

1 The word of the Lord that came to Hosea son of Beeri, in the days of Kings Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah of Judah, and in the days of King Jeroboam son of Joash of Israel.

### The Family of Hosea

2 When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, "Go, take for yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord." <sup>3</sup> So he went and took Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

4 And the Lord said to him, "Name him Jezreel; for in a little while I will punish the house of Israel. <sup>5</sup> On that day I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel."

6 She conceived again and bore a daughter.

Then the Lord said to him, "Name her Lo-rhamah, <sup>6</sup> for I will no longer have pity on the house of Israel or forgive them. <sup>7</sup> But I will

have pity on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the Lord their God; I will not save them by bow, or by sword, or by war, or by horses, or by horsemen."

8 When she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived and bore a son. <sup>9</sup> Then the Lord said, "Name him Lo-ammi," for you are not my people and I am not your God.<sup>d</sup>

### The Restoration of Israel

10 Yet the number of the people of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which can be neither measured nor numbered; and in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God." <sup>"</sup> The people of Judah and the people of Israel shall be gathered together, and they shall appoint for themselves one head; and they shall take possession of the land, for great shall be the day of Jezreel.

2 Say to your brother, Ammi, and to your sister, Ruhamah, Israel's Infidelity, Punishment, and Redemption. <sup>2</sup> Plead with your mother, plead — for she is not my wife, and I am not her husband — that she put away her whoring from her face, and her adultery from between her breasts, <sup>3</sup> or I will strip her naked and expose her as in the day she was born, and make her like a wilderness, and turn her into a parched land, and kill her with thirst. <sup>4</sup> Upon her children also I will have no pity, because they are children of whoredom. <sup>5</sup> For their mother has played the whore; she who conceived them has acted shamefully. For she said, "I will go after my lovers; they give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink." <sup>6</sup> Therefore I will hedge up her way with thorns; and I will build a wall against her, so that she cannot find her paths. <sup>7</sup> She shall pursue her lovers, but not

overtake them; and she shall seek them, but shall not find them. Then she shall say, "I will go and return to my first husband, for it was better with me then than now."<sup>8</sup> She did not know that it was I who gave her the grain, the wine, and the oil, and who lavished upon her silver and gold that they used for Baal.<sup>9</sup> Therefore I will take back my grain in its time, and my wine in its season; and I will take away my wool and my flax, which were to cover her nakedness.<sup>10</sup> Now I will uncover her shame in the sight of her lovers, and no one shall rescue her out of my hand.<sup>11</sup> I will put an end to all her mirth, her festivals, her new moons, her sabbaths, and all her appointed festivals.<sup>12</sup> I will lay waste her vines and her fig trees, of which she said, "These are my pay, which my lovers have given me." I will make them a forest, and the wild animals shall devour them.<sup>13</sup> I will punish her for the

festival days of the Baals, when she offered incense to them and decked herself with her ring and jewelry, and went after her lovers, and forgot me, says the Lord. <sup>14</sup> Therefore, I will now allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her. <sup>15</sup> From there I will give her her vineyards, and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. There she shall respond as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.

<sup>16</sup> On that day, says the Lord, you will call me, "My husband," and no longer will you call me, "My Baal." <sup>17</sup> For I will remove the names of the Baals from her mouth, and they shall be mentioned by name no more.

<sup>18</sup> I will make for you a covenant on that day with the wild animals, the birds of the air, and the creeping things of the ground; and I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land; and I will make you lie

down in safety.<sup>19</sup> And I will take you for my wife forever; & will take you for my wife in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love, and in mercy.<sup>20</sup> I will take you for my wife in faithfulness; and you shall know the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> On that day I will answer, says the Lord, I will answer the heavens and they shall answer the earth;<sup>22</sup> and the earth shall answer the grain, the wine, and the oil, and they shall answer Jezreel;<sup>23</sup> and I will sow him for myself in the land. And I will have pity on Lo-rehamah, and I will say to Lo-ammi, "You are my people"; and he shall say, "You are my God."

