

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: May 21, 2023

Spring/Summer Series: The Minor Prophets

Text: Hosea

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. "Talk Thru the Bible" - Overview of Hosea
2. "Talk Thru the Bible" - Introduction and Title  
*During his  $\frac{1}{2}$  century of prophetic ministry, Hosea repeatedly echoes his threefold message:*
  - A. God \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of His people.
  - B. \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_; but . . . .
  - C. God's \_\_\_\_\_ stands \_\_\_\_\_.

#### HIS TIMES

1. He has been called the "\_\_\_\_\_ prophet". Why?  
He was the \_\_\_\_\_ prophet of warning to the N. K. of Israel.  
  
"What we see in the prophecy of Hosea are the last few swirls as the kingdom of Israel goes down the drain. This prophet represents God's last gracious effort to plug the drain."
2. He had a \_\_\_\_\_ career (see 1:1).  
It began *before 753 B.C.* and con't. well *after 722 B.C.* (760 to 710 B.C.)

#### BACKGROUND

Hosea lived in the tragic final days of the northern kingdom, during which six kings reigned within 25 years (2 Kings 15:8-17:41). Four (Zechariah, Shallum, Pekahiah, Pekah) were murdered by their successors while in office, the one (Hosea) was captured in battle; only one (Menahem) was succ. on the throne by his son (Pekahiah).

#### SURVEY OF HOSEA

The development of the book can be traced in two parts:

1. Hosea's Prodigal \_\_\_\_\_ (chs. 1-3)  
*The adulterous wife and faithful husband*

- A. Marriage to Gomer (ch. 1). *Representing Israel*
  - 1) Call him \_\_\_\_\_. Means "God scatters".
  - 2) Call her \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_. Means "not loved".
  - 3) Call him \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_. Means "not my people".

B. Rejection of Israel (ch. 2). *Gomer in the Background*

C. Restoration of Gomer (ch. 3). *Predictive of Israel*

2. Yahweh's Prodigal \_\_\_\_\_ (chs. 4-14)  
*The adulterous Israel and faithful Lord*

- A. Recounting Israel's Sin (chs. 4-5)  
*Spiritual apostasy = Adultery (through the worship of Baal).*
- B. Response of the LORD (chs. 6:1-14:1-3)  
*Judgment/destruction. Israel's alternative to destruction was to forsake her idols and return to the Lord (chs. 6, 14:1-3).*
- C. Return and Restoration of Israel Promised (14:4-9)  
*Yet despite God's condemnation and the harshness of language with which the unavoidable judgment was announced, the major purpose of the book is to proclaim God's compassion & love (**hesed**) that cannot—finally—let go. Heb: "**Hesed**" = **Covenant Loyalty/Faithfulness**.*

**DISTINCTIVE FEATURES**

*Five Judgment and Salvation Oracles:*

<b>Judgment</b>	<b>Salvation</b>
1:2-9	1:10-2:1
2:2-13	2:14-3:5
4:1-5:14	5:15-6:3
6:4-11:7	11:8-11
11:12-13:16	14:1-9

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