrifices they had offered to idols. One day they would regret what they had done.

## Chapter 5

**Hosea 5:1:** "Hear ye this, O priests; and hearken, ye house of Israel; and give ye ear, O house of the king; for judgment is toward you, because ye have been a snare on Mizpah, and a net spread upon Tabor."

- God gave Hosea a message for the priests of Israel.
- God gave Hosea a message for the nation of Israel.
- God gave Hosea a message for the household of the king of Israel.
- God was going to send judgment upon the priests of Israel.
- God was going to send judgment upon the nation of

Israel.

- God was going to send judgment upon the household of the kings of Israel.
- The reason God was going to send His judgment upon Israel was because they had been a snare. (Mizpah was east of Jordan and Tabor was west of Jordan.)
- We must not be a snare to others.

**Hosea 5:2:** "And the revolvers are profound to make slaughter, though I have been a rebuker of them all."

- God had rebuked the children of Israel but they refused to listen or repent.
- The children of Israel had shed much innocent blood.
- God hates the shedding of innocent blood.
- We must not shed innocent blood.

**Hosea 5:3:** "I know Ephraim, and Israel is not hid from me: for now, O Ephraim, thou committest whoredom, and Israel is defiled."

- God knew Ephraim. He saw what they were doing. Their sins weren't hidden from Him.
- God knew the children of Israel. He saw what they were doing. Their sins weren't hidden from Him.
- God sees us.
- God knows what we are doing.
- Our sins aren't hidden from God.
- The sins of nations aren't hidden from God. He knows

what they're doing.

- Ephraim was guilty of idolatry (which God calls "whoredom" because they had sought after other gods).
- Israel was defiled. They had also worshiped other gods (which defiled them).
- Those who worship other gods defile themselves.
- We must not worship false gods. We must not be guilty of idolatry.
- God hates idolatry.
- Idolatry defiles nations in the sight of God.

**Hosea 5:4:** "They will not frame their doings to turn unto their God: for the spirit of whoredoms is in the midst of them, and they have not known the LORD."

- Ephraim wouldn't repent. They refused to turn from their sins and worship God alone.
- The children of Israel wouldn't repent. They refused to turn from their sins and worship God alone.
- Ephraim had a "spirit of whoredoms". They were deeply idolatrous and loved their sin.
- The children of Israel had a "spirit of whoredoms". They were deeply idolatrous and loved their sin.
- Ephraim didn't know the Lord.
- The children of Israel didn't know the Lord.
- You can't worship both God and idols. Those who worship idols don't know the Lord.

**Hosea 5:5:** "And the pride of Israel doth testify to his face: therefore shall Israel and Ephraim fall in their iniquity: Judah also shall fall with them."

- Israel was proud. (This seems to be speaking of being proud of idolatry.)
- Israel's pride testified against the nation.
- It's bad for nations to be proud of their sin.
- A nation's pride testifies against it.
- Because Israel was proud of its sin, the nation would fall.
- Because Ephraim was proud of its sin, they would fall.
- Those who are proud of their sin and who don't repent will fall. They won't escape judgment.
- Judah was also going to fall.

**Hosea 5:6:** "They shall go with their flocks and with their herds to seek the LORD; but they shall not find him; he hath withdrawn himself from them."

- The day was coming when the children of Israel would go with their livestock to seek the Lord, but they wouldn't find Him.
- The day was coming when the Lord would withdraw Himself so that the children of Israel couldn't find Him. The reason He was going to do this was because they sinned and refused to repent. They were guilty of idolatry and wouldn't repent of it.

**Hosea 5:7:** "They have dealt treacherously against the LORD: for they have begotten strange children: now shall a month

devour them with their portions."

- The children of Israel had dealt treacherously with the Lord. They had broken their covenant with Him and sought after false gods.
- We must not break the promises that we make to God. We must do what we said we would do.
- As punishment for their sins, the children of Israel would be devoured in a month.
- God was going to punish Israel for their treachery.

**Hosea 5:8:** "Blow ye the cornet in Gibeah, and the trumpet in Ramah: cry aloud at Bethaven, after thee, O Benjamin."

- God commanded the cornet to be blown in Gibeah (because judgment was coming).
- God commanded the trumpet to be blown in Ramah (because judgment was coming).
- God commanded the people to cry out at Bethaven (because judgment was coming).
- God said that judgment was coming upon the tribe of Benjamin.
- God warned the children of Israel that judgment and destruction was coming upon them because of their idolatry, but they refused to listen and refused to repent. God warned them before destroying them.

**Hosea 5:9:** "Ephraim shall be desolate in the day of rebuke: among the tribes of Israel have I made known that which shall surely be."

- When God judged Ephraim, their territory would be desolate.
- God told the tribes of Israel in advance what He was going to do. He warned them of the coming judgment before He sent His judgment.

**Hosea 5:10:** "The princes of Judah were like them that remove the bound: therefore I will pour out my wrath upon them like water."

- The princes of Judah were wicked.
- Because the princes of Judah were wicked, God was going to pour out His wrath upon them as one pours out water.
- God was angry with the princes of Judah because of their wickedness.
- It's wicked to remove boundaries.
- God holds princes accountable for their actions.
- Princes don't have the right to act as they please.

**Hosea 5:11:** "Ephraim is oppressed and broken in judgment, because he willingly walked after the commandment."

- God was going to oppress Ephraim.
- God was going to break Ephraim.
- The reason God was going to punish Ephraim and send judgment upon them was because that tribe willingly did evil. (The tribe willingly obeyed the commandment to worship the golden calves.)
- We must not willingly obey evil commandments.



- God sends His judgment upon nations that willingly obey evil commandments.
- If an evil act is turned into a law, it's still evil. God will still punish those who do it.

**Hosea 5:12:** "Therefore will I be unto Ephraim as a moth, and to the house of Judah as rottenness."

- Because Ephraim willingly obeyed an evil law, God was going to destroy the nation as moths destroy clothing.
- Because Judah willingly did evil, God was going to destroy the nation as rottenness destroys goods.
- There are times when God punishes nations for their sins.
- God holds nations accountable for their actions.

**Hosea 5:13:** "When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah saw his wound, then went Ephraim to the Assyrian, and sent to king Jareb: yet could he not heal you, nor cure you of your wound."

- When Ephraim realized it was in trouble, they went to the Assyrians. They didn't seek after God and they didn't repent.
- When Ephraim realized it was in trouble, they sought help from a pagan king. They didn't seek help from the Lord.
- The Assyrians couldn't save Ephraim.
- Pagan kings couldn't save Ephraim.
- Pagan kings and pagan nations can't save countries from the wrath of God. They can't save in the day of judgment.

- When we're in trouble we must go to the Lord. He's the only one who can heal us and save us.

**Hosea 5:14:** "For I will be unto Ephraim as a lion, and as a young lion to the house of Judah: I, even I, will tear and go away; I will take away, and none shall rescue him."

- In the coming judgment, God was going to treat Ephraim as a lion treats its prey. God was going to tear the nation to pieces, and no one would be able to save them.
- In the coming judgment, God was going to treat Judah as a lion treats its prey. God was going to tear the nation to pieces, and no one would be able to save them.
- There are times when God destroys nations.
- When God destroys nations, no one can save them or deliver out of His hand.

**Hosea 5:15:** "I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early."

- God said that He was going to return to the place where He came from, until the people acknowledged their sins and repented. (This seems to a reference to what Christ said when the Jews rejected Him. Jesus was going to leave, and they wouldn't see Him again until they said "blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord".)
- Jesus isn't going to return to Israel until they repent and seek Him.
- One day the Jews will repent and seek Jesus. One day they will be converted and believe.

- The Jews will seek Jesus after being afflicted. Their affliction will drive them to seek Jesus. When they're afflicted they will seek Him early.

## Chapter 6

**Hosea 6:1:** "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 called upon the children of Israel to return to the Lord.
- The Lord was the one who had punished the nation of Israel (because of their sins).
- One day the Lord would heal the nation of Israel.
- The Lord wouldn't always be against Israel. One day He will heal the nation that He punished for so long.
- God hasn't abandoned Israel. He has a plan to save them.
- There are times when God punishes those who sin, and sends His judgment upon them.
- Those who are smitten because of their sin must go to the Lord and repent. The Lord who punished them will save all who repent.

**Hosea 6:2:** "After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight."

- God will revive the nation of Israel after two days, and will raise them up on the third day.

**Hosea 6:3:** "Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth."

- We must seek to know the Lord.
- We must seek the Lord.
- We must follow the Lord.
- Hosea called upon the children of Israel to follow the Lord.
- Hosea called upon the children of Israel to know the Lord.
- The path of the Lord is prepared as the morning.
- The day is coming when the Lord will go to Israel.
- The day when the Lord visits Israel is compared to a day of rain. (This seems to be a positive comparison.)
- Hosea compares the visitation of the Lord to the former and latter rain, which waters the ground.

**Hosea 6:4:** "O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away."

- Ephraim had been wicked in the sight of God. Their goodness quickly evaporated.
- Judah had been wicked in the sight of God. Their goodness quickly evaporated.
- God doesn't want us to have a type of goodness that quickly evaporates. He commands us to continue to walk in righteousness.
- The early dew doesn't last very long. It quickly

disappears.

- Early morning fog doesn't last for very long. It quickly disappears.
- An obedience that doesn't last for very long isn't worth anything.

**Hosea 6:5:** "Therefore have I hewed them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth: and thy judgments are as the light that goeth forth."

