

I Can See Clearly Now:
Chapter #3

The Prophet Hosea

Time of ministry 753 – 715 B.C.

Author:

The prophet Hosea was a prophet to the Northern Kingdom of Israel; his prophesy was most likely delivered in Judah before the fall of the Northern capital in 722 B.C.

Almost nothing is known about the prophet other than what is recorded in his prophesy. He may have authored this book that fact is also not known. Hosea was a contemporary of Amos, Isaiah, and Micah who were also called by *Father God* to warn the Hebrew people of their coming Judgment.

Hosea was directed by *Father God* to go and take the woman *Gomer* as a wife, a woman who was known to have a loose moral reputation.

Hosea's wife *Gomer* would then betray him by being *Unfaithful* to him and conceive *Illegitimate* children by her acts of *sinful Adulterous Prostitution*.

The Prophesy:

The prophet Hosea was given a mission by *Father God* that would *Test* the faith and internal strength of any man. Who in their right mind would deliberately choose a woman for his wife that will bring him guaranteed *humiliation suffering and pain*?

Hosea was a faithful *God-fearing* man who would do the will of *Yahweh* without question and not think about what the outcome might be.

This arranged marriage that was destined to fail had a *powerful message* for the *sinful* people of Israel and Judah. This painful *sin damaged* marriage was used to illustrate *Father God's* even more *Damaged and Painful* experience with --- *His Chosen People*.

Father God's Children would see by comparison how *Offended and Deeply Hurt* *Yahweh* was by their *unfaithful worshiping of pagan gods*. *The LORD God* was *Sickened* by the *sinful* act of their *Disobedient Unlawful and Unfaithful --- Pagan idol worship!*

The Chosen People had become as repulsive as the *Unfaithful* wife who would prostitute herself with no regard for her husband's feelings.

The *sinful Children of Abraham* would be subjected to *Father God's* stern and painful Judgment because they were offering *Pagan worship to false gods*.

The Hebrew people were being *Unfaithful to God*, behaving just as *Hosea's* wife *Gomer* did by *sinfully* offering her body to other men for pleasure and financial gain.

In the last part of this prophesy, we will see if *Gomer* would "*Repent*" (turn away from sin) and stop being *Unfaithful to Hosea*, she could be "*Forgiven*" and brought to total *Restoration* with her husband and family.

Just like *Unfaithful Gomer* the *sinful* Hebrew people in Israel could be "*Forgiven*" and *Restored* as *Father God's Children* if they would *Repent* and *Return* to worshiping only --- *Yahweh!*

Hosea 1:1– (NLT)

The Kings of Israel and Juda

The LORD gave this message to Hosea son of Beeri during the years when Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah were kings of Judah, and Jeroboam son of Jehoash was king of Israel.

Hosea’s Wife and Children

² *When the LORD first began speaking to Israel through Hosea, he said to him, “Go and marry a prostitute, so that some of her children will be conceived in prostitution. This will illustrate how Israel has acted like a prostitute by turning against the LORD and worshiping other gods.”*

³ *So Hosea married Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she became pregnant and gave Hosea a son. ⁴ And the LORD said, “Name the child Jezreel, for I am about to punish King Jehu’s dynasty to avenge the murders he committed at Jezreel. In fact, I will bring an end to Israel’s independence. ⁵ I will break its military power in the Jezreel Valley.”*

⁶ *Soon Gomer became pregnant again and gave birth to a daughter. And the LORD said to Hosea, “Name your daughter Lo-ruhamah—‘Not loved’—for I will no longer show love to the people of Israel or forgive them. ⁷ But I will show love to the people of Judah. I will free them from their enemies—not with weapons and armies or horses and charioteers, but by my power as the LORD their God.”*

⁸ *After Gomer had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she again became pregnant and gave birth to a second son. ⁹ And the LORD said, “Name him Lo-ammi—‘Not my people’—for Israel is not my people, and I am not their God.*

¹⁰ *“Yet the time will come when Israel’s people will be like the sands of the seashore—too many to count! Then, at the place where they were told, ‘You are not my people,’ it will be said, ‘You are children of the living God.’ ¹¹ Then the people of Judah and Israel will unite together. They will choose one leader for themselves, and they will return from exile together. What a day that will be—the day of Jezreel—when God will again plant his people in his land.*

^{2:1} *“In that day you will call your brothers Ammi—‘My people.’ And you will call your sisters Ruhamah—‘The ones I love.’*

Comments on Hosea 1:1

The Kings of Israel and Juda

The introduction of this book starts with a list of kings of Juda and the Northern Kingdom of Israel. A closer look at the kings and how they were regarded by *Father God* will give us some insight, an idea why the *troubling prophesy* of Hosea was delivered to Israel first.

1 Samuel 8:4–9 (NLT)

Israel Requests A King

⁴ *Finally, all the elders of Israel met at Ramah to discuss the matter with Samuel. ⁵ “Look,” they told him, “you are now old, and your sons are not like you. Give us a king to judge us like all the other nations have.”*

⁶ *Samuel was displeased with their request and went to the LORD for guidance. ⁷ “Do everything they say to you,” the LORD replied, “for they are rejecting me, not you. They don’t want me to be their king any longer. ⁸ Ever since I brought them from Egypt they have*

continually abandoned me and followed other gods. And now they are giving you the same treatment. ⁹Do as they ask, but solemnly warn them about the way a king will reign over them.”

The list of kings of Juda at the time of Hosea’s prophesy were Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah.

First, we will look at King Uzziah, it is recorded in the Bible that Uzziah did what was pleasing in the *LORD’s* sight just as his father Amaziah had done, but he did not destroy the Pagan shrines. The next king listed was King Jotham the son of Uzziah, it is recorded that he did what was correct and was found to be pleasing in the sight of the *LORD*, but he also did not destroy the Pagan shrines and idols, he was following in his father’s footsteps.

He did however rebuild the upper gate of the *Temple of The LORD*.

Next in line to be king is King Ahaz, the *Holy Bible* records that this king of Juda did not do what was *pleasing* in the sight of the *LORD God*.

King Ahaz removed silver and gold from the palace treasury to pay “tribute” (protection money) to the Assyrian king so that his armies would protect Juda from the armies of Aram and Israel.

The final king of Juda listed is King Hezekiah son of Ahaz, the Bible records that he did what was *pleasing* in the *LORD’s* sight, just as his ancestor *King David* had done.

He removed the *Pagan shrines* and destroyed the *Pagan* objects of worship including the “*Bronze Serpent*” that Moses had made, because the *sinful Jews* had started worshipping the *bronze serpent* as a *Pagan idol*.

The king of Israel during this period of time was *King Jeroboam* son of *Jehoash*, he was a wealthy landowner before he became king of Israel. *Jeroboam* also had an *unhealthy ambition* to increase his power and wealth with an army and war.

When *Jeroboam* returned to Israel from fighting in Egypt the people made him king over all Israel. The Hebrew people made *Jeroboam* king of Israel not the *True King Maker Yahweh*, this was a *sinful act of Disrespect*. This *unlawful act* by the people of Israel made the tribe of Juda the only tribe that remained loyal to the family of *King David*.

The *Bible books* of *Kings 1&2* list the kings of both Juda and Israel. When you compare the list of kings that ruled Juda, they were for the most part kings that were described as *pleasing* in the sight of *The LORD*.

Israel’s kings were on the other hand described by *Father God* as more *corrupt* and *sinful*, when compared to the kings of Juda.

Regretfully both Juda and Israel were on the *wrong path* when it came to the question of how to live a *Biblically* correct life of worship and “*Respect*” that followed *The Written Law* and *Covenant Moses* made with *Father God* on *Mount Sanai*, --- *The Ten Commandments!*

It was Israel and the people of the Northern Kingdom that had *drifted off* the correct path of *Obedience* the most so they would be Judged by *The Righteous Father God* first.

Comments on Hosea 1:2-9:

Hosea’s Wife and Children

The *All-Knowing Father God* had a *tough job* for the prophet Hosea, a *painful job* that would make any man cringe and be *Repulsed* by the thought of what was to come.

The LORD, God had an urgent message for the people of Israel that must be delivered, and the *Prophet Hosea* was chosen to be *Father God's* method of delivery.

Hosea was instructed by *Yahweh* to go and marry a woman named *Gomer*, a woman with a loose moral reputation so that some of *Gomer's* children could be *conceived* in the very act of *sinful* prostitution.

This *unholy marriage* was allowed by *Yahweh* to demonstrate how Israel was acting like a *sinful prostitute* when they turned their backs on *Father God* by worshiping *false Pagan gods*.

They were also breaking *His Law* and replacing it with *manmade law* when they worshiped *false gods* by having sex with *Pagan Temple prostitutes*, and then called this *sin* worship.

The prophet Hosea was obedient to his *LORD* and he married *Gomer*, she then became pregnant and gave Hosea a son. *The LORD* told the prophet to name the child *Jezreel*.

This name *Jezreel* refers to the massacre by *Jehu* at "*Jezreel of Issachar*" (The valley of Armageddon). This name *Jezreel* also indicates the coming Judgement of *Jehu*, the destruction of his army and his dynasty at the *valley of Armageddon*.

At this *valley of judgement*, the military power of Israel will be crushed, and they will lose their independence due to the *sinful act* of depending on *military power* not the "*True Power*" of the *Eternal God* --- *Yahweh!*

Note:

Also see (Revelation 16:14-16), The Valley of Armageddon will be the place where all who battle against the LORD, of Heavens Armies will be Defeated and Destroyed!

Psalms 14:1-7 (NLT)

Jacob Will Shout With Joy!

¹ *Only fools say in their hearts,
"There is no God."*

*They are corrupt, and their actions are evil;
not one of them does good!*

² *The LORD looks down from heaven
on the entire human race;
he looks to see if anyone is truly wise,
if anyone seeks God.*

³ *But no, all have turned away;
all have become corrupt.*

*No one does good,
not a single one!*

⁴ *Will those who do evil never learn?
They eat up my people like bread
and wouldn't think of praying to the LORD.*

⁵ *Terror will grip them,
for God is with those who obey him.*

⁶ *The wicked frustrate the plans of the oppressed,
but the LORD will protect his people.*

⁷ *Who will come from Mount Zion to rescue Israel?
When the LORD restores his people,
Jacob will shout with joy, and Israel will rejoice.*

Soon after the birth of Jezreel, Gomer gave birth to a girl then the LORD instructed Hosea to name his daughter *Lo-ruhamah*- "Not Loved"- for Yahweh will no longer show *His Love* to the people of Israel or "Forgive" them.

The painful *Judgement* on Israel will not be the same for the people of *Juda* "at this time", *Juda* will be freed from their enemies *Loved* and *Protected* by *The Power* of --- *The Great* --- "I AM". *Father God* will not use weapons or an army to protect *Juda*, *He* will use *His Own Protective Power* because *He* is their --- *LORD*, and *God*!

Soon after *Gomer* had weaned her son *Lo-ruhamah*, she gave birth to a second son for *Hosea*. *The LORD* again told *Hosea* to give his son the name *Lo-ammi*- "Not My People" – for Israel is no longer my people, because I am not their --- *God*!

This "Condemning" statement by *Father God* must have *knocked back* the heads of the *Proud* and *Arrogant* Jews of Israel that thought they had it all going for them.

They had *Great Material Wealth* and *Power* much more than the Hebrew people of *Juda*, how could they be so *wrong*?

The *Hebrew* people in Israel were *Sinfully Blinded* to the *Painful* reason they were called "Not My People" by --- *Yahweh*!

The reason for *Yahweh's* "Anger" was the *sinful* "man-made" laws the *Hebrews* in Israel were following. The "man-made" laws were not the *Written Laws* of the *Covenant Moses* made with *Father God*, now the "Righteous" *Father God* must "Punish" *His sinful children* for *Breaking* that *Holy Covenant*!

Comments on Hosea 1:10-11:

The Promised Return!

This last part of *Chapter #1* is a look forward in time to a "Joyous Time" that will come, an event in time that has been recorded in the *Holy Bible Old* and *New Testaments*.

The *Biblically* promised "Return" of all the *Hebrew* people to *The Land of Promise* is the *Guarantee* the "Chosen People" will be *Replanted* in their original home by *Father God*.

This first event of the *Hebrew* people's "Return" has already taken place in the year 1948 A.D.

This was the date in time when *The Nation of Israel* was *Replanted Reestablished* as a *Sovran Nation*, it is now the *Eternal Home- Land* of the *Hebrew* people.

1948 A.D. was just the start, at a time that will someday come the world will see "The Millennial Age" and then "The New Jerusalem" the *Children of Abraham* will number greater than the grains of sand on the seashore.

This will be a time when all *God's Children* Jew and Gentile will be *Children of Abraham* and --- *The Ones He Loves!*

Chapter #2

Charges Against an Unfaithful Wife!

Hosea 2:1-13 (NLT)

¹ *"In that day you will call your brothers Ammi—'My people.' And you will call your sisters Ruhamah—'The ones I love.'*

² *"But now bring charges against Israel—your mother—
for she is no longer my wife,
and I am no longer her husband.*

*Tell her to remove the prostitute's makeup from her face
and the clothing that exposes her breasts.*

³ *Otherwise, I will strip her as naked
as she was on the day she was born.*

*I will leave her to die of thirst,
as in a dry and barren wilderness.*

⁴ *And I will not love her children,
for they were conceived in prostitution.*

⁵ *Their mother is a shameless prostitute
and became pregnant in a shameful way.*

*She said, 'I'll run after other lovers
and sell myself to them for food and water,
for clothing of wool and linen,
and for olive oil and drinks.'*

⁶ *"For this reason I will fence her in with thornbushes.
I will block her path with a wall
to make her lose her way.*

⁷ *When she runs after her lovers,
she won't be able to catch them.*

*She will search for them
but not find them.*

*Then she will think,
'I might as well return to my husband,
for I was better off with him than I am now.'*

⁸ *She doesn't realize it was I who gave her everything she has—
the grain, the new wine, the olive oil;*

*I even gave her silver and gold.
But she gave all my gifts to Baal.*

⁹ *"But now I will take back the ripened grain and new wine
I generously provided each harvest season.*

I will take away the wool and linen clothing

I gave her to cover her nakedness.
¹⁰ *I will strip her naked in public,
 while all her lovers look on.*
*No one will be able
 to rescue her from my hands.*
¹¹ *I will put an end to her annual festivals,
 her new moon celebrations, and her Sabbath days—
 all her appointed festivals.*
¹² *I will destroy her grapevines and fig trees,
 things she claims her lovers gave her.*
*I will let them grow into tangled thickets,
 where only wild animals will eat the fruit.*
¹³ *I will punish her for all those times
 when she burned incense to her images of Baal,
 when she put on her earrings and jewels
 and went out to look for her lovers
 but forgot all about me,”*
says the LORD.

Comments on Hosea 2:1-13

Charges Against an Unfaithful Wife

In *Chapter #2* Father God notes all the ways that Israel has been acting like an “*Unfaithful Wife*”!

Yahweh will because of this “*Spiritual Adultery*” “*Divorce*” Israel for her *sinful* actions, *God* will then “*Abandon*” her to die in the wilderness and not show *His Love* to her children.

With Israel’s attempt to replace the *Provision* and *Protection* of *Father God* by going out to *worship false gods* they have now become “*Spiritual*” *Prostitutes*!

This *sin* will not go *unnoticed* this “*Foolish*” *sinful* attempt to *Replace* or *Supplement* *Yahweh’s Loving Gift’s* will be stopped by *Father God’s --- Mighty Power*!

God will remove all *His* provision of food and clothing from Israel stripping them in public for all the world to see their *sinful nakedness*!

Father God will put an end to all the *celebrations* and *festivals* they once lived for, the sweet grapes and figs will soon become food for the wild animals.

This public *Humiliation* and *Poverty* will be the “*Righteous*” punishment for all the times that the *Hebrew people* in Israel committed “*Adulterous*” *sin* by *worshipping false gods*, they have turned their backs on *The True God---* *Yahweh*!

Hosea 2:14–23 (NLT)

The LORD’s Love for Unfaithful Israel

¹⁴ *“But then I will win her back once again.
 I will lead her into the desert
 and speak tenderly to her there.*

- ¹⁵ *I will return her vineyards to her
and transform the Valley of Trouble into a gateway of hope.
She will give herself to me there,
as she did long ago when she was young,
when I freed her from her captivity in Egypt.*
- ¹⁶ *When that day comes," says the LORD,
"you will call me 'my husband'
instead of 'my master.'*
- ¹⁷ *O Israel, I will wipe the many names of Baal from your lips,
and you will never mention them again.*
- ¹⁸ *On that day I will make a covenant
with all the wild animals and the birds of the sky
and the animals that scurry along the ground
so they will not harm you.
I will remove all weapons of war from the land,
all swords and bows,
so you can live unafraid
in peace and safety.*
- ¹⁹ *I will make you my wife forever,
showing you righteousness and justice,
unfailing love and compassion.*
- ²⁰ *I will be faithful to you and make you mine,
and you will finally know me as the LORD.*
- ²¹ *"In that day, I will answer,"
says the LORD.
"I will answer the sky as it pleads for clouds.
And the sky will answer the earth with rain.*
- ²² *Then the earth will answer the thirsty cries
of the grain, the grapevines, and the olive trees.
And they in turn will answer,
'Jezreel'—'God plants!'*
- ²³ *At that time I will plant a crop of Israelites
and raise them for myself.
I will show love
to those I called 'Not loved.'
And to those I called 'Not my people,'
I will say, 'Now you are my people.'
And they will reply, 'You are our God!' "*

Comments on Hosea 2:14-23

The LORD's Love for Unfaithful Israel!

The LORD tells His “Unfaithful” wife Israel that He will with Love lead her into the desert as her ancestors were in the past when they were “Freed” from captivity and slavery in “Egypt” (sin). This is where the “Valley of Trouble” will become “The Gateway of Hope”, where “she” (Israel) will “Repent”, and then she will call Yahweh “My Husband” instead of master.

At verse #17 the prophesy looks forward and becomes a prediction of a “Glorious” event that will happen in the distant future. This event would seem to be the “Millennial Age” the One-Thousand-Year period when all the earth will be a “World of Peace” with no danger from nature or mankind.

This will be the Earthly Garden where Father God will plant a “New Crop” of Children of God and raise them for Himself. Father God will show His “Total” Love to the people He once called “Not Loved” and “Not My People”, then Yahweh will say --- “Now you are my people” and they will say --- “You are our God”!

Chapter #3

Hosea 3:1–5 (NLT)

Hosea’s Wife Is Redeemed!

Then the LORD said to me, “Go and love your wife again, even though she commits adultery with another lover. This will illustrate that the LORD still loves Israel, even though the people have turned to other gods and love to worship them.”

² So I bought her back for fifteen pieces of silver and five bushels of barley and a measure of wine. ³ Then I said to her, “You must live in my house for many days and stop your prostitution. During this time, you will not have sexual relations with anyone, not even with me.”

⁴ This shows that Israel will go a long time without a king or prince, and without sacrifices, sacred pillars, priests, or even idols! ⁵ But afterward the people will return and devote themselves to the LORD their God and to David’s descendant, their king. In the last days, they will tremble in awe of the LORD and of his goodness.

Comments on *Hosea 3:1-5*

Hosea’s Wife is Redeemed

Hosea’s public Humiliation and his painful marriage to Gomer was allowed to take place by Father God so that Hosea’s “Heart Break” and Pain would become a Living Illustration of Hebrew Parallelism.

The prophesy of Hosea would document how his personal life and “Pain” could be used to “Expose” how the Hebrew people “Father God’s Chosen People” have committed “Spiritual Adultery” with the sinful worship of false god’s and Pagan idol’s!

The sinful Hebrews will see a clear “mirror reflection” of their sins in the documented life of the Unfaithful Wife Gomer when she worked as an Adulterous Prostitute on the streets of Israel. Thankfully, we as sinful humans have an Eternal God who “Loves” us more than we can ever start to understand, Yahweh will now show --- “The True Depth of His Love”.

Jeremiah 31:3–6 (NLT)

³ Long ago the LORD said to Israel:
 "I have loved you, my people, with an everlasting love.
 With unfailing love I have drawn you to myself.
⁴ I will rebuild you, my virgin Israel.
 You will again be happy
 and dance merrily with your tambourines.
⁵ Again you will plant your vineyards on the mountains of Samaria
 and eat from your own gardens there.
⁶ The day will come when watchmen will shout
 from the hill country of Ephraim,
 'Come, let us go up to Jerusalem
 to worship the LORD our God.' "

In Hosea chapter #3 Father God tells the Prophet Hosea to go and love your wife again, "pay the price" that is required to set her "Free" then forget about her *Infidelity*, forgive her *sinful Adulterous acts*.

The *Eternally Merciful Father God* will use Hosea's Love Gift of "Redemption" and "Total Forgiveness" of his *Unfaithful wife Gomer* and "Expose" how *Yahweh's "Love Gift"* is *Greater and Superior* to the *unforgiving Hebrew man-made laws*.

This *Uncompromising Comparison* will visibly demonstrate to the *sinful Hebrew people* how *Father God's Love* is an "Eternal Love" that is far above the laws of man.

Psalm 119:97–102 (NLT)

Mem

⁹⁷ Oh, how I love your instructions!
 I think about them all day long.
⁹⁸ Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,
 for they are my constant guide.
⁹⁹ Yes, I have more insight than my teachers,
 for I am always thinking of your laws.
¹⁰⁰ I am even wiser than my elders,
 for I have kept your commandments.
¹⁰¹ I have refused to walk on any evil path,
 so that I may remain obedient to your word.
¹⁰² I haven't turned away from your regulations,
 for you have taught me well.

The LORD God is willing to offer *His Loving Redemption and Forgiveness* to *His sinful Hebrew children* who have turned their backs on *Him* and have chosen to commit "*Spiritual Adultery*" by worshiping *idols* and *false Pagan god's*.

Father God then explains how *He* will be willing to pay a "*Very High Price*" to buy back *His "Unfaithful" wife* (The Children of Abraham), but first there must be an "*Observable*" act of "*Repentance*" (The act of turning away from a life of sin.)

The additional cost for this *sinful Unfaithfulness* will be a long period of time where the *Hebrew* people will be without *Pagan idols*, a *king* or even a *Temple* to worship *Yahweh* and offer their sacrifices.

Hosea 3:5 (NLT)

Return!

⁵ *But afterward the people will return and devote themselves to the LORD their God and to David's descendant, their king. In the last days, they will tremble in awe of the LORD and of his goodness.*

Then after this long period of *Spiritual Famine* they will "*Repent*" Return and worship *The True God, Father God* and "*The Messiah*" --- *Jesus Christ!*

Isaiah 53:3–6 (NLT)

681 B.C.

The Messiah

³ *He was despised and rejected—*

a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief.

We turned our backs on him and looked the other way.

He was despised, and we did not care.

⁴ *Yet it was our weaknesses he carried;*

it was our sorrows that weighed him down.

And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God,

a punishment for his own sins!

⁵ *But he was pierced for our rebellion,*

crushed for our sins.

He was beaten so we could be whole.

He was whipped so we could be healed.

⁶ *All of us, like sheep, have strayed away.*

We have left God's paths to follow our own.

Yet the LORD laid on him

the sins of us all.

In the *last days* of our planet earth the *Repentant* and *Redeemed* "*Children of Abraham*" will "*Tremble*" in awe of --- *The LORD*, and of *His Goodness!*

Hosea 4:1–19 (NLT)

The LORD's Case against Israel

¹ *Hear the word of the LORD, O people of Israel!*

The LORD has brought charges against you, saying:

"There is no faithfulness, no kindness,

no knowledge of God in your land.

² *You make vows and break them;*

you kill and steal and commit adultery.

*There is violence everywhere—
one murder after another.*

³ *That is why your land is in mourning,
and everyone is wasting away.*

*Even the wild animals, the birds of the sky,
and the fish of the sea are disappearing.*

⁴ *“Don’t point your finger at someone else
and try to pass the blame!*

*My complaint, you priests,
is with you.*

⁵ *So you will stumble in broad daylight,
and your false prophets will fall with you in the night.
And I will destroy Israel, your mother.*

⁶ *My people are being destroyed
because they don’t know me.*

*Since you priests refuse to know me,
I refuse to recognize you as my priests.*

*Since you have forgotten the laws of your God,
I will forget to bless your children.*

⁷ *The more priests there are,
the more they sin against me.*

*They have exchanged the glory of God
for the shame of idols.*

⁸ *“When the people bring their sin offerings, the priests get fed.
So the priests are glad when the people sin!*

⁹ *‘And what the priests do, the people also do.’
So now I will punish both priests and people
for their wicked deeds.*

¹⁰ *They will eat and still be hungry.*

*They will play the prostitute and gain nothing from it,
for they have deserted the LORD*

¹¹ *to worship other gods.*

*“Wine has robbed my people
of their understanding.*

¹² *They ask a piece of wood for advice!*

They think a stick can tell them the future!

Longing after idols

has made them foolish.

*They have played the prostitute,
serving other gods and deserting their God.*

¹³ *They offer sacrifices to idols on the mountaintops.*

They go up into the hills to burn incense

in the pleasant shade of oaks, poplars, and terebinth trees.
“That is why your daughters turn to prostitution,
and your daughters-in-law commit adultery.
¹⁴ *But why should I punish them*
for their prostitution and adultery?
For your men are doing the same thing,
sinning with whores and shrine prostitutes.
O foolish people! You refuse to understand,
so you will be destroyed.

¹⁵ *“Though you, Israel, are a prostitute,*
may Judah not be guilty of such things.
Do not join the false worship at Gilgal or Beth-aven,
and do not take oaths there in the LORD’s name.

¹⁶ *Israel is stubborn,*
like a stubborn heifer.
So should the LORD feed her
like a lamb in a lush pasture?

¹⁷ *Leave Israel alone,*
because she is married to idolatry.

¹⁸ *When the rulers of Israel finish their drinking,*
off they go to find some prostitutes.
They love shame more than honor.

¹⁹ *So a mighty wind will sweep them away.*
Their sacrifices to idols will bring them shame.

Comments on Hosea 4:1-19

The LORD’s Case against Israel

In *Chapter #4*, *Father God* who is the *Only Righteous Judge* of all mankind brings *His* charges against Israel.

Yahweh through the prophesy of *Hosea* documents clearly to the Hebrew people a long list of *sinful acts* that “*Totally*” ignore all *Eternal God’s* --- *Ten Commandments*.

The *Ten Commandments* were and are “*Commandments*” from *Father God* not *suggestions*, the *sinful* people of Israel have succeeded in “*Breaking*” all “*Ten*” of *Father God’s* --- *Commandments!*

Prior to *Father God’s* punishing *Judgement*, *He* documents in writing all of Israel’s *Willful Disregard* for *His Law* and the *Holy Convent* *He* made with *Moses* and *His Chosen People*.

This *Powerful* written and spoken *Warning* was delivered to the *sinful* Hebrew people of Israel by the *Prophet of God Hosea*.

Psalm 121:1–8 (NLT)

God The Help of Those Who Seek Him

¹ *I look up to the mountains—*
does my help come from there?

² My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth!

³ He will not let you stumble;
the one who watches over you will not slumber.

⁴ Indeed, he who watches over Israel
never slumbers or sleeps.

⁵ The LORD himself watches over you!
The LORD stands beside you as your protective shade.

⁶ The sun will not harm you by day,
nor the moon at night.

⁷ The LORD keeps you from all harm
and watches over your life.

⁸ The LORD keeps watch over you as you come and go,
both now and forever.

The first charge against Israel is that they were not “Faithful” to *The Eternal God Yahweh*, sinning with “No Knowledge” of --- “Who Father God Is”!

The translation of the original language or the Hebrew language to English at times does not always deliver the full and complete *depth of meaning* that the original text does.

This translation problem is relevant in this translation of the prophesy of *Hosea* and needs to be explained with more information.

In Hosea 4:1 “There is no faithfulness, no kindness, no knowledge of God in your land.”

The part of the verse “no knowledge of God” does not go deep enough into the *True Depth of Father God’s “Loving Relationship”* with “His Bride” --- His Chosen people.

“The knowledge of God” is more than just an understanding of the concept of *God*, this *Spiritual knowledge of God* is both *Physical and Spiritual*.

