

TEXT: Hosea 1:1-11

TITLE: "A Picture-Imperfect Family" (part 2)

→ God used Hosea's family to give messages of judgment and hope!

God used Hosea's family as symbols to pronounce His messages of judgment on the people of Israel. Hosea and family were living object lessons to a people who were hardened in rebellion against their God.

Common in the Book of Hosea are messages of judgment against the people of the Northern Kingdom—Israel. But, there are, thankfully, messages of hope and restoration, some of which point to a time beyond Hosea's day, beyond our day and to Jesus' reign on this earth!

Let's look at this family:

1. HOSEA, THE H _____, REPRESENTS THE L _____ GOD

- A. The Word of the LORD Came to Hosea—1:1
- B. He was the Son of Beeri—1:1
- C. He Prophesied During the Reigns of Multiple Kings—1:1

→ NOTE: Primarily, Hosea was the prophet to the Northern Kingdom, but he did address Judah as well.

- D. Hosea's ministry could have spanned 25-50 years (or more) across the reigns of these kings.

2. GOMER, THE W _____ REPRESENTS THE WAYWARD N _____ OF ISRAEL

*** The LORD's Initial Instruction to Hosea—1:2-3**

- A. The Instruction—1:2a-b
 - 1. Take for Yourself a Wife of Immorality
 - 2. Take Children of Immorality
- B. The Reason—1:2c
 - 1. The Land Commits Immorality (Spiritually)
 - 2. They Abandoned the LORD

C. Hosea's Response to the Instruction—1:3

- 1. He took as wife, Gomer, daughter of Diblaim
- 2. Gomer conceived
- 3. Gomer bore a son

3. JEZREEL, THE S _____ REPRESENTS THE SCATTERING J _____ OF GOD

*** The LORD's Instruction Concerning the Son—1:4-5**

A. His Name—1:4a, b

- 1. The Son was to be called "Jezreel"
- 2. The name "Jezreel" means "God sows or scatters (a seed)"

B. Its Significance—1:4c-5

- 1. Soon Jezreel would be avenged of the bloodshed by Jehu
- 2. Israel would be carried off in captivity—i.e. "scattered"
- 3. Israel's Kingdom would come to an end
- 4. Israel's Bow would be broken in the Valley of Jezreel

4. LO-RUHAMAH, THE D _____, CONTRASTS ISRAEL'S LOSS OF COMPASSION FROM YAHWEH AND JUDAH'S GAIN—1:6-7

A. A Daughter—1:6

- 1. Hosea named her "Lo-ruhamah"
- 2. "Lo-ruhamah" means "no mercy" ("not pitied")

B. A Lesson for Israel—1:6b-d

- 1. The reason: God would not pity Israel
- 2. God would take them away or (He would not forgive them).
- 3. The Assyrians campaigned against the Northern Kingdom and conquered Samaria in 722 B.C.

→ NOTE: 2 Kings 17:5-8, 10-12, 17, 23

→ NOTE: God had warned them by His prophets! 2 Kings 17:13, 23

4. Lo-Ruhamah shows the Northern Kingdom that God's mercy had reached a limit and they would be severely judged!

C. A Lesson for Judah—1:7

1. God would show mercy on Judah
2. The LORD would save them
3. The LORD would not save by human power
 - a. Bow
 - b. Sword
 - c. Battle
 - d. Horses
 - e. Horsemen
4. God spared Judah from Sennacherib and slew 185,000 enemy soldiers.

→ NOTE: 2 Kings 19:35-37

5. LO-AMMI, A S_____, REPRESENTS LOSS OF R_____ WITH YAHWEH—1:8-9a

A. A Son

1. Gomer bore him after Lo-ruhamah was weaned
2. The LORD named him "Lo-ammi"
3. "Lo-ammi" means "not my people"

B. Another Lesson for Israel—1:9b-c

1. The reason: In judgment and discipline Israel was removed from relationship with God--not God's people!
2. He was not their God

→ NOTE: They had turned their back on Him so many times, ignored His pleadings and desired other gods and He gave them over to their wicked desires!

→ NOTE: Their idolatry had compromised their relationship with the Lord so that they were facing alienation and discipline.

6. FUTURE C_____ OF ISRAEL DEMONSTRATE RESTORED RELATIONSHIP WITH YAHWEH—1:10-2:1

A. M_____—1:10a-c

1. Number of Israelites will be like the sand
2. They will not be numbered

B. R_____—1:10d-f

1. Where they received bad news: "Not my people!"
2. They will receive good news: "Sons of the Living God!"

→ NOTE: Joshua 3:10—the Living God has power!

C. R_____—1:11-2:1

1. Judah and Israel will be gathered together
2. They will appoint a leader—Messiah King—Jesus!
3. They will go up to Jezreel and be victorious
4. Israel (brethren) will be called "My People" ("Ammi")
5. Israel (sisters) will be called "Mercy is shown" ("Ruhamah")

LESSONS AND APPLICATIONS: