

Bible Reading Notes
Hosea

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Hosea 1

Hosea's ministry was to the northern tribes of Israel in the last ten years of their existence. God used him to bring the message of judgment against Israel for their spiritual adultery.

1:4 – Jezreel – Names of the children are important in this chapter. Jezreel means "God sows."

1:6 – No Mercy – God will soon withdraw his mercy from faithless Israel.

1:9 – Not My People – Israel will no longer be called the covenant people.

1:10 – This verse is quoted by Paul in Romans 9:26 referring to God's sovereign choice of his people.

Hosea 2

2:2ff – Gomer was symbolic of Israel's spiritual adultery.

2:16-23 – The Lord lays out how the covenant relationship can be restored and the blessings that will flow.

Hosea 3

3:1 – This hard command to Hosea was designed to reveal the grace and love of God towards his covenant people.

3:2 – bought – Hosea buys (redeems) Gomer as Christ will redeem his sinful people.

Hosea 4

4:1-19 is a covenant lawsuit brought by the Lord against Israel outlining the Lord's charges against his people.

4:6 – **lack of knowledge** – Israel's priests have not taught the law of the Lord and the nation will suffer for this.

Hosea 5-7

5:8ff – This is a reference to the Syro-Ephraimatic war described in 2 Kings 15-16, when Syria and Israel joined forces against Judah.

6:6 – Jesus alludes to this verse twice in Matthew (9:13; 12:7).

6:7 – **like Adam** – Just as Adam failed to keep the Covenant of Works, so Israel has failed to be faithful to the covenant the Lord made with them.

7:2 – God's delay in judgment does not mean he is unknowing or has forgotten. The Day of Judgment is coming.

Hosea 8-10

8:1 – **vulture** – This is a reference to Assyria whom God will use to inflict his judgment upon Israel.

8:13 – Even when they bring sacrifices to the Lord, they are rejected, because they are not from the heart and are not offered in Jerusalem as the Lord had commanded.

9:7 – **have come** - Hosea's ministry ended at the time of the destruction of Samaria in 722 BC.

9:9 – days of Gibeah – In Judges 19-21 is recorded the horrendous sin of the Gibeahites in the murder of a concubine. This event resulted in the near annihilation of the male members of the tribe of Benjamin.

10:8 – Jesus refers to this verse in Luke 23:30 in reference to the final day of judgment.

Hosea 11-12

11:1 – This is quoted in Matthew 2:15 as being fully fulfilled in the life of Jesus.

11:8 – Admah...Zeboiim – According to Deuteronomy 29:23, these towns were destroyed by the Lord along with Sodom and Gomorrah.

12:2ff – indictment - God lays out his case against Israel by referring to her history from the time of Jacob to the escape from Egypt.

12:9 – appointed feast – This is a reference to the Feast of Booths (Leviticus 23).

Hosea 13-14

13:4 – I am the LORD your God – In contrast to the worthless idols (v. 1-3), the LORD is the only savior who can truly care for Israel. But he is also their judge (vv. 7-8).

13:14 – Paul quotes this verse in 1 Corinthians 15:55 in his discussion on the resurrection of Christ.

14:1-9 – Call for Israel to repent and promises of the blessings that will flow from their repentance. Unfortunately, they did not, and were taken off into captivity by Assyria in 722 BC.

