



THE BOOK OF

# HOSEA

*...a verse by verse study*

# Hosea

- The loving prophet
  - ‘The Jeremiah of the North’
- His name means ‘salvation’
- He is quoted more than 30 times in the New Testament... more than any other ‘Minor Prophet’.
- *"In all the world's literature, there is no record of human love like that of Hosea."* George Robinson

# Hosea

- *“We have in the Book of Hosea one of the most arresting revelations of the real nature of sin, and one of the clearest interpretations of the strength of the Divine love. No one can read the story of Hosea without realizing the agony of his heart. Then, lift the human to the level of the Infinite, and know this, that sin wounds the heart of God.”*

G. Campbell Morgan

# Hosea

- *“Hosea is one of the greatest lovers in all literature. We find his love so strong that even the worst actions of an unfaithful wife could not kill it”* — Henrietta C Mears

# Hosea

- Hosea is told to marry '*a wife of whoredoms*'
- He marries Gomer and they have 3 children:
- Jezreel
  - God scatters / God sows
- Lo-ruhamah
  - No mercy
- Lo-ammi:
  - You are not my people

22 And the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall hear Jezreel.

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.

Hosea 2:22-23

- Jezreel – the gathering!
- Lo-ruhamah – No mercy now receives mercy!
- Lo-ammi – Israel will again be His people!

# The Time of Hosea's Ministry

(c.985 B.C.)

Jeroboam 22y



Nadab 2y



Baasha 24y



Elah 2y



Zimri 1wk



Tibni



Omri 12y



Ahab 22y



Ahaziah 2y



Jehoram 12y

Elijah



Elisha



Jehu 28y



Jehoahaz 17y



Joash 16y

Elisha



Jeroboam 64y **Hosea / Amos**



Zachariah 6mth



Shallum 1mth



Menahem 10y



Pekahiah 2y

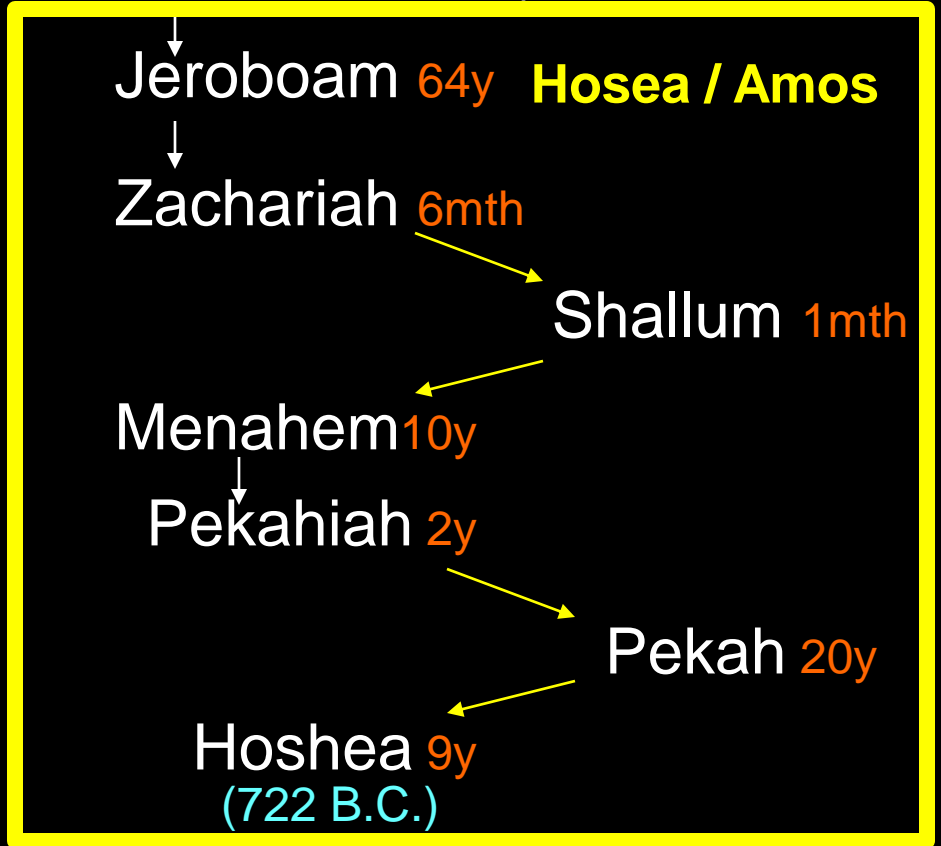


Pekah 20y



Hoshea 9y

(722 B.C.)



# Hosea

- Hosea's call & The rejection of Israel 1:1–9
- The restoration of Israel promised 1:10–2:1
- God's warning against Israel's unfaithfulness and judgment prophesied 2:2–13
- A future of blessing foretold for Israel 2:14–23
- The redemption of Hosea's wife a type of Israel's ultimate return to God Ch 3
- God's controversy with his people Ch 4–10
- In wrath, God remembers mercy Ch 11–13
- Israel urged to repent & enjoy blessing Ch 14

# Chapter 3



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Redemption of the Unfaithful

# Hosea Chapter 3

- Dr. Charles Feinberg, an outstanding Jewish believer and scholar, says of this chapter,
- *“It rightfully takes its place among the greatest prophetic pronouncements in the whole revelation of God.”*

# Hosea Chapter 3

- C. I. Scofield comments:
- *Chapter 3 is one of the classic Old Testament passages describing Israel's past present and future. Her idolatrous past is illustrated by Gomer's unfaithfulness to Hosea (v1-2) despite which Hosea is commanded to love her and buy her back 'according to the love of the Lord toward Israel' - a love which led Him to pay the purchase price of the blood of the cross to redeem Israel, the basis of her restoration. The present condition of Israel is illustrated and plainly prophesied in v 3-4. Her future is declared in v5, showing her repentance toward God who in his faithfulness will restore her.*

<sup>1</sup> 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.