- Because Ephraim and Judah were wicked, God used the prophets to judge them.
- Because Ephraim and Judah were wicked, God killed them.
- God worked through the prophets.
- God worked through His Word.
- God uses His words to judge nations.
- The judgments of God are a shining light.

**Hosea 6:6:** "For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings."

- God desired mercy, not sacrifice.
- What God wants isn't outward gifts and offerings of sacrifice. Instead He desires mercy.
- God isn't looking for people who will offer Him gifts while being cruel to others. Instead He wants us to show mercy to one another.
- Offering God gifts is useless if we don't walk in His ways.

- God cares about the way we treat other people.
- God wants us to have knowledge of Him. He wants us to know Him and His words.
- Offering God gifts is useless if the people who are offering those gifts don't know Him.
- If you want to offer God gifts then you must first learn to show mercy to others.
- If you want to offer God gifts then you must first know the Lord. The knowledge of God must come first.
- God doesn't respect nations that offer Him gifts and yet don't know Him.
- A burnt offering is an offering of dedication. Those who dedicate their lives to God and but don't know Him and don't walk in His ways have accomplished nothing. They aren't pleasing God at all.
- There are greater things than giving gifts to God.

**Hosea 6:7:** "But they like men have transgressed the covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me."

- People are treacherous.
- People don't keep their word.
- People break their agreements.
- The children of Israel broke their covenant with God.
- The children of Israel had a covenant with God.
- The children of Israel had dealt treacherously with God. They made a covenant and then violated it.
- Those who make covenants and break them are dealing

treacherously.

- We must keep our covenants.
- We must not deal treacherously with others.

**Hosea 6:8:** "Gilead is a city of them that work iniquity, and is polluted with blood."

- The city of Gilead was a sinful city.
- The people who lived in Gilead were wicked. They did evil things in the sight of God.
- The city of Gilead was polluted by all the innocent blood that had been shed within it.
- The people who lived in Gilead were murderers. They had shed innocent blood.
- God hates the shedding of innocent blood.
- We must not shed innocent blood.
- God is against cities that shed innocent blood.
- When a city sheds innocent blood, that blood pollutes the city.
- It's possible for cities to be wicked.
- There are times when God condemns cities for their sin.

**Hosea 6:9:** "And as troops of robbers wait for a man, so the company of priests murder in the way by consent: for they commit lewdness."

- In ancient Israel, there were entire gangs of robbers that would assault and murder people.

- Ancient Israel had a serious problem with crime, assault, and murder.
- In ancient Israel, the priests were murderers.
- Murder was common in ancient Israel.
- The priests in ancient Israel were wicked and vile. God compared them to gangs of robbers.

**Hosea 6:10:** "I have seen a horrible thing in the house of Israel: there is the whoredom of Ephraim, Israel is defiled."

- Israel was doing horrible things.
- God had seen the horrible things that Israel was doing.
- God sees the horrible acts of nations.
- God knows what the nations are doing. Their deeds aren't hidden from Him.
- God cares about what nations are doing.
- The sins of Israel had defiled the nation.
- Sin defiles nations.
- The tribe of Ephraim was wicked. Their idolatry had defiled them.
- The idolatry of Ephraim was a horrible thing.
- Idolatry is a horrible thing.
- We must not be idolatrous.
- Nations must not be idolatrous.

**Hosea 6:11:** "Also, O Judah, he hath set an harvest for thee, when I returned the captivity of my people."



- One day God would reap a harvest in Judah. (This seems to be a good thing.)
- The day was coming when the people of Judah would be taken captive.
- The day was coming when God would return the captive Jews to the promised land. They wouldn't always be in exile.
- God is the one who will bring an end to the captivity of the Jews.

## Chapter 7

**Hosea 7:1:** "When I would have healed Israel, then the iniquity of Ephraim was discovered, and the wickedness of Samaria: for they commit falsehood; and the thief cometh in, and the troop of robbers spoileth without."

- God wanted to heal Israel, but their wickedness prevented that from happening.
- God won't heal a wicked nation.
- Wicked nations must first repent of their wickedness, and stop being wicked, before God will heal them. Repentance must come first.
- Ephraim was wicked.
- Samaria was wicked.
- Ephraim was dishonest. They were guilty of telling lies.
- Samaria was dishonest. They were guilty of telling lies.
- God compared Ephraim and Samaria to thieves and robbers.

- God pays attentions to the actions of nations. He knows what they're doing and He holds them accountable.
- God is against wicked nations.
- God is against nations that are thieves and robbers.

**Hosea 7:2:** "And they consider not in their hearts that I remember all their wickedness: now their own doings have beset them about; they are before my face."

- Ephraim didn't consider the fact that God knew they were wicked.
- Samaria didn't consider the fact that God knew they were wicked.
- Ephraim didn't consider the fact that God remembered all the wicked things they had done.
- Samaria didn't consider the fact that God remembered all the wicked things they had done.
- God knows all the wicked things that nations have done.
- God remembers all the wicked things that nations have done.
- God cares about the behavior of nations. He's not indifferent to what they're doing.
- The wickedness of Ephraim and Samaria caused them problems.
- The wickedness of Ephraim and Samaria had come up before God. What they were doing couldn't be ignored.

**Hosea 7:3:** "They make the king glad with their wickedness, and the princes with their lies."

- The king of Israel loved wickedness.
- The princes of Israel loved lies.
- The king of Israel was deeply wicked. Wickedness made him happy.
- The princes of Israel were deeply wicked. Wickedness made them happy.
- It's a terrible thing when the leaders of a nation love evil.
- God holds kings accountable.
- God holds princes accountable.
- God is aware of the sins of kings.
- God is aware of the sins of princes.
- God won't heal a nation if its leaders love sin.

**Hosea 7:4:** "They are all adulterers, as an oven heated by the baker, who ceaseth from raising after he hath kneaded the dough, until it be leavened."

- The king and princes of Israel were adulterers. (This seems to be a reference to idolatry, which is called adultery because the people were seeking after false gods instead of the God they made a covenant with.)
- It's a terrible thing when the leaders of a nation are idolaters, and aren't faithful toward God.
- God doesn't ignore idolatry.
- God compared the leaders of Israel to bread that was full of leaven. (In the Bible leaven represents sin.)
- In ancient times there were bakers.
- In ancient times bakers used ovens.

- In ancient times bakers kneaded dough.
- In ancient times bakers made bread.
- In ancient times bakers made bread with leaven.
- Just like bread is full of leaven, so the nation of Israel was full of idolatry.

**Hosea 7:5:** "In the day of our king the princes have made him sick with bottles of wine; he stretched out his hand with scorners."

- The king of Israel was a drunkard.
- The princes of Israel encouraged the king to be a drunkard.
- The king of Israel spent his time with scorners. His companions were wicked.
- God didn't hide the sins of the king of Israel, or the sins of the princes of Israel. Instead He made them public and He rebuked them for it.

**Hosea 7:6:** "For they have made ready their heart like an oven, whiles they lie in wait: their baker sleepeth all the night; in the morning it burneth as a flaming fire."

- God compared the heart of the king and princes of Israel to an oven, which burned hot with wickedness.
- The king and princes of Israel lied in wait. They were wicked people who sought to do evil to others.
- The king and princes of Israel slept through the night, and then woke up with a burning desire to do evil.

- God compared the king and princes of Israel to a flaming fire. They were dangerous and ungodly people.

**Hosea 7:7:** "They are all hot as an oven, and have devoured their judges; all their kings are fallen: there is none among them that calleth unto me."

- The king and princes of Israel burned hot. They were filled with a passion for sin.
- God compared the king and princes of Israel to a hot oven. They had a fervent desire to do evil.
- The king and princes of Israel had devoured the judges of Israel.
- Ancient Israel was a lawless place.
- All of the kings of Israel had fallen.
- None of the kings of Israel called out to God.
- The leaders of the nations should call out to God.

**Hosea 7:8:** "Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned."

- Ephraim was no longer holy. They had mixed themselves with sinful and pagan people, and had become sinful themselves.
- God wanted Ephraim to be pure, but they weren't pure.
- God compared Ephraim to a cake that hadn't been turned. It was burnt on one side and raw on the other, and was therefore good for nothing but to be tossed out.
- In ancient times people had to turn their bread when

they baked it in ovens.

**Hosea 7:9:** "Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knoweth it not: yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not."

- Strangers had devoured the strength of Ephraim.
- God punished the nation of Ephraim by sending strangers there, who devoured the tribe's strength.
- It's a bad thing when strangers take the strength of nations for themselves. That is a judgment from God.
- Nations should be able to enjoy the fruits of their labor. It's a terrible thing when someone else reaps those benefits instead.
- Ephraim didn't realize that strangers had devoured the tribe's strength. They were ignorant about what was going on.
- There are times when God judges nations, but the nation doesn't realize it. Nations don't always perceive what God has done to them.
- God compared Ephraim to a man who was getting gray hair but hadn't realized it yet. The judgment was already happening to Ephraim but the tribe was unaware.

**Hosea 7:10:** "And the pride of Israel testifieth to his face: and they do not return to the LORD their God, nor seek him for all this."

- The nation of Israel was very proud.
- The pride of Israel testified against the nation.

- It's a bad thing when nations are proud (especially when they're proud of their sin).
- Nations must not be proud.
- Israel was wicked and needed to repent.
- Although Israel was wicked, the nation refused to repent. They wouldn't return to the Lord their God.
- Israel refused to seek the Lord, in spite of their wickedness and in spite of all the things that were happening.
- When a nation is wicked, it needs to repent.
- When a nation is wicked, it needs to seek the Lord.

