
gold— which they used for Baal.

Hosea 2:9 “Therefore I will take away my grain when it ripens, and my new wine when it is ready. I will take back my wool and my linen, intended to cover her naked body. ¹⁰ So now I will expose her lewdness before the eyes of her lovers; no one will take her out of my hands.

Hosea 2:14 “Therefore I am now going to allure her; I will lead her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her. ¹⁵ There I will give her back her vineyards, and will make the Valley of Achor “a door of hope. There she will respond as in the days of her youth, as in the day she came up out of Egypt. ¹⁶ “In that day,” declares the LORD, “you will call me ‘my husband’; you will no longer call me ‘my master.’”

The climax of the story

Hosea 3:1 The LORD said to me, “Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress. Love her as the LORD loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes.”

Hosea 3:2 So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley. ³ Then I told her, “You are to live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will behave the same way toward you.”

Hosea 3:4 For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods. ⁵ Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days.

Real repentance of real sin lets you experience real joy of real love.

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Hosea

Minor Prophets—part 1

September 12, 2021

God’s charge against His people. (Hosea 4-11)

Hosea 4:1 Hear the word of the LORD...because the LORD has a charge to bring against you who live in the land: “There is no faithfulness, no love, no acknowledgment of God in the land. ² There is only cursing, lying and murder, stealing and adultery; they break all bounds, and bloodshed follows bloodshed. ³ Because of this the land dries up, and all who live in it waste away;

Hosea 4:18 ...their rulers dearly love shameful ways.

Hosea 5:4 A spirit of prostitution is in their heart; they do not acknowledge the LORD. ⁵ Israel’s arrogance testifies against them;

Hosea 7:13 Woe to them, because they have strayed from me! Destruction to them, because they have rebelled against me! I long to redeem them but they speak about me falsely.

Hosea 8:7 They sow the wind and reap the whirlwind.

Where have you placed your deepest hopes
in finding deepest satisfaction?

Warnings

Hos. 4:14 people without understanding will come to ruin!

Hosea 9:6 Even if they escape from destruction, Egypt will gather them, and Memphis will bury them. Their treasures of silver will be taken over by briars, ...⁷ The days of punishment are coming, the days of reckoning are at hand. Let Israel know this. Because your sins are so many and your hostility so great...

Hosea 5:15 ...until they have borne their guilt and seek my face— in their misery they will earnestly seek me.

Blindness

Hosea 7:9 ...His hair is sprinkled with gray, but he does not notice.
¹⁰ Israel's arrogance testifies against him, but despite all this he does not return to the LORD... or search for him.

People's half-hearted response. (Hosea 6)

Hosea 6:1 Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds. ² After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will restore us, that we may live in his presence. ³ Let us acknowledge the LORD; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth."

Hosea 6:4 "What can I do with you, Ephraim? What can I do with you, Judah? Your love is like the morning mist, like the early dew that disappears. ⁵ Therefore I cut you in pieces with my prophets, I killed you with the words of my mouth— then my judgments go forth like the sun.

Hosea 6:6 For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings. ⁷ As at Adam, they have broken the covenant; they were unfaithful to me there.

Full-hearted repentance (Hosea 14)

Hosea 14:1 Return, Israel, to the LORD your God. Your sins have been your downfall! ² ...Say: "Forgive all our sins and receive us graciously, that we may offer the fruit of our lips.

³ Assyria cannot save us; we will not mount warhorses. We will never again say 'Our gods' to what our own hands have made, for in you the fatherless find compassion." ⁴ "**I will heal their waywardness** and love them freely, for my anger has turned away from them.

Hosea 14:5 I will be like the dew to Israel; he will blossom like a lily. Like a cedar of Lebanon he will send down his roots; ⁷ People will dwell again in his shade; they will flourish like the grain, they will blossom like the vine— Israel's fame will be like the wine of Lebanon.

Hosea 14:8 Ephraim, what more have I to do with idols? I will answer him and care for him. I am like a flourishing juniper; your fruitfulness comes from me. ⁹ Who is wise? Let them realize these things. Who is discerning? Let them understand. The ways of the LORD are right; the righteous walk in them, but the rebellious stumble in them.

The message in pageant form (Hosea 1-3)

Hosea 1:2 When the LORD began to speak through Hosea, ... "Go, marry a promiscuous woman and have children with her, for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the LORD." ³ So he married Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son. ⁴ Then the LORD said to Hosea, "Call him Jezreel, because I will soon punish the house of Jehu for the massacre at Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of Israel.

Hosea 1:10 Yet the Israelites will be like the sand on the seashore, which cannot be measured or counted. In the place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' they will be called 'children of the living God.' ¹¹ The people of Judah and the people of Israel will come together; they will appoint one leader and will come up out of the land, for great will be the day of Jezreel.

God's love in two picture forms. (Hosea 2 and 3)

Hosea 2:5 Their mother has been unfaithful and has conceived them in disgrace. She said, 'I will go after my lovers, who give me my food and my water, my wool and my linen, my olive oil and my drink.'

⁶ Therefore I will block her path with thornbushes; I will wall her in so that she cannot find her way. ⁷ She will chase after her lovers but not catch them; she will look for them but not find them.

Then she will say, 'I will go back to my husband as at first, for then I was better off than now.'

⁸ She has not acknowledged that I was the one who gave her the grain, the new wine and oil, who lavished on her the silver and