This special *Physical and Spiritual connection* are much greater than just a possession of knowledge it is an “*appropriation*”; (To adopt and set apart for a specific use).

As a *True Believer* you must “*Graft In*” this “*Spiritual and Physical Connection*” as the internal *Guiding Force* for your life.

When this *Spiritual Connection* is joined you need to use this “*Knowledge of God*” to live your life *growing and walking* in the perfect *Love and Wisdom* of --- *Yahweh*.

“*The Knowledge of God*” is a *Physical and Spiritual union of souls*, the inner *Spiritual “Engagement”* of a physical man and his --- *God*.

This *Holy Connection* is a *genuine “Marriage”* of physical man and *God* that requires man’s “*Total*” *Fidelity Faithfulness Devotion and Belief* in *Yahweh* --- *The Eternal God!*

The *Unrepentant Unfaithful Hebrew sinners* do not have “*The Knowledge of God*”, so they do *evil things* make vows, lie kill steal, and commit *Spiritual Adultery* with *False god’s!*

The Hebrew people are living a *sinful life of violence and murder* that is a normal everyday activity and it is causing *continuous pain and mourning* to fill their “*Faithless*” land.

John 8:42–44 (NLT)

Knowledge of God

42 Jesus told them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, because I have come to you from God. I am not here on my own, but he sent me. 43 Why can't you understand what I am saying? It's because you can't even hear me! 44 For you are the children of your father the devil, and you love to do the evil things he does. He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies.

The Hebrews *Unrepentant sinful* lifestyle blocks out *Truth* and cuts off the "*Knowledge of God*", this lack of "*knowledge of God*" brings to *The Children of Abraham*, death, and a wasting away of man crops animals and fish.

*Ezekiel 33:30–33 (NLT)**Pretending to be Sincere!*

30 "Son of man, your people talk about you in their houses and whisper about you at the doors. They say to each other, 'Come on, let's go hear the prophet tell us what the LORD is saying!'" 31 So my people come pretending to be sincere and sit before you. They listen to your words, but they have no intention of doing what you say. Their mouths are full of lustful words, and their hearts seek only after money. 32 You are very entertaining to them, like someone who sings love songs with a beautiful voice or plays fine music on an instrument. They hear what you say, but they don't act on it! 33 But when all these terrible things happen to them—as they certainly will—then they will know a prophet has been among them."

Father God next addresses the *sinful* priests and religious leaders of Israel, they are "*Warned*" not to try and *pass off* the blame to others for *Yahweh's* coming *Righteous Judgement*.

They are the *sinful "False Prophets"* who through their *Arrogant Pride* and *Greed* led the *Unfaithful* people of Israel to a point of --- *Painful Bloody Judgement!*

The *sinful* priest and religious leaders will "*Fall in Shame*", they will be *Judged* along with the other *False Prophets* that do *Satan's work*, there is on "*Escape*" for them or the Nation of Israel. The priests and religious leaders are charged with *sinful worship* of idols and *false gods*, they have led the people of Israel into *sin* with the "*man-made*" laws they created to unjustly gain material *wealth* and *power*.

The priests are glad, they are "*Happy*" when the people *sin* because the *sinful* people will bring *offerings* to the *greed motivated* priests, they both think that their *sins* can be forgiven.

Regretfully no *sins* will be "*Forgiven*" In Israel, both the priest and people have *Unforgiven sin* so all will be *Judged* for their *Unrepentant Unforgiven sins* by *Father God*.

The priest and people have become *drunken fools* on wine and *false teaching*, robbed of *True Scriptural Understanding* they act like intoxicated *Adulterous Prostitutes*.

Worshiping *false gods* and *idols* has caused the people of Israel to become *Fools* thinking that material objects (*idols*) could provide protect and instruct them, they have used *wooden sticks* to replace ---- *The Eternal* and *All-knowing Father God!*

The young Hebrew women of Israel have turned to *sinful physical lust* and *prostitution*, the men young and old have engaged in *sinful sex* with prostitutes and *Pagan shrine prostitutes*.

They are all acting like *Fools*, they refuse to understand and "*Obey*" the --- *Laws of Father God!*

The Eternal, Almighty Father God responds to the *Foolish* and *sinful* people of Israel with this *powerful statement* ---“*You Will Be Destroyed*”!

This statement of Israel’s *Destruction* is followed with a “*Warning*” that is given to the people of *Juda*.

The people of *Juda* are warned by *Yahweh* not to join in the pagan *false God worship* at *Gilgal* or *Beth-aven*. The location of *Gilgal* was recorded numerous times in the *Holy Bible*, but this time it is used to warn the *sinful* people of *Juda* about the *Danger* of worshipping *false gods* and *idols*.

Amos 4:4–5 (NLT)

Israel’s Failure to Learn

⁴ “*Go ahead and offer sacrifices to the idols at Bethel.*

Keep on disobeying at Gilgal.

*Offer sacrifices each morning,
and bring your tithes every three days.*

⁵ *Present your bread made with yeast
as an offering of thanksgiving.*

*Then give your extra voluntary offerings
so you can brag about it everywhere!*

*This is the kind of thing you Israelites love to do,”
says the Sovereign LORD.*

Hosea 9:15 (NLT)

Their Leaders Are Rebels!

¹⁵ *The LORD says, “All their wickedness began at Gilgal;
there I began to hate them.*

*I will drive them from my land
because of their evil actions.*

*I will love them no more
because all their leaders are rebels.*

The other significance of *Gilgal* is the Hebrew *Old Testament* “*religious rite*” of *circumcision* that was first done at *Gilgal*.

Circumcision is only the mark of the *Covenant of Abraham*; the Hebrews were told; you must keep the *Covenant* and --- “*Walk in My Presence and be Blameless*”.

To remain “*Blameless*” the *Children of Abraham* were told to “*Worship*” only *Yahweh* and to treat all men and women with *Love* and *Respect* remembering that they are all creations of the *Eternal God Yahweh*.

This instruction of how to remain “*Blameless*” from *Yahweh* is a *simple condensation* of the *Ten Commandments*; *Love* and *Respect Father God* and do the same for your brothers and sisters.

The mark of *circumcision* was intended to be a *physical sign* of the Jews being *Yahweh’s children* and that they --- “*Know God*”.

The *sinful* and mistaken Hebrew priests then twisted this *physical sign* of *spiritual commitment*

and made it a “*Legalistic Requirement*” for acceptance into the Hebrew religion.

This “*man-made*” law for all males young and old was a “*painful*” *stumbling block* for those who wanted to become Jews and --- “*Know God*”.

Then in the early years of the *Christian Church* this “*man-made*” law of circumcision became a *religious requirement* that was enforced by the “*Judaizers*” (Those who claimed that Christian believers could not be saved unless they were circumcised).

The *Judaizers* mistakenly wanted to enforce this “*Legalistic*” requirement of circumcision in the time of the *New Testament* for the “*New Christians*” who wanted to --- “*Know God*”.

The “*New Christians*” were compelled to undergo *painful circumcision* by misinformed Christian religious leaders who did not know the *True “Spiritual”* reason for this *external physical* act.

This corrupt “*man-made*” law that required a *physical change* of a person’s body became an obstacle a *roadblock* for the *sinner*s who wanted to become a Jew or Christian and to then --- *Know God!*

This type of *legalistic religious restriction* and requirement by “*man-made*” law has a *powerful instructive* application for all modern man today, *Legalism* was never intended to be part of *Father God’s* plan for the --- *Redemption of mankind!*

The misuse of the *Hebrew rite* of circumcision exposes why “*Legalism*” *man-made laws* should never be added to the --- *Laws of Father God*.

Father God wants all men and women to change their “*Spiritual*” *Unrepentant sinful life*, not a small part of their *physical body!*

Colossians 2:11–12 (NLT)

Circumcision Is of The Heart!

¹¹ *When you came to Christ, you were “circumcised,” but not by a physical procedure. Christ performed a spiritual circumcision—the cutting away of your sinful nature.* ¹² *For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead.*

The next location mentioned in the prophesy of *Hosea* is *Beth-aven*, this location is recorded in the *Holy Bible* as “*The house of inequity*”. When the *sinful* people of *Samaria* worshiped at the *Pagan temple* at *Beth-aven* they worshiped a “*golden calf*” just as their *sinful Hebrew ancestors* did at *Mount Sinai*.

Hosea 10:5–6 (NLT)

The Golden Calf

⁵ *The people of Samaria tremble in fear
for their calf idol at Beth-aven,
and they mourn for it.*

*Though its priests rejoice over it,
its glory will be stripped away.*

⁶ *This idol will be carted away to Assyria,
a gift to the great king there.*

Ephraim will be ridiculed and Israel will be shamed,

because its people have trusted in this idol.

In the last part of this chapter *Father God* describes Israel as a “*Stubborn Cow*”, then telling the people of Judah “*Leave Israel alone, because she is --- Married to Idolatry!*”

The *sinful* rulers of Israel are exposed as *drunken fools* that have sex with prostitutes, men who love *shame* more than *honor*.

The *High Cost* for Israel’s “*Spiritual Adultery*”, the *sinful worship* and *sacrifices* to *Pagan idols* will be a “*Mighty Wind*”, *The Righteous Judgement of Yahweh* “*The True God*” --- *He Will Sweep Them Away!*

Hosea 5:1–15 (NLT)

The Failure of Israel’s Leaders

¹ *“Hear this, you priests.*

Pay attention, you leaders of Israel.

Listen, you members of the royal family.

Judgment has been handed down against you.

For you have led the people into a snare

by worshiping the idols at Mizpah and Tabor.