**Hosea 3:1**

- God's call to Hosea is to go and love her again!
- God says this is how He has loved Israel
- Worldly love says, 'what can I get?'
- Godly love says, 'what can I give?'
- It is true of God's love for Israel... and for us!

# The Reckless Love of God

- 6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.
- 7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.
- 8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

**Romans 5:6-7**

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 3:2

- The Hebrew word is: **hrK** karah denotes  
‘purchase’ as from another
- Gomer had become a slave
- Her life was no longer her own
- In seeking to gain her life she had lost it!

# The Price of Redemption

- Gomer was put up at auction.
- There were three ways that one could become a slave:
  - by conquest;
  - by birth;
  - and by debt.
  - (We are slave by all three!)
- Slaves were always sold naked.
  - So are we.
- According to Exodus 21:32 the price for a slave was 30 shekels of silver

<sup>2</sup> So I bought her to me for fifteen pieces of silver,  
and for an homer of barley, and an half homer of  
barley:

Hosea 3:2

- The price Hosea pays is 15 (shekels) of silver
  - But that is only half the required price...
- He then adds 1 ½ homer's of barley

# The Price of Redemption

- According to *Ezekiel 45:11*, the homer contained *ten baths* or *ephahs*, and a lethech was a half homer. Consequently, the prophet gave fifteen shekels of silver and fifteen ephahs of barley; and it is a very natural supposition, especially if we refer to *2 Kings 7:1*; *2 Kings 16:18*, that *at that time an ephah of barley was worth a shekel*, in which case the whole price would just amount to the sum for which, according to *Exodus 21:32*, it was possible to purchase a slave, and was paid half in money and half in barley. – Keil & Delitzch

# The Price of Redemption

- Why is this significant?
- Firstly, note that the price was *paid in full*
- Secondly, if Hosea had possessed 30 shekels, he would no doubt have paid all in shekels
- The fact he didn't shows he gave *all he had* to purchase Gomer!
- This is what Christ has done!
- He has paid the price for Israel's (and our) redemption in full – Tetelestai!
- He gave all He had!

# The Price of Redemption

- 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:
- 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:
- 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:
- 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

**Philippians 2:5-8**

# The Price of Redemption

21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

**2 Corinthians 5:21**

<sup>3</sup> 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 3:3**

- The following verse gives us a commentary on this one...

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:

**Hosea 3:4**

- This is an incredible prophecy!
- It speaks of
  - the kingdom,
  - the coming Messiah,
  - sacrifice and therefore Temple worship
  - Idolatry
  - The priesthood

# The Throne of Israel

- From 587 B.C. Israel have been without a king
- Zedekiah was the last king of Judah
- He (and therefore the crown) were taken to Babylon
- While the Jews were in Babylon, Daniel was appointed chief of the Magi
  - a Persian sect renown for appointing kings!
- Daniel entrusted them with a secret mission
- At a specific time, they were to carry the crown back to Israel and appoint the rightful king
- Over 500 years passed, then they saw a sign!
- It was a star that led them to Israel to declare the coming of Israel's king!

# The Throne of Israel

- Although Jesus was legally a descendant of David, and therefore of the royal line...
- Although the Magi had declared him Israel's new king...
- In fulfilment of Hosea's prophecy, Jesus has not YET taken the throne of David...
- But He will!

# The Throne of Israel

- 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus.
- 32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:
- 33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

**Luke 1:31-33**

# The Throne of Israel

- 6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?
- 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

**Acts 1:6-7**

# The Throne of Israel

<sup>15</sup> And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

**Revelation 11:15**

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:

**Hosea 3:4**

- This is the same 'Prince' referred to in Daniel 9:25 'Meshach-Nagid' - 'Messiah the Prince'
- Israel have had to wait for their Messiah because of their disobedience

# The Long Wait for Messiah

37 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

38 Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

39 For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

**Matthew 23:37-39**

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:

Hosea 3:4

- Although the Jews were able to sacrifice again after they returned from Babylon,
- From A.D.70 they have not had a Temple and have not been able to sacrifice
  - A Temple will be rebuilt soon on the Temple Mt in Jerusalem and the Jews will – for a short time – be allowed to begin sacrificing again after 2000 years!

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:

Hosea 3:4

- Israel have also been 'robbed' of their idols
- Sadly, many Jews have today turned to Atheism
  - *An atheistic Jew is one who knows what the God he doesn't believe in requires of him!* - Anon

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:

**Hosea 3:4**

- The Ephod was the Linen apron worn by the high-priest

Urim and  
Thummim  
(tucked inside the  
breast piece)

Exodus 28:30



Breast piece

Ephod

Robe

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.

**Hosea 3:5**

# Israel's Future

- 14 Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.
- 15 And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written,
- 16 After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up:
- 17 That the residue of men might seek after the Lord

**Acts 15:14-17**

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.

**Hosea 3:5**

<sup>14</sup> And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.

<sup>15</sup> And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the Lord thy God.

**Amos 9:14-15**

- See also Jeremiah 30 / 33, Ezekiel 36



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*...to be continued*