**Hosea 7:11:** "Ephraim also is like a silly dove without heart: they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria."

- God compared Ephraim to a dove that had no heart. Ephraim had no heart for God, but instead chased after idols and false gods.
- Ephraim didn't seek God in his hour of need. Instead he sought help from other sources.
- When Ephraim was in trouble they looked to Egypt for help, and not to God.
- When Ephraim was in trouble they looked to Assyria for help, and not to God.
- Ephraim didn't trust in the Lord in times of trouble. Instead they looked to pagan nations for help.

**Hosea 7:12:** "When they shall go, I will spread my net upon

them; I will bring them down as the fowls of the heaven; I will chastise them, as their congregation hath heard."

- God was going to spread His net upon Ephraim and catch them.
- God was going to bring Ephraim down, as birds are hunted and brought down.
- God was going to chastise Ephraim for its sins.
- There are times when God brings nations down.
- There are times when God fights against nations.
- There are times when God chastises nations for their sins.
- Since Ephraim was wicked, God wouldn't heal them. Instead He was going to fight against them and bring them down.

**Hosea 7:13:** "Woe unto them! for they have fled from me: destruction unto them! because they have transgressed against me: though I have redeemed them, yet they have spoken lies against me."

- God pronounced woe upon Ephraim.
- Ephraim had fled from God.
- Ephraim wanted nothing to do with God. The tribe broke its covenant with God and went after idols instead.
- Since Ephraim had fled from God, God was going to send destruction upon them.
- Since Ephraim had transgressed against God, God was going to send destruction upon them.
- It's possible for nations to sin against God.



- There are times when God destroys nations that have sinned against Him.
- It's a terrible thing when nations sin against God.
- Nations must not sin against God.
- God had redeemed Ephraim, and yet Ephraim had fled from Him and spoken lies about Him.
- Nations must not lie about God.
- Nations must not flee from God.
- God becomes angry when people or nations speak lies about Him.
- We must not speak lies about God.

**Hosea 7:14:** "And they have not cried unto me with their heart, when they howled upon their beds: they assemble themselves for corn and wine, and they rebel against me."

- Ephraim refused to cry out to God.
- God wanted Ephraim to cry out to Him with their heart, but the tribe refused to do so.
- Nations that are wicked should repent of their sins and cry out to God with their heart. That's the only way to be saved.
- God requires repentance. This is true of both people and nations.
- God seeks those who will cry out to Him with their heart.
- The people of Ephraim howled on their beds, but they didn't cry out to God.
- The people of Ephraim gathered together to eat corn and

drink wine, but they didn't seek God.

- The people of Ephraim rebelled against God.
- It's a terrible thing when nations refuse to repent.
- It's a terrible thing when nations refuse to seek after God.
- It's a terrible thing when nations gather to satisfy their desires, but don't seek after God.
- It's a terrible thing when nations rebel against God.
- God sees what people do on their beds.
- God considers the actions of nations and holds them accountable.

**Hosea 7:15:** "Though I have bound and strengthened their arms, yet do they imagine mischief against me."

- God is the one who gave Ephraim their strength. Yet instead of serving Him they rebelled against Him and created plans to harm Him. Instead of repenting they sought to attack God.
- Ephraim had made themselves the enemy of God, in spite of all that he had done for them. They hated God and sought to destroy Him.
- God had done much for Ephraim.

**Hosea 7:16:** "They return, but not to the most High: they are like a deceitful bow: their princes shall fall by the sword for the rage of their tongue: this shall be their derision in the land of Egypt."

- Ephraim didn't return to God.

- God is the most High.
- Ephraim was deceitful.
- The princes of Ephraim were going to be killed by the sword.
- The reason God was going to kill the princes of Ephraim was because of their tongue. He was going to kill them for the wicked things they had said.
- God holds princes accountable for the things they say.
- There are times when God kills princes because of things they said.
- God takes people's words very seriously.
- The princes of Ephraim will be derided in Egypt. They will become a subject of scorn and mockery.
- One of the ways that God punishes people is by making them an object of ridicule.

## Chapter 8

**Hosea 8:1:** "Set the trumpet to thy mouth. He shall come as an eagle against the house of the LORD, because they have transgressed my covenant, and trespassed against my law."

- God commanded Hosea to take up a trumpet and prepare to blow it.
- In ancient Israel, people used trumpets.
- God was going to come against the house of the Lord. He foretold the destruction of the first temple before it happened.

- When God said He was going to come against the house of the Lord, He compared Himself to an eagle. Eagles attack suddenly and quickly.
- The reason God was going to destroy the temple was because the people had transgressed His covenant.
- The reason God was going to destroy the temple was because the people had transgressed His law.
- We must not transgress the covenant of God.
- We must not transgress the law of God.
- Since the children of Israel were unholy and had transgressed His law and broken His covenant, God wasn't going to leave His holy temple in their midst. Instead He was going to remove it.

**Hosea 8:2:** "Israel shall cry unto me, My God, we know thee."

- Israel claimed to know God, but in reality they had broken His covenant.
- Israel claimed to know God, but in reality they had broken His law.

**Hosea 8:3:** "Israel hath cast off the thing that is good: the enemy shall pursue him."

- Israel had cast off that which was good. They had cast off the covenant of God and the law of God, and in doing so had rejected God and rebelled against Him.
- Since the children of Israel rebelled against God and cast off His law, they would be pursued by their enemies.
- God was going to punish the children of Israel for their

rebellion by handing them over to their enemies.

- The covenant of God is good.
- The law of God is good.
- God is good.
- We must not cast off the law of God.
- We must not cast off our covenant with God.
- We must not cast off God.

**Hosea 8:4:** "They have set up kings, but not by me: they have made princes, and I knew it not: of their silver and their gold have they made them idols, that they may be cut off."

- The Israelites had appointed kings for themselves.
- God had nothing to do with the kings that Israel appointed. Those kings didn't come from God and weren't approved by God.
- God didn't approve of the kings of Israel. They weren't of Him.
- The nation of Israel had been ruled over by kings.
- The Israelites had appointed princes for themselves.
- God had nothing to do with the princes that Israel had appointed. The princes didn't come from God and weren't approved by God.
- God didn't approve of the princes of Israel. They weren't of Him.
- The children of Israel had taken their silver and turned it into idols.
- The children of Israel had taken their gold and turned it

into idols.

- God was going to cut off the children of Israel because they had made idols and were worshiping them.
- God hates idolatry.
- There are times when God punishes nations for idolatry.
- There are times when God destroys nations for idolatry.
- The children of Israel didn't look to God when selecting their leaders. Since they ignored God and did whatever they wanted, God was going to destroy them.

**Hosea 8:5:** "Thy calf, O Samaria, hath cast thee off; mine anger is kindled against them: how long will it be ere they attain to innocency?"

- The children of Israel worshiped a golden calf.
- There was a golden calf in Samaria (an idol) which the people worshiped.
- Because of the golden calf, God was going to cut off the children of Israel. He was going to send judgment upon them.
- God warned the children of Israel that national destruction was coming because of their worship of the golden calf. However, the people didn't repent.
- God was angry with the children of Israel because they worshiped the golden calf.
- God is angry at idolatry.
- God doesn't approve of idolatry.
- God wanted the children of Israel to repent and do what

was right, and be innocent in His sight. However, that day was a long way off.

- Those who worship idols aren't innocent in the sight of God.

**Hosea 8:6:** "For from Israel was it also: the workman made it; therefore it is not God: but the calf of Samaria shall be broken in pieces."

- Israel made the golden calf.
- The golden calf was made by a workman. It was the work of the hands of men.
- God didn't make the golden calf. God had nothing to do with it.
- The day was coming when God would destroy the golden calf and break it into pieces.
- God hates idols.
- There are times when God destroys idols.
- God wants idols to be destroyed.
- Idols aren't of God and don't come from God.

**Hosea 8:7:** "For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind: it hath no stalk; the bud shall yield no meal: if so be it yield, the strangers shall swallow it up."

- The Israelites had sown to the wind. They had rebelled against God and worshiped vain idols (the works of men).
- The Israelites were going to reap the whirlwind. God was going to destroy the nation of Israel because of its

idolatry.

- God said that He was against Israel's crops. In the future the seeds they planted wouldn't yield any food.
- God told the Israelites that if they did prosper in any way and did manage to grow food, strangers would come and take it from them. The hand of God was against them and He wouldn't allow them to be blessed.
- God wasn't going to bless their nation or their crops. The nation of Israel wouldn't prosper.
- There are times when God punishes nations by destroying their crops.
- There are times when God punishes nations by destroying their food supply.

**Hosea 8:8:** "Israel is swallowed up: now shall they be among the Gentiles as a vessel wherein is no pleasure."

- God was going to swallow up the nation of Israel. He was going to hand it over to its enemies and give them victory over it.
- God was going to scatter the children of Israel among the Gentiles.
- God was going to ensure that the Gentiles didn't respect the Israelites. The Gentiles would take no pleasure in the Israelites, but instead their hand would be against them.
- God was going to punish Israel by destroying the nation.
- God was going to punish Israel by scattering them to nations that wouldn't like them.
- God told the children of Israel in advance how He was



going to judge them for their idolatry. However, they still didn't repent.

**Hosea 8:9:** "For they are gone up to Assyria, a wild ass alone by himself: Ephraim hath hired lovers."

- The children of Israel didn't look to God. Instead they looked to Assyria to save them.
- God compared Assyria to a wild donkey that was all alone. It was wild and unable to help them.
- The tribe of Ephraim didn't look to God. Instead it hired other nations to save them.