² *You have dug a deep pit to trap them at Acacia Grove.*

But I will settle with you for what you have done.

³ *I know what you are like, O Ephraim.*

You cannot hide yourself from me, O Israel.

You have left me as a prostitute leaves her husband;

you are utterly defiled.

⁴ *Your deeds won’t let you return to your God.*

You are a prostitute through and through,

and you do not know the LORD.

⁵ *“The arrogance of Israel testifies against her;*

Israel and Ephraim will stumble under their load of guilt.

Judah, too, will fall with them.

⁶ *When they come with their flocks and herds*

to offer sacrifices to the LORD,

they will not find him,

because he has withdrawn from them.

⁷ *They have betrayed the honor of the LORD,*

bearing children that are not his.

Now their false religion will devour them

along with their wealth.

⁸ *“Sound the alarm in Gibeah!*

Blow the trumpet in Ramah!

Raise the battle cry in Beth-aven!

Lead on into battle, O warriors of Benjamin!

⁹ *One thing is certain, Israel:*

*On your day of punishment,
you will become a heap of rubble.*

¹⁰ *"The leaders of Judah have become like thieves.*

So I will pour my anger on them like a waterfall.

¹¹ *The people of Israel will be crushed and broken by my judgment
because they are determined to worship idols.*

¹² *I will destroy Israel as a moth consumes wool.
I will make Judah as weak as rotten wood.*

¹³ *"When Israel and Judah saw how sick they were,
Israel turned to Assyria—*

*to the great king there—
but he could neither help nor cure them.*

¹⁴ *I will be like a lion to Israel,
like a strong young lion to Judah.*

*I will tear them to pieces!
I will carry them off,
and no one will be left to rescue them.*

¹⁵ *Then I will return to my place
until they admit their guilt and turn to me.*

*For as soon as trouble comes,
they will earnestly search for me."*

Comments on Hosea 5:1-15

The Failure of Israel's leaders!

This chapter is a direct "*Inditement*" (a legal charge of breaking the law) of the *sinful* Kings priests and religious leaders of Israel and Juda.

The Hebrew "*False Prophets*" have created and then set a "*sinful trap*" that will bring about a painful day of *Judgement* and *Punishment* the Hebrew people could have never *envisioned!*

The Kings priests and religious leaders will now have a day of "*Judgement*" where the *unjust laws* they forced on *The Children of God* promoted *sinful false god worship*, will now "*Devour*" them and their *worldly wealth*.

The Northern Kingdom of Israel will become a --- *Burning Heap of Rubble!*

The *sinful "Arrogance"* of *Father God's Chosen People*, and the *shameful way they betrayed The Honor of The LORD* will bring them to a day of *Pain* and *Sorrow*, the *sinful* people of Israel will be --- *Crushed and Broken!*

When Israel and Juda see the "*True Depth*" *Danger and Seriousness* of the "*Spiritual*" *sickness*, they are suffering they will "*Foolishly*" run to seek *help* and *protection* from the *Pagan Assyrians*.

This "*Adulterous*" *sinful act* of seeking help from someone other than *Yahweh* will cause a *Righteous Anger* to "*Burn Hot*" in *Father God*.

The Eternal God, Yahweh will become a "*Blood Thirsty Lion*" that will tear both Israel and Juda

to pieces!

Then after this *violent bloody attack* the surviving Hebrew people will be carried away by their enemies to a *Pagan foreign land* as slaves --- with no hope of rescue.

After all this has taken place *Father God* will return to "*His Home*" until *His Chosen People* admit their "*Guilt*" and turn to *Yahweh "The True God"* for "*Rescue*". But sadly, this *Spiritual Healing* and *Return to Sanity* might take some time.

The *sinful* Hebrew people of *Juda* and *Israel* will *immediately* look for *Yahweh's* help, but *He* will not listen or hear their *cries* for "*Help*" until they --- *Repent!*

Hosea 6:1–11 (NLT)

A Call to Repentance

¹ *"Come, let us return to the LORD.*

He has torn us to pieces;

now he will heal us.

He has injured us;

now he will bandage our wounds.

² *In just a short time he will restore us,*
so that we may live in his presence.

³ *Oh, that we might know the LORD!*

Let us press on to know him.

He will respond to us as surely as the arrival of dawn
or the coming of rains in early spring."

⁴ *"O Israel and Judah,*
what should I do with you?" asks the LORD.

"For your love vanishes like the morning mist
and disappears like dew in the sunlight.

⁵ *I sent my prophets to cut you to pieces—*
to slaughter you with my words,
with judgments as inescapable as light.

⁶ *I want you to show love,*
not offer sacrifices.

I want you to know me
more than I want burnt offerings.

⁷ *But like Adam, you broke my covenant*
and betrayed my trust.

⁸ *"Gilead is a city of sinners,*
tracked with footprints of blood.

⁹ *Priests form bands of robbers,*
waiting in ambush for their victims.

They murder travelers along the road to Shechem
and practice every kind of sin.

¹⁰ *Yes, I have seen something horrible in Ephraim and Israel:*

My people are defiled by prostituting themselves with other gods!

¹¹ *“O Judah, a harvest of punishment is also waiting for you,
though I wanted to restore the fortunes of my people.*

Comments on Hosea 6:1-11

A Call to Repentance!

The *sinful* people of Israel call out for “*Rescue*”, they cry like a spoiled child that has been punished for not “*Obeying*” their father.

Wounded and *Injured* the Hebrew people will seek *Healing* and *Recovery* from *Father God* who in the past has always comes to their aid.

Then in *verse #3* the Hebrews again attempt to “*Yada Elohim*” to “*Know The LORD*”, the *Hebrews* at this point do not have an *Understanding* of the “*Requirements*” for achieving a “*True*” --- *Knowledge of The LORD!*

They do not have the “*Wisdom*” to see that “*knowing The LORD*” is a “*Marriage*” *Commitment* that requires *Faithfulness* and “*Fidelity*” (The strict adherence to the marriage vow) to their husband --- *Father God!*

The Hebrew people have been acting like an *Unfaithful wife* when they *sinfully* worshiped *false Pagan God’s*, this *sinful* activity will bring a “*Bloody Harvest*” of *Painful Punishment* for Israel, and eventually *Juda*.

If only *His sinful children* had “*Repented*”, *Father God* wanted to *Bless* and *Restore* the life and fortunes of *His Chosen People*.

Father God has sent *His Holy Prophets* with *Warnings of Destruction* and *Slavery*, their prophecy was *Unwavering* and *Undeniable*, delivering the *Revealing Truth* that was as “*Bright*” as the *Sunlight of Day*.

The *sinful* Hebrew people offer “*Liven Contaminated*” *sacrifices* and *burnt offerings* that only “*Offend*” *Yahweh*, they do not know all that *Father God* truly wants and *Requires* is *Faithful Love* and *Fidelity* from --- *His bride!*

Yahweh wants “*His Chosen People*” to *Truly* --- “*Know Him*”!

Hosea 7:1–16 (NLT)

Israel’s Love for Wickedness!

¹ *“I want to heal Israel, but its sins are too great.*

Samaria is filled with liars.

Thieves are on the inside

and bandits on the outside!

² *Its people don’t realize*

that I am watching them.

Their sinful deeds are all around them,

and I see them all.

³ *“The people entertain the king with their wickedness,*

and the princes laugh at their lies.

⁴ *They are all adulterers,
always aflame with lust.*

*They are like an oven that is kept hot
while the baker is kneading the dough.*

⁵ *On royal holidays, the princes get drunk with wine,
carousing with those who mock them.*

⁶ *Their hearts are like an oven
blazing with intrigue.*

*Their plot smolders through the night,
and in the morning it breaks out like a raging fire.*

⁷ *Burning like an oven,
they consume their leaders.*

*They kill their kings one after another,
and no one cries to me for help.*

⁸ *"The people of Israel mingle with godless foreigners,
making themselves as worthless as a half-baked cake!*

⁹ *Worshiping foreign gods has sapped their strength,
but they don't even know it.*

*Their hair is gray,
but they don't realize they're old and weak.*

¹⁰ *Their arrogance testifies against them,
yet they don't return to the LORD their God
or even try to find him.*

¹¹ *"The people of Israel have become like silly, witless doves,
first calling to Egypt, then flying to Assyria for help.*

¹² *But as they fly about,
I will throw my net over them
and bring them down like a bird from the sky.
I will punish them for all the evil they do.*

¹³ *"What sorrow awaits those who have deserted me!
Let them die, for they have rebelled against me.*

*I wanted to redeem them,
but they have told lies about me.*

¹⁴ *They do not cry out to me with sincere hearts.
Instead, they sit on their couches and wail.*

*They cut themselves, begging foreign gods for grain and new wine,
and they turn away from me.*

¹⁵ *I trained them and made them strong,
yet now they plot evil against me.*

¹⁶ *They look everywhere except to the Most High.
They are as useless as a crooked bow.*

Their leaders will be killed by their enemies

*because of their insolence toward me.
Then the people of Egypt
will laugh at them.*

Comments on Hosea 7:1-16
Israel's Love for Wickedness!

The Love Father God has for His Chosen People is always "True" and Trustworthy then His Devotion is "Proven" with His Unweaving Fidelity, even when the Hebrews have sinned by worshiping false god's and in doing so have turned their backs on Father God.

Yahweh filled with His Fatherly Love wants to "Heal" His sinful Unfaithful children with --- His Never-Ending "Grace" and Love!