1. 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  
looks to other gods, and love flagons of wine

2. So I bought her to me for fifteen pieces  
of silver, and for an homer of barley,  
and an half homer of barley: <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. <sup>4.</sup> For the children of Israel shall abide  
many days without a King, and without a prince,  
and without sacrifice, and without an image,  
and without an ephod, and without teraphim:

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.

- 1 Hear the word of the Lord, ye children of Israel: for the Lord hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.
2. By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood.
3. Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away. 4. Yet let no man strive, nor reprove another: for they people are as they that strive with the priest 5. Therefore shall thou fall in the day, and the prophet also shall fall with thee in the night, and I will destroy thy mother. 6. My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will Handwritten Bible

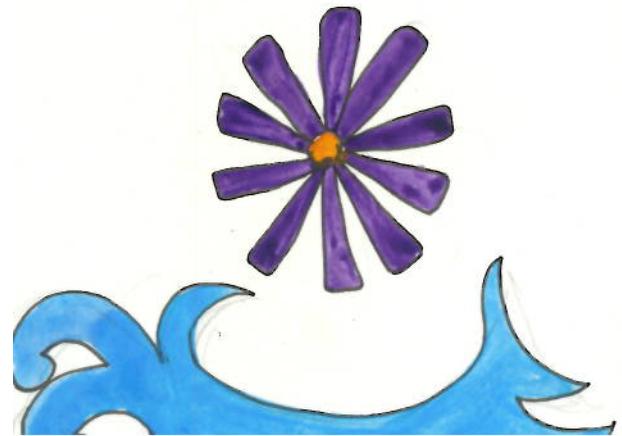
also forgot thy children. 7. As they were increased, so they sinned against me: therefore will I change their glory unto shame. 8. They eat up the sin of my people, and they set their heart on their iniquity. 9. And there shall be, like people, like priest: and I will punish them for their ways, and reward them their doings. 10. For they shall eat, and not have enough: they shall commit whoredom, and shall not increase: because they have left off to take heed to the Lord. 11. Whoredom and wine and new wine take away the heart. 12. My people ask counsel at their stocks, and their staff declareth unto them: for the spirit of whoredoms hath caused them to err, and they have gone a whoring from under their God. 13. They sacrifice upon the tops of mountains, and burn incense upon the hills, under oaks and poplars and elms, because the shadow thereof is good: therefore your daughters shall commit whoredom and your spouses shall commit adultery. 14. I will not punish your daughters when they commit whoredom, nor your spouses

When they commit adultery: for themselves are separated with whores, and they sacrifice with harlots: therefore the people that doth not understand shall fall.<sup>15</sup> Though thou, Israel, play the harlot, yet let not Judah offend; and come not ye unto Gilgal, neither go ye up to Bethaven, nor swear, The Lord liveth.<sup>16</sup> For Israel slideth back as a backsliding heifer: now the Lord will feed them as a lamb in a large place. 17. Ephraim is joined to idols: let him alone. 18. Their drink is sour: they have committed whoredom continually: her rulers with shame do love, Give ye. 19. The wind hath bound her up in her wings, and they shall be ashamed because of their sacrifices.



# Chapter

5



## Hosea Chapter 5

Wokingham Methodist

1 "Listen to this, you priests! Pay attention, people of Israel! Listen, you that belong to the royal family! You are supposed to judge with justice - so judgement will fall on you! You have become a trap at Mizpah, a net spread on Mount Tabor;<sup>2</sup> a deep pit at Acacia City, and I will punish all of you.<sup>3</sup> I know what Israel is like - she cannot hide from me. She has been unfaithful, and her people are unfit to worship me."<sup>4</sup> The evil that the people have done prevents them from returning to their God. Idolatry has a powerful hold on them, and they do not acknowledge the Lord.<sup>5</sup> The arrogance of the people of Israel cries out against them. Their sins make them stumble and fall, and the people of Judah fall with them.<sup>6</sup>

They take their sheep and cattle to offer as sacrifices to the Lord, but it does them no good. They cannot find him, for he has left them.<sup>7</sup> They have been unfaithful to the LORD; their children do not belong to him. So now they and their lands will soon be destroyed.