**Hosea 8:10:** "Yea, though they have hired among the nations, now will I gather them, and they shall sorrow a little for the burden of the king of princes."

- God was going to punish Israel for hiring other nations to save them, instead of repenting and looking to Him.
- God was going to punish Israel by sending sorrow upon them.
- Since the king of Israel wasn't of God, the Lord was going to send sorrow upon them.
- Since the princes of Israel weren't of God, the Lord was going to send sorrow upon them.
- There are times when God punishes nations by sending sorrow upon them.
- God can send sorrow upon a nation.

**Hosea 8:11:** "Because Ephraim hath made many altars to sin, altars shall be unto him to sin."

- The tribe of Ephraim was idolatrous.
- Ephraim had made many pagan altars, which were used to worship false gods.
- Since Ephraim had made many pagan altars, those altars were a sin to that tribe.

**Hosea 8:12:** "I have written to him the great things of my law, but they were counted as a strange thing."

- God had written to the tribe of Ephraim.
- God had told Ephraim about the great things of His law.
- God had shared great things with Ephraim.
- God had given Ephraim His law.
- Ephraim refused to listen to God.
- The tribe of Ephraim ignored the great things God had told them, and counted them as a strange thing. They had no interest in the great things of God, but instead rejected them.
- We should pay attention the great things that God has told us in His Word. God wants us to value those things and pay attention to them, instead of rejecting or ignoring them.
- The tribe of Ephraim had no excuse. God had given them His law.

**Hosea 8:13:** "They sacrifice flesh for the sacrifices of mine

offerings, and eat it; but the LORD accepteth them not; now will he remember their iniquity, and visit their sins: they shall return to Egypt."

- The children of Israel sacrificed to God, but God didn't accept their offerings.
- The children of Israel partook of their sacrifices, but God didn't accept what they were doing.
- The children of Israel worshiped God alongside their idols, but God didn't accept it.
- God rejects those who worship Him alongside their idols. He must be worshiped alone.
- God was going to remember the sin of the children of Israel and punish them for it.
- God was going to punish the children of Israel for their idolatry by sending them back to Egypt.

**Hosea 8:14:** "For Israel hath forgotten his Maker, and buildeth temples; and Judah hath multiplied fenced cities: but I will send a fire upon his cities, and it shall devour the palaces thereof."

- The children of Israel had forgotten God.
- God is the Maker of Israel. He is the one who created them.
- The children of Israel had built many pagan temples.
- The children of Judah had built many fenced cities.
- God was going to set the cities of Judah on fire and burn them down.
- God was going to set the palaces of Judah on fire and

burn them down.

- Nations must not forget God.
- God is our Maker.
- There are times when God destroys nations that have forgotten Him.
- The strong defenses of a nation can't protect the nation from the wrath of God.

## Chapter 9

**Hosea 9:1:** "Rejoice not, O Israel, for joy, as other people: for thou hast gone a whoring from thy God, thou hast loved a reward upon every cornfloor."

- The wicked nation of Israel was rejoicing. Even though they were wicked, they were happy.
- It's possible for the wicked to be happy.
- It's possible for wicked nations to be happy.
- God commanded Israel to not rejoice.
- Israel was idolatrous. They weren't faithful to God.
- The reason God commanded Israel to not rejoice is because the nation was guilty of idolatry. They had rebelled against Him and worshiped false gods.
- Those who are idolatrous shouldn't rejoice, because they're doing something evil in the sight of God.
- Nations must not be idolatrous. They must worship God alone.
- The children of Israel loved idols. They loved idolatry.

**Hosea 9:2:** "The floor and the winepress shall not feed them, and the new wine shall fail in her."

- God was going to punish Israel by withholding corn.
- God was going to punish Israel by withholding wine.
- God has the power to take away a nation's food supply.
- There are times when God punishes nations by taking away their food.
- Corn is a blessing.
- Wine is a blessing.
- It's a bad thing when a nation loses its supply of corn.
- It's a bad thing when a nation loses its supply of wine.

**Hosea 9:3:** "They shall not dwell in the LORD's land; but Ephraim shall return to Egypt, and they shall eat unclean things in Assyria."

- God was going to punish Israel by exiling them from the promised land.
- The promised land belongs to the Lord. It is His land.
- God was going to exile Ephraim from the promised land.
- God was going to send the tribe of Ephraim back to Egypt.
- God was going to send the tribe of Ephraim to Assyria.
- In Assyria the tribe of Ephraim was going to eat unclean things.

**Hosea 9:4:** "They shall not offer wine offerings to the LORD,

neither shall they be pleasing unto him: their sacrifices shall be unto them as the bread of mourners; all that eat thereof shall be polluted: for their bread for their soul shall not come into the house of the LORD."

- God was going to stop the idolatrous and wicked tribe of Ephraim from offering Him drink offerings.
- God didn't want the drink offerings of Ephraim because they were idolatrous.
- God doesn't desire sacrifices from people who are idolatrous.
- God doesn't accept sacrifices from people who are idolatrous.
- We must worship God alone. We can't worship both God and idols.
- Before we can give God offerings, we must repent and be saved and worship Him alone. We can't offer Him gifts while living a wicked life because He won't accept them.
- The offerings and gifts of the wicked don't please God.
- It's impossible for the wicked to purchase God's favor through gifts and offerings, because God doesn't like or accept offerings from the wicked.
- God was going to turn the sacrifices of Ephraim into a source of mourning.
- Since Ephraim was offering sacrifices in wickedness, God was going to curse their offerings and punish the tribe of Ephraim.
- Since Ephraim was offering sacrifices in wickedness, all those who partook of those sacrifices would become polluted. The offerings were unclean in the sight of God,

and therefore those who partook of them also became unclean.

- It's impossible for those who are unclean in the sight of God to give an offering that's clean in His sight. Those who are unclean can only give God things that are unclean, and God doesn't accept unclean offerings.
- The gifts that we give to God must be clean (not polluted).
- We must be clean in God's sight when we offer Him gifts.
- God didn't want the wicked entering His holy house.
- God didn't want the sacrifices of the wicked in His holy house.
- God was going to prevent the wicked, and their offerings, from entering His holy house.

**Hosea 9:5:** "What will ye do in the solemn day, and in the day of the feast of the LORD?"

- In ancient Israel, the nation celebrated the feasts of the Lord.
- The feasts of the Lord were solemn feasts.
- The wicked nation of Israel couldn't properly celebrate the solemn feast of the Lord because the people were unclean and their offerings were polluted.

**Hosea 9:6:** "For, lo, they are gone because of destruction: Egypt shall gather them up, Memphis shall bury them: the pleasant places for their silver, nettles shall possess them: thorns shall be in their tabernacles."

- God was going to destroy the nation of Israel.
- God was going to remove the children of Israel from the promised land.
- God was going to exile the children of Israel to Egypt.
- The people of Memphis (the Egyptians) would bury the dead bodies of the Israelites.
- God was going to destroy the pleasant places of Israel, and turn those places over to thorns.
- God was going to fill Israel's pagan temples with thorns.

**Hosea 9:7:** "The days of visitation are come, the days of recompence are come; Israel shall know it: the prophet is a fool, the spiritual man is mad, for the multitude of thine iniquity, and the great hatred."

- The day was coming when God would visit the children of Israel (for the purposes of judgment).
- The day was coming when God would judge the children of Israel for their wickedness, and punish them for their idolatry.
- When the day of God's visitation came, Israel would know it. In that day they would recognize what was going on.
- The prophets of Israel were fools (false prophets).
- The spiritual men of Israel were insane (idolatrous).
- Because Israel was wicked and full of sin, their prophets were fools.
- Because Israel was wicked and full of sin, their spiritual men were insane.



- Because Israel was full of hatred, their prophets were fools.
- Because Israel was full of hatred, their spiritual men were insane.
- It's bad for a nation to be full of iniquity.
- It's bad for a nation to be full of hatred.
- We must not be full of iniquity.
- We must not be full of hatred.
- The character of a nation impacts the quality of their spiritual leaders. Sinful nations will produce sinful leaders.

**Hosea 9:8:** "The watchman of Ephraim was with my God: but the prophet is a snare of a fowler in all his ways, and hatred in the house of his God."

- There was a watchman who watched over Ephraim.
- The watchman of Ephraim was a godly man. He was with God.
- The prophet of Ephraim was wicked. He was a snare. Everything that he did was dangerous to others.
- The prophet of Ephraim was a source of hatred.
- Not all prophets are good. There are evil prophets as well.

**Hosea 9:9:** "They have deeply corrupted themselves, as in the days of Gibeah: therefore he will remember their iniquity, he will visit their sins."

- The children of Israel were deeply corrupt.
- The reason the children of Israel were corrupt is because

they corrupted themselves. They weren't corrupted by others.

- The children of Israel corrupted themselves in the days of Gibeah. (That's the city where a Levite's concubine was raped to death, and then the tribe of Benjamin went to war to defend their right to rape people to death.)
- Since the children of Israel corrupted themselves, God would remember their sin.
- Since the children of Israel corrupted themselves, God would punish them for their sins.
- God was going to visit Israel for the purpose of punishing the nation for its sin.

**Hosea 9:10:** "I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness; I saw your fathers as the firstripe in the fig tree at her first time: but they went to Baalpeor, and separated themselves unto that shame; and their abominations were according as they loved."

