

Hosea ('salvation')

The theme of Hosea is capsulized in *Jeremiah 3:1*

Chapter 1 - The Marriage

A. A Solemn Precept, v 1-2

hx: Hosea told to marry Gomer.

doct: Jehovah-God took Israel as His bride. *Jeremiah 3:14*

The LORD will use Hosea and Gomer's marriage as a 'object lesson' to demonstrate Israel's faithlessness.

B. A Sorry Portrait, v 3-9

hx: Gomer played the harlot and had two children outside of the marriage covenant, resulting in a broken home.

doct: Israel mingled with heathen religions resulting in broken worship in the land.

spir: The NT church has mingled with governments, philosophy, and education resulting in a fractured body of various denominations worldwide.

C. A Sure Promise, v 10-11

The chapter ends on a high note with a promise of God's restoration.

We need God to come to the rescue of both Israel and the Church. *Matt 19:26*

Chapter 2 - The Mess and the Message

A. An Heartfelt Request, v 1-5

v 1-2 hx: God tells Hosea to tell his children to plead with their mother.

spir: Gods uses his children in every generation to plead with wanderers.

This first approach represents the method of how God **woos** sinners.

whoredoms = spiritual adultery ~ *Ezekiel 23:36-39*

doctr: God will use the *144,000* to preach in the tribulation, *Revelation ch 7*.

v 3-5 Next God **warns** and lays out the penalty for unrepentant sin.

This two-step approach is how God works. It is most **reasonable**, *Isa 1:18*.

the day she was born ~ *Ezekiel 16:4*

my lovers ~ *Lamentations 1:2, 19*

Jesus reminds all of us that *the true bread* comes only from God, *John 6:32*.

B. An Horrible Recompense, v 6-13

v 6 *thorns* - a reminder of the curse of sin Gen 3:18 Pr 22:5

v 7 *her lovers* hx: *Assyria* and *Egypt*, Hosea 7:11 & 5:13

spir: 'spirituality' and 'worldliness'

doctr: *that spirit of antichrist* 1 John 4:3

v 8 Practical Truth - All our temporal gifts and blessings are from the hand of God.

doctr: *seven years of great plenty* will occur before the 7 yr. tribulation, Gen 41:29
This bounty will be squandered on the antichrist and his *Baal* worship.

v 9-10 Those who *play the harlot* (v 5) will find themselves stripped, barren, naked, empty and exposed with no escape.

v 11 All her religious festivals will *cease*, all joy is gone.

v 12 hx: This occurred ~ 50 years later in 2 Kings 17:25

doctr: In the tribulation animals (*beasts*) will openly and freely attack people.
Ezekiel 5 :17

v 13 hx: God tried to teach them this lesson early on. Judges 10:10-14

spir: He continues today using His word. Proverbs 1:24-33

C. An Healing Restoration, v 14-23

This is one of many of the great passages in the Bible on the Second Coming of Christ when He ushers in the Millennium. The conquering Messiah, who brings in His Kingdom, was an essential theme of the Old Testament. The Jews were so enamored with it, that they missed the Messiah's first coming. Christians are so enamored with Jesus' first coming, that we often ignore His Return. Most churches spend little time studying the 1,000 year reign of the King of kings. We will examine many of these great passages as we go through the Major and Minor Prophets.

v 14 During the tribulation: (1) God will *allure her...in the wilderness* Rev 12:6, 14

(2) *speak comfortably unto her* Jeremiah 31:2-3

v 15 *the valley of Achor* ('trouble') Joshua 7:26

hx: When the children of Israel were entering the promised land, Achan stole a religious Babylonian priestly garment and smuggled it into the camp. God had Joshua expose him and publicly judge him by stoning at the *valley of Achor*.

doctr: God will ultimately achieve complete victory in the valley of trouble known as *Armageddon*, Rev 16:16.

she shall sing there... as in the days of her youth Exodus 15

v 16 *call me Ishi* = My husband Isa 54:5 [**no more Baali** = my master]

v 18 *covenant ... of peace.*

- (1) no more conflict between man and beast (v 12)
- (2) no more conflict between predator and prey Isa 11:6, Rom 8:20-22
- (3) no more conflict between men Isa 2:4, Micah 4:3

v 19 *I will betroth thee* Matt 22:2

v 22-23 *Jezreel = Whom God soweth*
... art my people

To be one of God's children *ye must be born of the Spirit*

History of Assyria :

- Initially founded by Nimrod's 'partner' *Asshur* ~ 2,200 BC. Gen 10:11-12
- Its "Expansion" into the Assyrian empire began in 911 BC.
At it's height included Babylonia, Chaldea, Elam, Media, Persia, Phoenicia, Moab, Edom, Syria, Lebanon, and, finally, the capture of Israel in 721 BC (2 Kings 17)
- Assyrian kings in Bible :

1. Pul 2 Kings 15:19	4. Sennacherib 2 Kings 18:13
2. Tiglathpileser 2 Kings 15:29	5. Esarhaddon 2 Kings 19:37
3. Shalmanesser 2 Kings 17:3	

Esarhaddon (Ashurbanipal in secular history) died in 627 BC, at which point the Assyrian empire crumbled under multiple brutal civil wars between three 'kings'. The Babylonians were able to overtake them in 609BC.

Baal ('master' or 'possessor') : 50x in OT & once in NT (Rom 11:4)

The chief male deity or god of the Phoenicians and Canaanites.

The male god was always associated with a female goddess (e.g. *Ashtoreth*) .

Numbers 22:41 Judges 2:11-19

The history of Baal and false worship - Genesis 10:8-10 and 11:1-4

After Nimrod's death, his surviving wife, the adulterous Queen Semiramis claimed Nimrod was now the Sun-god looking down on 'his people' and should be worshipped as *Baal*. Shortly there after she gave birth to an illegitimate son. She claimed the child was conceived supernaturally by Nimrod and gave him the name *Tammuz*, Eze 8:14 The *tower of Babel* was the place where she, being used by Satan, set up a form of counterfeit trinity worship:

father - mother - child

Nimrod - Semiramis - Tammuz