This chapter is filled with *sinful acts* that document just how *Completely* the Kings religious leaders and Hebrew people have Failed to "Faithfully" follow the Holy Covenant of Moses and the Ten Commandments of --- Yahweh!

The Heat and Fire of Unrepentant Unforgiven sin will soon Consume all those who are Arrogant and filled with Pride, they will "Burn" with all the material riches they think they own!

The false gods Pagan idols and godless foreigners will not be the slightest help to the sinful Hebrew people when the time of God's Righteous Judgement comes.

The sinful "Trust" in the security of man-made laws and false doctrine is a steel trap that will not let the Children of Abraham "Repent" and Return to the True God --- "Yahweh".

The Strength that Father God once gave His "Chosen People" is now lost due to their worshiping of false gods that have no power, the Hebrew people are so "Lost" they will not even try to --- Repent!

Now all the Hebrews Pagan enemies will attack mock and destroy Israel, the survivors will become slaves with their captors laughing at the "Shame" of Israel's broken wings and shattered lives.

The last verse in Chapter #7:16 Merciful Father God is Sad and Lamenting about how He wanted to bring "Restoration" not Judgement and Punishment to Israel but --- "They looked everywhere except to the Most High"!

Hosea 8:1-14 (NLT)

Israel Harvests the Whirlwind!

¹ "Sound the alarm!

*The enemy descends like an eagle on the people of the LORD,
for they have broken my covenant
and revolted against my law.*

² Now Israel pleads with me,
'Help us, for you are our God!'

³ But it is too late.

*The people of Israel have rejected what is good,
and now their enemies will chase after them.*

⁴ The people have appointed kings without my consent,

and princes without my approval.

*By making idols for themselves from their silver and gold,
they have brought about their own destruction.*

⁵ *“O Samaria, I reject this calf—
this idol you have made.*

My fury burns against you.

How long will you be incapable of innocence?

⁶ *This calf you worship, O Israel,
was crafted by your own hands!*

It is not God!

Therefore, it must be smashed to bits.

⁷ *“They have planted the wind
and will harvest the whirlwind.*

*The stalks of grain wither
and produce nothing to eat.*

*And even if there is any grain,
foreigners will eat it.*

⁸ *The people of Israel have been swallowed up;
they lie among the nations like an old discarded pot.*

⁹ *Like a wild donkey looking for a mate,
they have gone up to Assyria.*

*The people of Israel have sold themselves—
sold themselves to many lovers.*

¹⁰ *But though they have sold themselves to many allies,
I will now gather them together for judgment.*

*Then they will writhe
under the burden of the great king.*

¹¹ *“Israel has built many altars to take away sin,
but these very altars became places for sinning!*

¹² *Even though I gave them all my laws,
they act as if those laws don’t apply to them.*

¹³ *The people love to offer sacrifices to me,
feasting on the meat,
but I do not accept their sacrifices.*

*I will hold my people accountable for their sins,
and I will punish them.*

They will return to Egypt.

¹⁴ *Israel has forgotten its Maker and built great palaces,
and Judah has fortified its cities.*

*Therefore, I will send down fire on their cities
and will burn up their fortresses.”*

Comments on *Hosea 8:1-17*

Israel Harvests the Whirlwind!

The Children of Abraham have “Broken” the *Holy Covenant of Moses* committed a *sinful act of Adulterous Prostitution* when they without *shame* worshiped *false Pagan gods*.

His Children have appointed kings and princes who like them do not have the *Correct “Knowledge of God”*, they have “Lost” the special personal inner *Spiritual Connection* with their *Father God* --- *Yahweh*.

Now the *Eternally Righteous Yahweh* must “Crush” and “Destroy” the *Pagan alters idols false gods* and the *sinful Hebrews* who *Foolishly* worship them.

His Chosen People the *Jews* have become like “*Wild donkeys*” looking for a mate in the wilderness.

Jeremiah 2:23–25 (NLT)

Israel, an Unfaithful Wife!

²³ “You say, ‘That’s not true!

I haven’t worshiped the images of Baal!’

But how can you say that?

Go and look in any valley in the land!

Face the awful sins you have done.

You are like a restless female camel

desperately searching for a mate.

²⁴ *You are like a wild donkey,*

sniffing the wind at mating time.

Who can restrain her lust?

Those who desire her don’t need to search,

for she goes running to them!

²⁵ *When will you stop running?*

When will you stop panting after other gods?

But you say, ‘Save your breath.

I’m in love with these foreign gods,

and I can’t stop loving them now!’

The *sinful Jews* are charged with the *Unfaithfulness* of an “*Unfaithful Wife*” by *Prostituting* themselves to foreign *Pagan allies* for protection.

The *sinful Jews* and their foreign allies will both be *Judged* and *Punished* by “*The Great King*”, “*Yahweh*” --- *The One and Only King!*

Israel has *sinfully* worshiped at *Pagan shrines* and *alters*, because of this *sin* the *Hebrews* have followed *man-made laws* not the *Holy Covenant* of the --- *Ten Commandments!*

The Righteous and *Eternal Father God* will “*Remember*” this *Total Disregard* of *His Laws*, He will now “*Return*” *His sinful Children* to *Egypt* until they “*Repent*” and “*Return*” to the correct --- “*Knowledge of God*”!

In the *Hebrew language* this “*Knowledge of God*” could be defined as, “*Yada Elohim*”.

This human to *Father God* connection at a *simplicistic level* could be compared to the *Physical*

and *Spiritual* connection found in mankind's *Holy bond* and *Union* of a --- *Faithful Christian Marriage*.

This special "*Grafting-in*" connection "*Yada Elohim*" the "*Spiritual Union*" of man and *Eternal Father God* is far "*Superior*" to *Christian Marriage*, "*Yada Eloim*" --- *Is Life Giving!*

This "*Yada Elohim*" is the "*Spiritual Umbilical Cord*" that must never be "*Cut*" because if this connection is *severed* you will *Lose* the flow of the "*Living Waters*" that *Gush* from the *Throne* of the *Eternal Father God*.

The *sinful "Pride"* filled people of Israel and Juda have built *Fortified* cities with *strong walls* and *gates*, this *man-made* protection will be burned with the "*Fire*" of *God's Righteous Judgement!* The *Children of Abraham* have *Forgotten* about the *Power* of their "*Creator*" and *His promised Protection* and *Provision*. The Hebrews have proven their *Forgetfulness* and lack of *Faith* by building *man-made* stone walls and wooden gates for protection.

The stone walls and wooden gates of the *Fortified* cities and palaces of Juda and Israel will be *Swept Away* by the "*Flaming Hand*" of --- *Almighty Father God!*

Hosea 9:1–17 (NLT)

Hosea Announces Israel's Punishment

¹ *O people of Israel,*
do not rejoice as other nations do.
For you have been unfaithful to your God,
hiring yourselves out like prostitutes,
worshiping other gods on every threshing floor.

² *So now your harvests will be too small to feed you.*
There will be no grapes for making new wine.

³ *You may no longer stay here in the LORD's land.*
Instead, you will return to Egypt,
and in Assyria you will eat food
that is ceremonially unclean.

⁴ *There you will make no offerings of wine to the LORD.*
None of your sacrifices there will please him.
They will be unclean, like food touched by a person in mourning.
All who present such sacrifices will be defiled.

They may eat this food themselves,
but they may not offer it to the LORD.

⁵ *What then will you do on festival days?*
How will you observe the LORD's festivals?

⁶ *Even if you escape destruction from Assyria,*
Egypt will conquer you, and Memphis will bury you.
Nettles will take over your treasures of silver;
thistles will invade your ruined homes.

⁷ *The time of Israel's punishment has come;*
the day of payment is here.
Soon Israel will know this all too well.
Because of your great sin and hostility,

*you say, "The prophets are crazy
and the inspired men are fools!"*

*⁸ The prophet is a watchman over Israel for my God,
yet traps are laid for him wherever he goes.
He faces hostility even in the house of God.*

*⁹ The things my people do are as depraved
as what they did in Gibeah long ago.
God will not forget.
He will surely punish them for their sins.*

*¹⁰ The LORD says, "O Israel, when I first found you,
it was like finding fresh grapes in the desert.
When I saw your ancestors,
it was like seeing the first ripe figs of the season.
But then they deserted me for Baal-peor,
giving themselves to that shameful idol.
Soon they became vile,
as vile as the god they worshiped.*

*¹¹ The glory of Israel will fly away like a bird,
for your children will not be born
or grow in the womb
or even be conceived.*

*¹² Even if you do have children who grow up,
I will take them from you.
It will be a terrible day when I turn away
and leave you alone.*

*¹³ I have watched Israel become as beautiful as Tyre.
But now Israel will bring out her children for slaughter."*

*¹⁴ O LORD, what should I request for your people?
I will ask for wombs that don't give birth
and breasts that give no milk.*

*¹⁵ The LORD says, "All their wickedness began at Gilgal;
there I began to hate them.
I will drive them from my land
because of their evil actions.*

*I will love them no more
because all their leaders are rebels.*

*¹⁶ The people of Israel are struck down.
Their roots are dried up,
and they will bear no more fruit.*

*And if they give birth,
I will slaughter their beloved children."*

*¹⁷ My God will reject the people of Israel
because they will not listen or obey.
They will be wanderers,
homeless among the nations.*

Comments on Hosea 9:1-17

Hosea Announces Israel's Punishment!

The *sinful* people of Israel are *warned* not to *Feast* or *Rejoice* as other nations do, because they were *Openly* committing "*Adulterous*" *Prostitution* by *worshiping* --- *false Pagan gods*.

The *Cost* and *Punishment* for the *Foolish* Hebrews and their *sinful Unfaithfulness* will be a bitter harvest of crop failure hunger and *Forced Removal* from the "*Land of Promise*", the Hebrew people will again be *Returned* to a foreign land as --- *Slaves!*

Father God has determined It is now time to "*Pay the Piper*", Israel's day of "*Punishment*" has come there will be *no more* --- *festivals!*

The *sinful* Hebrew religious leaders and priests call the *Holy Prophets of Yahweh* "*Crazy Fools*" and physically *Attack* them in the *House of The LORD!*

This *Arrogant sin* of *Disrespect* for *Father God's Holy Prophets* and their call to "*Repent*" will not be *Forgotten* and go *unpunished* by the *All-Knowing Father God*.

The *Rebellious* Hebrew people who escape the near total destruction from Assyria will be *Beaten Broken Shamed* and then "*Removed*" as *slaves* by the pagan Assyrians.

The *Eternal and Righteous Father God* tells *His sinful children* that they are as *sinful* and *Depraved* as their *ancestors* who lived in *Gibeah* long ago. *Father God* will not *Forget* or *Fail* to *Punish* all the --- *Outlaw Jews !*

The Lord God sadly remembers when *He* first found the Hebrew people, they were *sweet* to *His* taste as *fresh grapes* and *ripe figs*, but they had "*Deserted*" *Him* for the *false god Baal-Peor* and became as "*Vile*" and *Distasteful* as the *false god's* they *worshiped*.

The *sinful* Hebrews were attracted to this *Pagan religion* by the *Obscene "sexual rite"* of *worshiping Baal-Peor* with *sexual acts*.

This *sin* was recorded in the history of the Hebrews at *Gibeah*, (*Numbers 25:1-3*) it was the *Disrespectful sinful act* of *Physical* and "*Spiritual*" *Adultery*, this *sin* resulted in a *plague* that struck the *entire community of God!*

Numbers 25:1-3 (NLT)

Moab Seduces Israel!

While the Israelites were camped at Acacia Grove, some of the men defiled themselves by having sexual relations with local Moabite women. ² These women invited them to attend sacrifices to their gods, so the Israelites feasted with them and worshiped the gods of Moab. ³ In this way, Israel joined in the worship of Baal of Peor, causing the LORD's anger to blaze against his people.

Israel's present *moral "Corruption"* and *sinful Disrespect* was compared by *Father God* to the *sinful* people and town of *Gibeah*. The town of *Gibeah* was recorded in the *Old Testament* as a

town as *“Depraved and Evil”* as --- *Sodom and Gomorrah!*

The *sinful* people of *Gibeah* worshiped the *Pagan god* Baal-Peor *“Nu of Peor”* a *false god* that was worshiped with *ritualistic sex acts*.

In the *Bible Book of Judges*, the *Levite* a servant and his *“concubine”* (a secondary wife that was common in this time, although it was not allowable according to the Law of God) were traveling from *Bethlehem* to the hill country of *Ephraim*.

It was dangerous to travel at night, so they stopped for the night in the town of *Gibeah*. This small *Israelite* town was populated with some *evil sinful* men who would *rape* both men and women if they had the opportunity.

Judges 19:22 (NLT)

The Sin of Gibeah!

²² *While they were enjoying themselves, a crowd of troublemakers from the town surrounded the house. They began beating at the door and shouting to the old man, “Bring out the man who is staying with you so we can have sex with him.”*

Judges 20:4–5 (NLT)

The Rape of the Concubine!

⁴ *The Levite, the husband of the woman who had been murdered, said, “My concubine and I came to spend the night in Gibeah, a town that belongs to the people of Benjamin. ⁵ That night some of the leading citizens of Gibeah surrounded the house, planning to kill me, and they raped my concubine until she was dead.*

Father God will now do something to *Demonstrate His Anger* for the *sinful* Hebrew people in Israel by ending the *God Given “Fertility”* of the *land* and the *Hebrew women*, both will be *Fruitless “Barren”* as a -- *Dry Root!*

Then *Yahweh* warns the *Hebrews* that even if they do have children, *He* will *“Take”* the children away from their *sinful* parents.

Father God warns *His Chosen People* that it will be a *Terrible Painful* day when *He “turns His back”* and leaves the Hebrew people alone without *His --- Protective Love!*

The Nation of Israel has become as *Beautiful* as the great city of Tyre, but this *“worldly physical beauty”* will not *Defend* or *Protect* the Hebrews children from --- *Slaughter!*

The prophet *Hosea* painfully understands the *Seriousness* of *Father God’s* coming *Judgement*, he then asks for *the wombs* and *breasts* of the Hebrew women to be *barren* and *dry* so that children will not be born and *Suffer* the same *“Bloody Fate”* as their parents.

The *Eternal Father God* tells the *sinful* Hebrews --- *“All their wickedness has begun at Gilgal and there He began to hate them”!*

Amos 4:4–5 (NLT)

Disobeying at Gilgal!

⁴ *“Go ahead and offer sacrifices to the idols at Bethel.*

Keep on disobeying at Gilgal.

Offer sacrifices each morning,

*and bring your tithes every three days.
⁵ Present your bread made with yeast
 as an offering of thanksgiving.
 Then give your extra voluntary offerings
 so you can brag about it everywhere!
 This is the kind of thing you Israelites love to do,”
 says the Sovereign LORD.*

Because of the *sinful acts* of the Hebrew *religious leaders* and their followers the *Righteous LORD*, God will now Drive “His Chosen People” out of “The Land of promise” and “End” His Protective Love.

The “*True Vine*” the Hebrew people will be *struck down* and *dried up*, they will not have children, if they do *Yahweh* will *mercilessly slaughter* their *Beloved Children!*
 The *sinful Unrepentant “Children of Abraham”* will wander as *lost orphans* throughout the nations because they have “*Refused*” to listen to *Yahweh* and “*Obey*” His --- *Ten Commandments!*

Hosea 10:1–15 (NLT)

The LORD’s Judgment against Israel

¹ *How prosperous Israel is—
 a luxuriant vine loaded with fruit.
 But the richer the people get,
 the more pagan altars they build.
 The more bountiful their harvests,
 the more beautiful their sacred pillars.*
² *The hearts of the people are fickle;
 they are guilty and must be punished.
 The LORD will break down their altars
 and smash their sacred pillars.*
³ *Then they will say, “We have no king
 because we didn’t fear the LORD.
 But even if we had a king,
 what could he do for us anyway?”*
⁴ *They spout empty words
 and make covenants they don’t intend to keep.
 So injustice springs up among them
 like poisonous weeds in a farmer’s field.*
⁵ *The people of Samaria tremble in fear
 for their calf idol at Beth-aven,
 and they mourn for it.
 Though its priests rejoice over it,
 its glory will be stripped away.*
⁶ *This idol will be carted away to Assyria,*

- a gift to the great king there.
Ephraim will be ridiculed and Israel will be shamed,
because its people have trusted in this idol.*
- ⁷ *Samaria and its king will be cut off;
they will float away like driftwood on an ocean wave.*
- ⁸ *And the pagan shrines of Aven, the place of Israel's sin, will crumble.
Thorns and thistles will grow up around their altars.
They will beg the mountains, "Bury us!"
and plead with the hills, "Fall on us!"*
- ⁹ *The LORD says, "O Israel, ever since Gibeah,
there has been only sin and more sin!
You have made no progress whatsoever.
Was it not right that the wicked men of Gibeah were attacked?"*
- ¹⁰ *Now whenever it fits my plan,
I will attack you, too.
I will call out the armies of the nations
to punish you for your multiplied sins.*
- ¹¹ *"Israel is like a trained heifer treading out the grain—
an easy job she loves.
But I will put a heavy yoke on her tender neck.
I will force Judah to pull the plow
and Israel to break up the hard ground.*
- ¹² *I said, 'Plant the good seeds of righteousness,
and you will harvest a crop of love.
Plow up the hard ground of your hearts,
for now is the time to seek the LORD,
that he may come
and shower righteousness upon you.'*
- ¹³ *"But you have cultivated wickedness
and harvested a thriving crop of sins.
You have eaten the fruit of lies—
trusting in your military might,
believing that great armies
could make your nation safe.*
- ¹⁴ *Now the terrors of war
will rise among your people.
All your fortifications will fall,
just as when Shalman destroyed Beth-arbel.
Even mothers and children
were dashed to death there.*
- ¹⁵ *You will share that fate, Bethel,
because of your great wickedness.*

*When the day of judgment dawns,
the king of Israel will be completely destroyed.*

Comments on Hosea 10:1-15

The LORD'S Judgement Against Israel!

The *Worldly Rich* and *prosperous* Nation of Israel is *overflowing* with *material wealth* that makes life *comfortable* and *easy*. The *Arrogant Rich* and *Confident* Hebrew people "*Foolishly*" build more *Pagan alters* to worship *false gods*, they are "*Spiritually*" *Blind* they fail to see or understand their *Sinful Guilt*.

The *Eternal* and *Righteous* LORD God will *Smash* and *Destroy* the "*Alters of Adultery*", Yahweh will *Severely Punish* His --- *sinful children!*

The *Children of Abraham* are *Condemned* "*Set Up*" for *Disaster* in two ways, first they do not "*Know God*" second they do not "*Fear God*".

This total "*Double Eyed Blindness*" will bring a lasting *Shame* to the *sinful* Hebrew people. In the end this *sinful Failure of Belief* and *Lack of Fear* of "*The LORD God*" will "*Crush*" the *comfortable world* the *Hebrews Trusted* and *Worshipped* more than --- *Yahweh!*

The *sinful Unrepentant* Hebrew people will *rip* their clothing and "*Mourn*" they will be *accompanied* by the *religious leaders* of Israel who will "*Wail in Fear*", they will all --- "*float away like driftwood on an ocean wave*"!