- God compared Israel to untended grapes that were found in the wilderness.
- God compared Israel to the first ripe figs on a fig tree.
- Israel wasn't faithful to God. They rebelled against Him and went after Baal.
- God separated Israel for Himself, but the people left Him and separated themselves for idols.
- Idolatry is a source of shame.
- Idolatry brings shame upon a nation.
- Israel loved abominations.

- There are times when nations love things that are abominations in the sight of God.

**Hosea 9:11:** "As for Ephraim, their glory shall fly away like a bird, from the birth, and from the womb, and from the conception."

- The tribe of Ephraim had a measure of glory.
- God was going to take away the glory from Ephraim.
- God was going to punish Ephraim for its idolatry by taking away its glory.
- There are times when God punishes nations for sin by taking away their glory.
- The glory of Ephraim would fly away and be gone.
- A person's life begins at conception. A person then grows in the womb and is born.
- The tribe of Ephraim took glory in their children, but God was going to put an end to that.

**Hosea 9:12:** "Though they bring up their children, yet will I bereave them, that there shall not be a man left: yea, woe also to them when I depart from them!"

- The tribe of Ephraim would continue to have children, but God was going to take their children away from them.
- God was going to punish Ephraim by taking away their children.
- God was going to depart from the tribe of Ephraim.
- When God departed from Ephraim, there was going to be

great woe. The tribe would be greatly bereaved.

- God was going to greatly diminish the tribe of Ephraim because of their sins.
- There are times when God punishes nations by depopulating them.
- There are times when God punishes nations by taking away their children.

**Hosea 9:13:** "Ephraim, as I saw Tyrus, is planted in a pleasant place: but Ephraim shall bring forth his children to the murderer."

- Ephraim was planted in a pleasant place.
- Tyrus was planted in a pleasant place.
- Ephraim was going to have children, but they would be murdered.
- Because Ephraim rejected God, God was no longer going to protect their children. Instead He was going to depart from them.
- There are times when God punishes wicked nations and wicked people by departing from them and not protecting their children.

**Hosea 9:14:** "Give them, O LORD: what wilt thou give? give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts."

- Hosea prayed that God would prevent Ephraim from having children, and would take away whatever children they did have. This is because the tribe of Ephraim was deeply corrupt, wicked, and idolatrous. Ephraim loved

their corruption and rejoiced in abominations, so Hosea prayed that God would punish them by taking away their children.

**Hosea 9:15:** "All their wickedness is in Gilgal: for there I hated them: for the wickedness of their doings I will drive them out of mine house, I will love them no more: all their princes are revolvers."

- God hated the tribe of Ephraim at Gilgal. (That was the place where Israel made peace with the Gibeonites.)
- The tribe of Ephraim was wicked.
- Because the tribe of Ephraim was wicked, God was going to drive them out of His house.
- God doesn't permit wickedness in His house.
- God said that He wasn't going to love Ephraim any more.
- The princes of Ephraim were wicked. They rebelled against God.
- It's very bad for a nation to be wicked in the sight of God.
- It's very bad for the leaders of a nation to be wicked in the sight of God.

**Hosea 9:16:** "Ephraim is smitten, their root is dried up, they shall bear no fruit: yea, though they bring forth, yet will I slay even the beloved fruit of their womb."

- God was going to smite the tribe of Ephraim.
- God was going to dry up the tribe of Ephraim from their roots.
- God was going to punish the tribe of Ephraim, and they

would no longer bear fruit.

- If Ephraim did have children, God would kill them. God wouldn't allow their children to live because He hated Ephraim.
- Children were considered fruit (a blessing). They were seen as a good thing.

**Hosea 9:17:** "My God will cast them away, because they did not hearken unto him: and they shall be wanderers among the nations."

- God was going to cast the tribe of Ephraim away.
- The reason God was going to cast the tribe of Ephraim away was because they didn't listen to Him.
- God was going to remove the tribe of Ephraim from the promised land.
- The tribe of Ephraim wouldn't be wholly destroyed. However, the members of that tribe would be scattered among the nations, and they would become wanderers there.
- God was the one who scattered the children of Israel among the nations. He did that to punish them for their idolatry and their iniquity.

## Chapter 10

**Hosea 10:1:** "Israel is an empty vine, he bringeth forth fruit unto himself: according to the multitude of his fruit he hath increased the altars; according to the goodness of his land they have made goodly images."

- God compared Israel to an empty vine. The nation of Israel wasn't bring forth the fruit that God desired (the fruits of the Spirit).
- God expects nations to bring forth fruit to Him.
- God requires nations to serve Him and work for Him.
- God cares about the character of nations.
- Israel was bringing forth fruit unto itself. It was serving itself instead of God, and that angered God.
- We must work for God, not for ourselves.
- We must bring forth fruit to God, not to ourselves.
- Nations should be centered on God, not on themselves.
- Israel was an idolatrous nation.
- Israel had created many pagan idols.
- The fruit of Israel was idolatry.
- Israel used the riches of their land to create pagan altars.
- Israel used the riches of their land to create idols.
- God becomes angry when nations use the blessings He gave them to create and worship idols.
- Nations must not be idolatrous.
- Nations must not create pagan altars.
- Nations must not create idols.
- We must not use the blessings that God has given us to sin.

**Hosea 10:2:** "Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty: he shall break down their altars, he shall spoil their

images."

- The heart of Israel was divided. They worshiped idols and yet they also sacrificed to the Lord.
- God doesn't want our heart to be divided. We must serve Him alone, and not anyone or anything else.
- God requires us to be wholly devoted to Him and Him alone.
- Because Israel's heart was divided, God was going to find them guilty.
- God was going to destroy the pagan altars that Israel had created.
- God was going to destroy the idols that Israel had created.
- God hates pagan altars.
- God hates idols.
- God is stronger than idols.

**Hosea 10:3:** "For now they shall say, We have no king, because we feared not the LORD; what then should a king do to us?"

- God was going to take away the king of Israel.
- In the future, the nation of Israel wouldn't have a king.
- The reason God was going to take away the king of Israel was because the people didn't fear the Lord.
- There are times when God punishes nations by destroying their government.
- God requires nations to fear Him.



- God punishes nations that don't fear Him.

**Hosea 10:4:** "They have spoken words, swearing falsely in making a covenant: thus judgment springeth up as hemlock in the furrows of the field."

- The children of Israel made a covenant with God and then broke it. Their oath to keep the covenant was a lie.
- Because the children of Israel broke their covenant, God was going to judge them.
- We must not break our covenant with God. We must do what we promised God we would do.
- There are times when God punishes those that break the covenants they made with Him.
- God compared Israel's coming judgment to hemlock (weeds) that spring up in a field.
- God warned Israel that judgment was coming upon them for their sins. However, they didn't repent.
- God gave Israel advance notice that judgment was coming. The judgment shouldn't have taken them by surprise.

**Hosea 10:5:** "The inhabitants of Samaria shall fear because of the calves of Bethaven: for the people thereof shall mourn over it, and the priests thereof that rejoiced on it, for the glory thereof, because it is departed from it."

- The people of Samaria would be afraid because of what God would do to the golden calves (idols) of Bethaven.
- God hated Samaria's golden calves. He hated their idols.

- When God removed Samaria's golden calves, the people would mourn. They loved their sin and idolatry and didn't want to lose it. Instead of fearing God or repenting of their sin, the people would mourn over the loss of their sin.
- In those days there were pagan priests who led people to worship the golden calves.
- When God removed Samaria's golden calves, the pagan priests would mourn. They loved their sin and idolatry and they didn't want to lose it. Instead of fearing God or repenting of their sin, they would mourn over the loss of their sin.
- The people of Samaria loved their sin.
- The people of Samaria thought their idolatry was glorious.
- The people of Samaria didn't want their idols to depart. They loved them.

**Hosea 10:6:** "It shall be also carried unto Assyria for a present to king Jareb: Ephraim shall receive shame, and Israel shall be ashamed of his own counsel."

- The golden calf of Samaria was going to be carried to Assyria and be given to king Jareb as a present.
- God was going to remove the golden calf from Samaria.
- Jareb was the king of Assyria.
- In the day when God removed the golden calf from Samaria, shame would come upon Ephraim.
- In the day when God removed the golden calf from Samaria, the children of Israel would be ashamed of their

counsel.

- The golden calf of Samaria was powerless. It was unable to save itself from being carried off and given to someone else as a present.
- There are times when God punishes nations by sending shame upon them.

**Hosea 10:7:** "As for Samaria, her king is cut off as the foam upon the water."

- God was going to cut off the king of Samaria.
- In those days Samaria had a king.
- There are times when God punishes nations by taking away their king.
- God compared the coming judgment upon the king of Syria to foam that was upon the water, and which quickly disappears.

**Hosea 10:8:** "The high places also of Aven, the sin of Israel, shall be destroyed: the thorn and the thistle shall come up on their altars; and they shall say to the mountains, Cover us; and to the hills, Fall on us."

- The children of Israel had created pagan high places in Aven.
- The pagan high places of Aven were a source of sin for Israel.
- God was going to destroy the high places of Aven.
- God was going to cover the pagan altars of Israel with thorns and thistles.

- God said the pagan altars would call out to the mountains and hills and ask them to cover them.
- There are times when God judges idolatry by causing the altars to become abandoned and destroyed by nature.

**Hosea 10:9:** "O Israel, thou hast sinned from the days of Gibeah: there they stood: the battle in Gibeah against the children of iniquity did not overtake them."