8

Blow the war trumpets in Gibeah! Sound the alarm in Ramah!

Raise the war cry at Bethaven! Into battle, men of Benjamin!

<sup>9</sup> "The day of punishment is coming, and Israel will be ruined. People of Israel, this will surely happen!"

<sup>10</sup> "The Lord says, 'I am angry because the leaders of Judah have invaded Israel and stolen land from her. So I will pour out punishment on them like a flood.'" Israel is suffering oppression;

she has lost land that was rightfully hers, because she insisted on going for help to those who had none to give.

<sup>12</sup> "I will bring destruction on Israel and ruin

<sup>13</sup> on the people of Judah. When Israel saw how sick she was and when Judah saw her own wounds, then Israel went to Assyria to ask the great emperor for help, but he

could not cure them or heal their wounds.

<sup>14</sup> "I will attack the people of Israel and Judah like a lion.

I myself will tear them to pieces and then leave them.

When I drag them off, no one will be able to save them.

<sup>15</sup> "I will abandon my people until they have suffered enough for their sins and come looking for me.

Hosea Chapter 5

S.E. Berkshire  
Wokingham Methodist

Perhaps in their suffering they will try to find me."

# HOSBA Chapter 6

## Hosea 6

The Church of  
The Good Shepherd  
Hampstead.

"Come, let us return to the Lord; for it is He who has torn, and He will heal us; He has struck down, and He will bind us up.

After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him.

Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth.

What shall I do with you, Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud<sup>do with</sup>; cloud like the dew~~goes~~  
<sup>5</sup>that goes away early

Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have killed them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light.

- ⑥ For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice , the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.
- ⑦ But at Adam they transgressed the covenant; <sup>there</sup> they dealt faithlessly with me.
- ⑧ Gilead is a city of evildoers, tracked with blood.
- ⑨ As robbers lie in wait for someone , so the priests are banded together ; they murder on the road to Schemem, they commit a monstrous crime
- ⑩ In the house of Israel I have seen a horrible thing; Ephraim's whoredom is there, Israel is defiled.
- ⑪ For you also, O Judah, a harvest is appointed. When I would restore the fortunes of my people,

# HOSEA 7

36

# GIBRALTAR



I WOULD HAVE  
HEALED YOU!



HEALED YOU!



- 1 When I would have Israel, the corruption of Ephraim is revealed, and the wicked deeds of Samaria; for they deal falsely, and the thief breaks in, and the bandits raid outside.
2. But they do not consider that I remember all their wickedness. Now their deeds surround them, they are before my face.
3. By their wickedness they make the king glad, and the officials by their treachery.
- 4 They are all adulterers; they are like a heated oven, whose baker does not need to stir the fire, from the kneading of the dough until it is leavened.
5. On the day of our king the officials became sick with the heat of wine; he stretched out his hand with mockers.
- 6 For they are kindled like an oven, their hearts burn within them; all night their anger smolders, in the morning it blazes like a flaming fire.
7. All of them are hot as an oven, and they devour their rulers. All their kings have fallen;

none of them calls upon me.

8. Ephraim mixes himself with the peoples;  
Ephraim is a cake not turned.

9. Forgiveness devours his strength, but he  
does not know it; gray hairs are  
sprinkled upon him, but he does not  
know it.

10. Israel's pride testifies against him; yet they do not  
return to the Lord their God, or seek him, for all this.

11. Ephraim has become like a dove,  
silly and without sense; they  
call upon Egypt, they go to Assyria.

12. As they go, I will cast my net over  
them; I will bring them down like  
birds of the air; I will discipline  
them according to the report made to  
their assembly.

13 Woe to them, for they have strayed from me!

Destruction to them, for they have rebelled against me! I would redeem them, but they speak lies against me.

14 They do not cry to me from the heart, but they wail upon their beds; they gash themselves for grain and wine; they rebel against me.

15 It was I who trained and strengthened their arms, yet they plot evil against me.

16 They turn to that which does not profit; they have become like a defective bow; their officials shall fall by the sword because of the rage of their tongue.

So much for their babbling in the land of Egypt.