

A Tour Through the Divine Library
(Hosea)

I. General Introduction to Hosea

-Title: named after Hosea (1:1)

-Author/Date: Hosea, the son of Beer; 755-710 BC (1:1)

-Purpose: condemn Israel's unfaithfulness, warn them of coming judgment; call them to repentance; assure of God's unconditional love

-Structure:

- I. Marriage of Hosea (chs. 1-3): An Adulterous Wife and a Faithful Husband
- II. Message of Hosea (chs. 4-14): An Adulterous Nation and a Faithful God

II. General Overview of Hosea

-Hosea's Marriage (chs. 1-3): propriety of God's command; Hosea's children (Jezreel: "God scatters"; Lo-ruhammah: "without compassion"; Lo-ammi: "not my people"); symbolizes God's patience with Israel's infidelities.

-Hosea's Message (chs. 4-14): see 6:6; 10:8; 13:14 (quoted in NT)

III. Prominent Themes in Hosea

-Idolatry, Hypocrisy, and Apostasy (4:17; 6:4; 7:8, 9)

-God's Plan of Salvation for the Gentiles (1:10; 2:23 with Rom. 9:25, 26 and 1 Pet. 2:10)

-God's Unconditional Love for His Covenant People

IV. Christ in Hosea

-In the Prophet

-In the Prophecy (3:5; 11:1 with Matt. 2:15; 6:1, 2; 13:14 with 1 Cor. 15:55; 10:8)

V. Practical Lessons in Hosea

1) The prophecy of Hosea issues a solemn warning to those who are self-righteous (6:6).

2) The prophecy of Hosea holds out hope to those who are backslidden (6:1; 12:6; 14:1).

3) The prophecy of Hosea promises salvation to those who will have it.