- The sin of the children of Israel began in Gibeah. (That's where the Israelites signed the treaty with the Gibeonites.)
- The children of Israel didn't overcome sin in Gibeah. They weren't victorious over evil.

**Hosea 10:10:** "It is in my desire that I should chastise them; and the people shall be gathered against them, when they shall bind themselves in their two furrows."

- God wanted to chastise the children of Israel for their sin and their idolatry. They had been sinning for a long, long time.
- God was going to gather enemies against the children of Israel. He was going to use other nations to chastise them.
- There are times when God chastises nations.
- Since the children of Israel had bound themselves to the two golden calves they had created, God was going to punish them.

**Hosea 10:11:** "And Ephraim is as an heifer that is taught, and loveth to tread out the corn; but I passed over upon her fair neck: I will make Ephraim to ride; Judah shall plow, and Jacob shall break his clods."

- God compared Ephraim to a heifer that loved to tread out the corn.
- God was no longer going to allow Ephraim to tread out the corn. This is because that tribe used its prosperity to create and worship idols.
- Instead of allowing Ephraim to tread out the corn, God was going to make Ephraim ride. God was going to remove Israel from the land and scatter them among the nations.
- In the future Judah would be the one that plowed the field, not Ephraim.
- Being able to plow fields and raise crops is a blessing from God.

**Hosea 10:12:** "Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you."

- God commanded the children of Israel to sow righteousness.
- Those who sow righteousness will receive mercy in return. If you seek mercy then sow righteousness.
- God commanded the children of Israel to break up their hardened hearts and seek after righteousness.
- It was time for the children of Israel to seek the Lord. They had been idolatrous and wicked for a long time, and

they needed to repent of their sins.

- God commanded the children of Israel to seek Him until He rained righteousness upon them.
- Righteousness comes from God. It doesn't come from ourselves, but instead is something that God gives to us.
- God has the power to rain righteousness upon nations.

**Hosea 10:13:** "Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity; ye have eaten the fruit of lies: because thou didst trust in thy way, in the multitude of thy mighty men."

- The children of Israel had been wicked for a long time.
- The children of Israel hadn't been sowing righteousness. Instead they had been sowing sin and reaping iniquity.
- The children of Israel hadn't been honest. God said they had been eating the fruit of lies.
- The children of Israel trusted in their own ways instead of the ways of God.
- The children of Israel trusted in their own strength instead of the strength of God.
- We must put our trust in God, not ourselves.
- We must trust in God for salvation, not ourselves.
- We must trust in God's strength, not our own strength.
- Lies bear evil fruit.
- In those days Israel had mighty men.
- The mighty men of a nation can't save that nation from the judgment of God.

**Hosea 10:14:** "Therefore shall a tumult arise among thy people, and all thy fortresses shall be spoiled, as Shalman spoiled Betharbel in the day of battle: the mother was dashed in pieces upon her children."

- Because the children of Israel trusted in their own strength, God was going to send an uproar among the people.
- God has the power to take peace away from nations.
- There are times when God punishes nations by creating an uproar in that nation and taking away its peace.
- Because the children of Israel trusted in their own strength, God was going to destroy their strong fortresses.
- The strong fortresses of Israel wouldn't be able to save the nation in the day of God's wrath.
- God compared Israel's coming judgment to the way that Shalman spoiled Betharbel.
- In the coming judgment, both mothers and children would be killed.
- In the coming judgment, mothers would be dashed into pieces upon the body of their own children.
- In the coming judgment, God wasn't going to spare the children.
- In the coming judgment, God wasn't going to spare the mothers.
- God warned Israel that the coming judgment was going to be very severe. However, the people didn't repent of their idolatry.
- There was a time when Shalman spoiled Betharbel.

- The sins of a nation can destroy the children of that nation.

**Hosea 10:15:** "So shall Bethel do unto you because of your great wickedness: in a morning shall the king of Israel utterly be cut off."

- Bethel would treat Israel the way that Shalman had treated Betharbel. Their women and children would be brutally killed.
- In the coming judgment, the king of Israel would be cut off in a single morning.
- The coming judgment upon Israel was going to be very swift.
- The wickedness of Israel was great.

## Chapter 11

**Hosea 11:1:** "When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt."

- When the nation of Israel was a child, God loved them.
- God loved Israel from the very beginning.
- God called His Son out of Egypt. (The New Testament says this was a Messianic prophecy.)

**Hosea 11:2:** "As they called them, so they went from them: they sacrificed unto Baalim, and burned incense to graven images."



- The children of Israel rebelled against the God who saved them from the Egyptians and delivered them from slavery.
- The children of Israel sacrificed to Baalim. They worshiped Baal instead of God.
- The children of Israel burned incense to grave images. They worshiped idols.
- The children of Israel were idolatrous.
- The children of Israel rebelled against the God who delivered them.

**Hosea 11:3:** "I taught Ephraim also to go, taking them by their arms; but they knew not that I healed them."

- God was the one who raised up the tribe of Ephraim.
- God was the one who watched over the tribe of Ephraim and blessed them.
- The tribe of Ephraim didn't recognize that God was the one who healed them and gave them good things.
- God is the one who heals us.
- God is the one who raises us up.
- God is the one who blesses us. Our blessings come from God.
- It's important for us to recognize that our blessings come from God, not from another source.

**Hosea 11:4:** "I drew them with cords of a man, with bands of love: and I was to them as they that take off the yoke on their jaws, and I laid meat unto them."

- God drew the children of Israel to Him.
- God loved the children of Israel.
- God freed the children of Israel from slavery.
- God fed the children of Israel.
- God did great things for Israel, and took care of them, and nourished them. (By contrast, Israel's idols did nothing for them at all.).

**Hosea 11:5:** "He shall not return into the land of Egypt, and the Assyrian shall be his king, because they refused to return."

- God wasn't going to allow the children of Israel to return to Egypt.
- In the coming judgment, Israel would be governed by the king of Assyria.
- There are times when God punishes nations by turning them over to their enemies, and allowing their enemies to rule over them.
- Because the children of Israel refused to repent and return to God, He was going to turn them over to their enemies.
- The children of Israel refused to repent and return to God, in spite of all the great things God had done for them.

**Hosea 11:6:** "And the sword shall abide on his cities, and shall consume his branches, and devour them, because of their own counsels."

- God was going to send the sword against the cities of

Israel. God was going to send war and death upon Israel.

- There are times when God punishes a nation by sending war upon it.
- God was going to consume and devour the nation of Israel.
- The reason God was going to devour the nation of Israel was because of its wicked counsel.

**Hosea 11:7:** "And my people are bent to backsliding from me: though they called them to the most High, none at all would exalt him."

- The children of Israel were determined to backslide from God.
- The children of Israel wanted to backslide from God. They didn't want God, but they did want their sin (which they loved).
- None of the children of Israel would exalt the Lord.
- We must not backslide from God.
- We must not love sin.
- We must exalt the Lord.
- It's a bad thing when a nation refuses to exalt the Lord.
- It's a bad thing when a nation loves its sin.
- The nation of Israel was wholly evil. No one would exalt God.

**Hosea 11:8:** "How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? how shall I make thee as Admah? how

shall I set thee as Zeboim? mine heart is turned within me, my repentings are kindled together."

- God didn't want to destroy Ephraim.
- God didn't want to destroy Israel.
- God wanted Ephraim and Israel to repent and be saved. He didn't want to pour out His wrath upon them.
- God is compassionate and merciful, and slow to wrath.
- God didn't want to destroy Israel the way that Admah and Zeboim had been destroyed.
- There was a time when Admah was destroyed.
- There was a time when Zeboim was destroyed.
- God cared about what happened to Israel, even though the nation was wholly evil and loved idolatry.

**Hosea 11:9:** "I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city."

- Because God loved Israel, He wasn't going to pour out the fierceness of His anger upon them.
- Because God loved Ephraim, He wasn't going to utterly destroy them and make an end to them.
- God was very angry with Israel and Ephraim. His anger was fierce.
- There are times when God is very angry with nations.
- Because God was God and not a man, He wasn't going to pour out the fierceness of His wrath.

- God is holy.
- God said that He was the Holy One who was in their midst.
- God said that He was holy, and therefore wouldn't enter into the city.

**Hosea 11:10:** "They shall walk after the LORD: he shall roar like a lion: when he shall roar, then the children shall tremble from the west."

- The day was coming when the children of Israel would walk after the Lord. In that day the people would repent of their idolatry and sin, and would walk in God's ways.
- The children of Israel won't always be wicked and idolatrous and rebellious.
- In the day when the children of Israel walked in God's ways, God would roar like a lion.
- Lions roar.
- In the day when God roared, the children of the west would tremble.

**Hosea 11:11:** "They shall tremble as a bird out of Egypt, and as a dove out of the land of Assyria: and I will place them in their houses, saith the LORD."

- In the day when God roared, the people of Egypt would tremble as a bird.
- In the day when God roared, the people of Assyria would tremble as a dove.
- In the day when God roared, He would place the people

into their houses.

**Hosea 11:12:** "Ephraim compasseth me about with lies, and the house of Israel with deceit: but Judah yet ruleth with God, and is faithful with the saints."

- The tribe of Ephraim was a liar. The people lied to God.
- The children of Israel was deceitful. The people lied to God.
- Even though Ephraim and Israel weren't faithful, the tribe of Judah was faithful.
- In those days the tribe of Judah ruled with God.
- In those days the tribe of Judah was faithful with the saints.

## Chapter 12

**Hosea 12:1:** "Ephraim feedeth on wind, and followeth after the east wind: he daily increaseth lies and desolation; and they do make a covenant with the Assyrians, and oil is carried into Egypt."

- The tribe of Ephraim was feeding on the wind. They were relying on other nations to save them instead of God, but those other nations could do nothing for them.
- In the day of trouble we must look to the Lord for salvation. Those who ignore the Lord and look elsewhere won't be saved.
- The nations the tribe of Ephraim was depending on for help couldn't save them from the coming judgment.

- The lies of the tribe of Ephraim increased each day.
- The desolation of the tribe of Ephraim increased each day. Their lies, idolatry, and faithlessness made things continually worse for them.
- The tribe of Ephraim made a covenant with the Assyrians (instead of with God).
- The tribe of Ephraim also had an agreement with Egypt. They were sending oil into that nation (instead of repenting and seeking the Lord).
- In ancient times, one of the goods that nations traded was oil (not petroleum).

**Hosea 12:2:** "The LORD hath also a controversy with Judah, and will punish Jacob according to his ways; according to his doings will he recompense him."

- God had a controversy with Judah. The nation wasn't innocent in His sight.
- God was going to punish the tribes of Israel because of their sins and evil deeds.
- God was going to repay the tribes for all the wicked things they had done.
- There are national consequences for national sin.
- God punishes wicked nations according to their wickedness.

**Hosea 12:3:** "He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and by his strength he had power with God:"

- While Jacob was still in the womb he grabbed his brother

by the heel. Jacob had been struggling since before he was born.

- Jacob was a person before he was born.
- Jacob had a brother.
- Jacob had power with God by his strength.
- Jacob had a measure of strength.
- The story that the book of Genesis tells about Jacob is true. It's real history and actually happened.

**Hosea 12:4:** "Yea, he had power over the angel, and prevailed: he wept, and made supplication unto him: he found him in Bethel, and there he spake with us;"

- Jacob had power over the angel that he wrestled with. He prevailed when fighting the angel.
- Jacob made supplication to the angel that he wrestled with. He asked for his petition (and it was granted).
- Jacob spoke with God in Bethel.
- God refers to Himself as "us", which is a reference to the Trinity.
- Jacob wept when he wrestled with the angel.

**Hosea 12:5:** "Even the LORD God of hosts; the LORD is his memorial."

- Jacob spoke to the Lord.
- God is the God of armies. He has a powerful army at His command.
- God was the memorial of Jacob.



**Hosea 12:6:** "Therefore turn thou to thy God: keep mercy and judgment and wait on thy God continually."

- God commanded the children of Israel to turn to Him.
- God said that He was the God of Israel, even though Israel was wicked and idolatrous and had rebelled against Him. God still loved them and wanted them to repent.
- God commanded Israel to treat one another with mercy.
- God commanded Israel to be just.
- God commanded Israel to continually wait on the Lord.
- We must treat one another with mercy.
- We must be just.
- We must wait on the Lord.
- Nations must be merciful.
- Nations must be just.
- Nations must wait on the Lord.
- Nations should bring forth the fruits of repentance. They must walk in God's ways.

**Hosea 12:7:** "He is a merchant, the balances of deceit are in his hand: he loveth to oppress."

- The tribe of Ephraim was a deceitful merchant.
- The tribe of Ephraim obtained riches through deceit.
- The tribe of Ephraim oppressed other people.
- The tribe of Ephraim loved to oppress other people.

- The tribe of Ephraim delighted in their wickedness and loved being evil.

**Hosea 12:8:** "And Ephraim said, Yet I am become rich, I have found me out substance: in all my labours they shall find none iniquity in me that were sin."

- Ephraim obtained its riches through deceit and oppression.
- It's possible for nations to obtain wealth through deceit and oppression.
- There are times when the wicked are able to use their wickedness to obtain great wealth.
- God cares about how nations obtain their wealth.
- God sees the wickedness of nations.
- God holds nations accountable.
- Even though Ephraim obtained its wealth through sin, it claimed that it was sinless and pure.
- There are times when the wicked claim that they're not wicked at all.

**Hosea 12:9:** "And I that am the LORD thy God from the land of Egypt will yet make thee to dwell in tabernacles, as in the days of the solemn feast."

- God was the God of Israel from the days when they were still in Egypt.
- There was a time when the nation of Israel was in Egypt.
- God was going to make the people of Israel dwell in tents.

- During one of the solemn feasts of Israel, the people lived in tents. (This is referring to the feast of tabernacles.)

**Hosea 12:10:** "I have also spoken by the prophets, and I have multiplied visions, and used similitudes, by the ministry of the prophets."

- God spoke to Israel through prophets.
- God spoke to Israel through many visions.
- God spoke to Israel through parables.
- God spoke to Israel time and time again (but the people wouldn't listen).

**Hosea 12:11:** "Is there iniquity in Gilead? surely they are vanity: they sacrifice bullocks in Gilgal; yea, their altars are as heaps in the furrows of the fields."

- There was iniquity in Gilead.
- The things that the children of Israel were doing were being done in vain. They worshiped their idols, but those idols couldn't save them.
- The children of Israel committed idolatry in Gilgal. That's where they sacrificed bulls to idols.
- The land of Israel was filled with altars.
- God compared the altars of Israel to heaps in fields.

**Hosea 12:12:** "And Jacob fled into the country of Syria, and Israel served for a wife, and for a wife he kept sheep."

- Jacob fled to Syria (because he stole the blessing from

Esau).

- In Syria, Jacob served his uncle for a wife.
- In Syria, Jacob earned his wife by keeping sheep.

**Hosea 12:13:** "And by a prophet the LORD brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet was he preserved."

- God used a prophet (Moses) to bring Israel out of Egypt.
- God saved Israel out of Egypt.
- Moses was a prophet.
- God used a prophet (Moses) to preserve Israel.

**Hosea 12:14:** "Ephraim provoked him to anger most bitterly: therefore shall he leave his blood upon him, and his reproach shall his LORD return unto him."

- Ephraim provoked the Lord to anger.
- The Lord was very angry with Ephraim.
- Because Ephraim provoked the Lord to anger, God was going to leave his blood upon them. Ephraim's sins wouldn't be forgiven.
- Because Ephraim provoked the Lord to anger, God was going to put the tribe into reproach.
- When Ephraim was in reproach, the tribe would return to the Lord.
- The day is coming when Ephraim will return to the Lord.

# Chapter 13

**Hosea 13:1:** "When Ephraim spake trembling, he exalted himself in Israel; but when he offended in Baal, he died."

- When the tribe of Ephraim humbled themselves before the Lord and spoke to Him with trembling, Ephraim was exalted.
- Those who humble themselves before the Lord will be exalted.
- Nations that humble themselves before the Lord will be exalted.
- When the tribe of Ephraim broke their covenant with God and worshiped Baal, the tribe died.
- God hates idolatry.
- Nations must not be idolatrous.
- God punishes idolatrous nations.
- The worship of idols destroys nations. It doesn't exalt them.

**Hosea 13:2:** "And now they sin more and more, and have made them molten images of their silver, and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen: they say of them, Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves."

- The sin of the tribe of Ephraim kept increasing. They sinned more and more.
- The tribe of Ephraim made idols out of silver.
- The tribe of Ephraim made idols.

- The craftsmen of the tribe of Ephraim made idols.
- The idols that the tribe of Ephraim worshiped were the works of their own hands. They worshiped idols that they themselves had made.
- The tribe of Ephraim worshiped the golden calves by kissing them.
- The tribe of Ephraim offered sacrifices to the golden calves.
- The tribe of Ephraim was deeply idolatrous.

**Hosea 13:3:** "Therefore they shall be as the morning cloud and as the early dew that passeth away, as the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the floor, and as the smoke out of the chimney."

- God compared the tribe of Ephraim to morning fog that quickly disappears.
- God compared the tribe of Ephraim to morning dew that quickly disappears.
- God was going to remove the tribe of Ephraim from the promised land. Because they were idolatrous He wouldn't allow them to remain in the land.
- God compared the tribe of Ephraim to chaff that's driven away by the wind.
- God compared the tribe of Ephraim to smoke that comes out of a chimney and disappears.

**Hosea 13:4:** "Yet I am the LORD thy God from the land of Egypt, and thou shalt know no god but me: for there is no

saviour beside me."

- God was the God of Israel. He was their God, even though the children of Israel were idolatrous, had broken their covenant, and had rebelled against Him.
- God had been Israel's God since the people were in Egypt.
- There was a time when the children of Israel were in Egypt.
- God said it was His will for the children of Israel to worship Him alone. They were to know no other god but Him.
- God is our Savior.
- God is the only Savior. There's no one else who can save us.
- There's only one path to salvation.

**Hosea 13:5:** "I did know thee in the wilderness, in the land of great drought."

- God knew the children of Israel when they were in the wilderness.
- The wilderness was very dry.
- There was a time when the children of Israel were in the wilderness.

**Hosea 13:6:** "According to their pasture, so were they filled; they were filled, and their heart was exalted; therefore have they forgotten me."

- The children of Israel were filled by food from the pasture. God provided food for them.
- When the children of Israel were filled, their heart was exalted. Instead of being humbled by God's care for them they became proud.
- When the children of Israel were filled, they forgot God. They forgot the One who fed them, blessed them, and took care of them.
- The children of Israel forgot God once they became prosperous and their needs were met.
- Prosperity can be dangerous. It can tempt people to forget God.
- Prosperity can be dangerous. It can tempt people to become proud.

**Hosea 13:7:** "Therefore I will be unto them as a lion: as a leopard by the way will I observe them:"

- Since the children of Israel forgot God, He would be like a lion (a dangerous predator) unto them.
- Since the children of Israel forgot God, He would watch them like a leopard (a dangerous predator).
- Nations must not forget God.
- We must not forget God.

**Hosea 13:8:** "I will meet them as a bear that is bereaved of her whelps, and will rend the caul of their heart, and there will I devour them like a lion: the wild beast shall tear them."

- God would meet the children of Israel with great anger.



He compared His wrath to the anger of a bear whose offspring had been stolen.

- God said that He was going to tear the nation of Israel apart.
- God said that He was going to devour the nation of Israel the way a lion devoured its prey.
- God was going to use animals to tear the children of Israel apart.
- There are national consequences for forgetting God.

**Hosea 13:9:** "O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself; but in me is thine help."

- The children of Israel destroyed themselves (through their pride and idolatry).
- Judgment and destruction were coming upon the children of Israel because of the choices they had made. They were responsible for the terrible things that were about to happen to them.
- The only one who could help Israel was the Lord.
- God was willing to help Israel (if they repented and turned to Him).
- The help of Israel was in the Lord, not in Assyria or Egypt or other nations. Israel needed to turn to the Lord for salvation.

**Hosea 13:10:** "I will be thy king: where is any other that may save thee in all thy cities? and thy judges of whom thou saidst, Give me a king and princes?"

- The day is coming when God will be the king of Israel.
- Israel needs to seek after God as their king, and not look for salvation in someone else.
- The only one who could save Israel was God.
- The only one who could save the cities of Israel was God.
- Israel rejected God as king. The reason they asked their judges to give them a human king and human princes was because they didn't want God to rule over them.
- Israel didn't have a heart to seek after God. However, God was the only one who could save them.
- God was willing to be their king. He was willing to save them.

**Hosea 13:11:** "I gave thee a king in mine anger, and took him away in my wrath."

- God gave Israel a king because He was angry with them.
- God granted Israel's wicked request because He was angry with them. Granting their request was a punishment and a curse upon them.
- There are times when God punishes people by granting their wicked prayers.
- There are times when God grants wicked prayers because He's angry with the person who prayed.
- God took away Israel's king because He was angry with Israel.
- God has the power to take away kings.
- God has the power to take away a nation's government.

**Hosea 13:12:** "The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up; his sin is hid."

- The tribe of Ephraim treasured their sin. They loved their sin.
- The tribe of Ephraim hid their sin, as one hides treasure.

**Hosea 13:13:** "The sorrows of a travailing woman shall come upon him: he is an unwise son; for he should not stay long in the place of the breaking forth of children."

- Because Ephraim loved their sin, the sorrows of a woman giving birth were going to come upon that tribe. (Throughout the Bible, these sorrows are a reference to the seven-year tribulation period).
- The tribe of Ephraim was unwise. They shouldn't have loved their sin.
- The tribe of Ephraim was unwise. They were in a place they shouldn't have been.
- Nations shouldn't love their sin.
- There are times when God punishes nations that love their sin.

**Hosea 13:14:** "I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes."

- The day was coming when God would ransom Ephraim from the power of the grave.

- The day was coming when God would redeem Ephraim from death.
- The day was coming when God would overcome death and destroy it.
- God isn't going to turn from this path. He's going to save Israel and destroy death itself.
- In spite of all that Ephraim had done, the day is coming when God will save them.

**Hosea 13:15:** "Though he be fruitful among his brethren, an east wind shall come, the wind of the LORD shall come up from the wilderness, and his spring shall become dry, and his fountain shall be dried up: he shall spoil the treasure of all pleasant vessels."

- The tribe of Ephraim was prosperous.
- The tribe of Ephraim was more prosperous than the other tribes.
- God was going to raise up an east wind from the wilderness against Ephraim.
- God was going to take away Ephraim's prosperity.
- God was going to dry up the spring and fountain of Ephraim.
- God was going to judge the tribe of Ephraim and take away their pleasant vessels.
- God can take away a nation's prosperity.
- There are times when God takes away the prosperity of a nation.

**Hosea 13:16:** "Samaria shall become desolate; for she hath rebelled against her God: they shall fall by the sword: their infants shall be dashed in pieces, and their women with child shall be ripped up."

- God was going to make Samaria desolate.
- The reason God was going to make Samaria desolate was because Samaria had rebelled against God.
- God said that He was the God of Samaria.
- Samaria was going to fall by the sword.
- The infants of Samaria were going to be dashed to pieces.
- The pregnant woman of Samaria were going to be torn apart.
- In the coming judgment, the infants were going to be killed. God wasn't going to spare them.
- In the coming judgment, the pregnant women were going to be killed. God wasn't going to spare them.
- God warned Samaria in advance about the terrible judgment that were going to come against them. (Yet the people didn't repent or seek salvation from the Lord.)
- There are times when God punishes wicked nations by killing their children.
- There are times when God punishes wicked nations by killing their pregnant women.
- God didn't promise to spare the children from His wrath, or from the times of judgment.
- God didn't promise to spare women from His wrath, or from the times of judgment.

# Chapter 14

**Hosea 14:1:** "O israel, return unto the LORD thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity."

- God commanded the children of Israel to return to Him.
- God said that He was the God of Israel.
- The reason the children of Israel had fallen was because of their sin.
- Sin destroys nations.
- Even though the children of Israel had been wicked and idolatrous, God wanted them to repent and turn to Him. God wanted to save them.

**Hosea 14:2:** "Take with you words, and turn to the LORD: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips."

- God commanded the children of Israel to turn to Him and cry out to Him.
- God was able and willing to take away the iniquity of Israel.
- God was able and willing to graciously receive the children of Israel, in spite of all their sin.
- God wanted the children of Israel to go to Him and ask Him to take away their sin.
- We can't take away our sin. We can't obtain righteousness by our works.
- The only way we can be saved is if God takes away our

sin.

- The path of salvation is for us to go to God and ask Him to take away our sin and receive us.
- God desired the sincere worship of the Israelites. That was the sacrificial calf He wanted.
- God desires repentance and humility.
- God was willing to save Israel if they would turn to Him and repent.

**Hosea 14:3:** "Asshur shall not save us; we will not ride upon horses: neither will we say any more to the work of our hands, Ye are our gods: for in thee the fatherless findeth mercy."

- Asshur was unable to save Israel.
- Horses were unable to save Israel.
- Israel must not look to other nations for salvation. Instead they must look to God.
- Israel must not look to horses for salvation. Instead they must look to God.
- Israel must not look to idols for salvation. Instead they must look to God.
- The idols that Israel created were the work of their own hands. The Israelites were worshiping what they themselves had made.
- A nation's armed forces can't save them.
- A nation's idols can't save them.
- A nation's allies can't save them.
- Nations must look to God alone for salvation.

- The fatherless find mercy in God.
- The Bible consistently refers to orphans as children who don't have a father.

**Hosea 14:4:** "I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him."

- The day is coming when God will heal Israel.
- The day is coming when God will forgive the sins of Israel and save them.
- The day is coming when God will freely love Israel.
- The day is coming when God will turn away His anger from Israel.
- God won't always be angry with Israel. One day God will save them.

**Hosea 14:5:** "I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon."

- The day is coming when God will be like dew unto Israel. He will bless them and nurture them.
- The day is coming when Israel will grow as a lily grows. God will prosper Israel.
- The day is coming when Israel will have roots in Lebanon. God will grow the nation of Israel.

**Hosea 14:6:** "His branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lebanon."

- The day is coming when Israel will spread its branches.



God will expand the reach of Israel.

- The day is coming when Israel will be beautiful.
- God compares the beauty of future Israel to the beauty of an olive tree.
- God compares the smell of future Israel to the smell of Lebanon (a place known for its cedar trees).

**Hosea 14:7:** "They that dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive as the corn, and grow as the vine: the scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon."

- Those who dwell under the shadow of God will return to the promised land.
- Salvation can only be found under the shadow of God.
- The day is coming when God will gather His people back to the promised land.
- Those who dwell under the shadow of God will revive, as corn is revived.
- Those who dwell under the shadow of God will grow, as vines grow.
- Those who dwell under the shadow of God will smell like the wine of Lebanon. (This is apparently a good thing.)
- There are great blessings in store for those who dwell under the shadow of God.

**Hosea 14:8:** "Ephraim shall say, What have I to do any more with idols? I have heard him, and observed him: I am like a green fir tree. From me is thy fruit found."

- The day is coming when Ephraim will no longer desire idols.
- The day is coming when Ephraim will reject idols and will seek the Lord.
- The day is coming when Ephraim will hear the Lord.
- The day is coming when Ephraim will see the Lord.
- One day Ephraim will no longer be idolatrous.
- In the future, Ephraim will be like a green fir tree.
- In the future, Ephraim will bear good fruit.

**Hosea 14:9:** "Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the LORD are right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall therein."

- Those who understand these things are wise.
- Those who know these things are prudent.
- It's good to be wise.
- It's good to be prudent.
- It's good to understand prophecy.
- It's good to study prophecy.
- It's good to know prophecy.
- The ways of the Lord are right.
- Those who are just will walk in the ways of the Lord.
- Those who walk in the ways of the Lord are just.
- Those who are transgressors will fall.

- We must walk in the ways of the Lord.
- We must seek to understand prophecy.
- We must seek to know prophecy.
- God is against transgressors.
- We must not be transgressors.