This *Punishing Painful Judgement* will cause *Great "Fear"* to come *Crashing Down* on the *sinful* Hebrew people.

In Hosea 10:8 (NLT) we find a *Bible verse* that we can also find recorded in the *Bible book of Revelation 6:16*

Hosea 10:8

Fall on Us!

⁸*And the pagan shrines of Aven, the place of Israel's sin, will crumble.*

Thorns and thistles will grow up around their altars.

They will beg the mountains, "Bury us!"

and plead with the hills, "Fall on us!"

Revelation 6:16 (NLT)

Hide Us!

¹⁶*And they cried to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb.*

The book of *Hosea* lets us see into *The Past*, observing how the Hebrew people who do not "*Know God*" in the "*Yada Elohim*" way, will *Foolishly* try to "*Escape*" the --- *Wrath of God!* In the *Bible book of Revelation*, we can look into *The Future* and find that all *sinful Unrepentant mankind*, both *Jew* and *Gentile* suffer from the same lack of --- "*The Knowledge of God*".

In *"The End Times"* all *sinful Unredeemed* mankind will make the same *Foolish Attempt* to hide from *Father God* and *Escape "The wrath of The Lamb of God", The Messiah ---"Jesus Christ"!*

Revelation 9:6 (NLT)

There is No Escape!

⁶In those days people will seek death but will not find it. They will long to die, but death will flee from them!

Father God reminds *His Chosen people* about the *sinful people* in *Gibeah* who were *Judged* and then *Punished* for the *sins of rape murder and idol worship* in the past.

The Righteous Father God finds the *sinful people* of *Israel* just as *"Guilty"* as their ancestors and they deserve the same *Judgement* and *Harsh Punishment*, telling the *sinful Hebrews* that they have --- *"made no progress whatsoever"!*

Father God gave the *Hebrew people* an *Easy Task*, they were told to plant the seeds of *Righteousness* and harvest a crop of *"Love"*, but they cultivated *sinful "Wickedness"* when they committed *"Spiritual Adultery"* by worshiping *Pagan false gods*.

His Chosen People have also *sinned* when they *Pridefully Trusted* in their *worldly wealth* and *military strength* not in the *"Power"* of *The Eternal God Yahweh!*

The sad *unnecessary* result of this *Failure* to complete an *easy task* from *Yahweh* will be the unwanted reality of --- *"The Terror of War"!*

This *"Terror of War"* will bring *Frightening Painful Bondage* of *slavery* or *death* for the *Hebrew men* and their families, *War* will be the cost for their *Great Wickedness!*

The *King* and the *kingdom* of *Israel* will be --- *Completely Destroyed!*

Hosea 11:1–12 (NLT)

The LORD's Love for Israel

*¹When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and I called my son out of Egypt.*

*²But the more I called to him,
the farther he moved from me,
offering sacrifices to the images of Baal
and burning incense to idols.*

*³I myself taught Israel how to walk,
leading him along by the hand.
But he doesn't know or even care
that it was I who took care of him.*

*⁴I led Israel along
with my ropes of kindness and love.
I lifted the yoke from his neck,
and I myself stooped to feed him.*

*⁵But since my people refuse to return to me,
they will return to Egypt
and will be forced to serve Assyria.*

⁶ War will swirl through their cities;
 their enemies will crash through their gates.

They will destroy them,
 trapping them in their own evil plans.

⁷ For my people are determined to desert me.

They call me the Most High,
 but they don't truly honor me.

⁸ "Oh, how can I give you up, Israel?

How can I let you go?

How can I destroy you like Admah
 or demolish you like Zeboiim?

My heart is torn within me,
 and my compassion overflows.

⁹ No, I will not unleash my fierce anger.

I will not completely destroy Israel,
 for I am God and not a mere mortal.

I am the Holy One living among you,
 and I will not come to destroy.

¹⁰ For someday the people will follow me.

I, the LORD, will roar like a lion.

And when I roar,
 my people will return trembling from the west.

¹¹ Like a flock of birds, they will come from Egypt.

Trembling like doves, they will return from Assyria.

And I will bring them home again,"
 says the LORD.

Charges against Israel and Judah

¹² Israel surrounds me with lies and deceit,

but Judah still obeys God

and is faithful to the Holy One.

Comments on Hosea 11:1-12

The Lords' Love for Israel!

The LORD has a Love for His Chosen People the "Hebrews" that will outlast time, this Love will be "Revealed" in Yahweh's Gift of the Promised Messiah --- Jesus Christ!

Father God Lovingly removed His children from slavery in Egypt taught them His Law and instructed how they should walk on the "Obedient" path Father God's Law required.

Like Disobedient Headstrong children they would not listen to the voice of their Father when he called, they had no "Respect" for the Loving Provision and Protection of their Heavenly Father.

The sinful Hebrew people moved farther and farther away from Yahweh's Instruction and Protection, they were Lost because of their Unfaithful and Disrespectful attitude.

His Chosen People "Sinned Greatly" when they worshiped false gods and offered sacrifices on

“Alters of Shame” to Pagan idols.

The Arrogant Jew’s refused to “Return” to Father God due to their hardened hearts, His sinful children will now be “Returned” to “Egypt” (Sin) as --- slaves!

The wealth and luxury of the cities the Hebrews built will be destroyed by their enemies, the Fires of War will “Burn All” the Hebrews once worshiped.

The God of Love Yahweh again “Laments” (to express sorrow) how can He turn His back on and give up on His favorite child and abandon him.

The Righteous and Loving Father God does not want to Demolish and Destroy the Hebrew people as He did in the past to the sinful people in Zeboiim and Adma.

Deuteronomy 29:23 (NLT)

The Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah!

²³ *They will exclaim, ‘The whole land is devastated by sulfur and salt. It is a wasteland with nothing planted and nothing growing, not even a blade of grass. It is like the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah and Zeboiim, which the LORD destroyed in his intense anger.’*

Father God’s heart is Painfully “Torn” and filled with Compassion, Yahweh will now Demonstrate His Love He will not Unleash His Fierce Anger He will not --- Completely Destroy Israel!

Yahweh is the Eternal God of the Hebrew people who is living among God’s people He is not a mere mortal.

Yahweh is The Most High “Holy God”, and His Ways are Far Above the ways of man, His Mercy is --- Eternal!

Psalms 130:7–8 (NLT)

Unfailing Love!

⁷ *O Israel, hope in the LORD;*

for with the LORD there is unfailing love.

His redemption overflows.

⁸ *He himself will redeem Israel*

from every kind of sin.

The Children of Abraham will in time Return to “The Land of Promise” from all the foreign nations they have been scattered to.

After The Nation of Israel is “Restored”, The Children of Abraham will “Roar Out” in One Thunderous Voice --- “Never Again”!

The All-Mighty God did not Lovingly “Create” His Chosen People to “Destroy” them in Anger.

At some future point in time, the Hebrew people will multiply in vast numbers and fill their Eternal Home --- “The New Jerusalem”!

Hosea 12:1–14 (NLT)

The LORD’s Charge Agents Ephraim

¹ *The people of Israel feed on the wind;*

*they chase after the east wind all day long.
They pile up lies and violence;
they are making an alliance with Assyria
while sending olive oil to buy support from Egypt.*

² *Now the LORD is bringing charges against Judah.
He is about to punish Jacob for all his deceitful ways,
and pay him back for all he has done.*

³ *Even in the womb,
Jacob struggled with his brother;
when he became a man,
he even fought with God.*

⁴ *Yes, he wrestled with the angel and won.
He wept and pleaded for a blessing from him.
There at Bethel he met God face to face,
and God spoke to him—*

⁵ *the LORD God of Heaven's Armies,
the LORD is his name!*

⁶ *So now, come back to your God.
Act with love and justice,
and always depend on him.*

⁷ *But no, the people are like crafty merchants
selling from dishonest scales—
they love to cheat.*

⁸ *Israel boasts, "I am rich!
I've made a fortune all by myself!
No one has caught me cheating!
My record is spotless!"*

⁹ *"But I am the LORD your God,
who rescued you from slavery in Egypt.
And I will make you live in tents again,
as you do each year at the Festival of Shelters.*

¹⁰ *I sent my prophets to warn you
with many visions and parables."*

¹¹ *But the people of Gilead are worthless
because of their idol worship.
And in Gilgal, too, they sacrifice bulls;
their altars are lined up like the heaps of stone
along the edges of a plowed field.*

¹² *Jacob fled to the land of Aram,
and there he earned a wife by tending sheep.*

¹³ *Then by a prophet*

*the LORD brought Jacob's descendants out of Egypt;
and by that prophet
they were protected.*

¹⁴ *But the people of Israel
have bitterly provoked the LORD,
so their Lord will now sentence them to death
in payment for their sins.*

Comments on Hosea 12:1-14

The LORD's Charges Agents Ephraim and Israel

In this *Chapter #12* of the prophesy of *Hosea*, Israel is *Accused* of being an "Unfaithful Wife" to *Yahweh* by blowing "back and forth" in the wind looking for *Protection* from both *Egypt* and *Assyria* depending on which pagan country could help them or protect them.

The *weak* and *untrustworthy* Hebrew people of Israel were rightfully compared to *Jacob* who would use *Deceit* and *Deception* to gain an advantage.

In the history of *Israel*, a time of *struggle* *pain* and *submission* came to *Jacob* when He had a *Face-to-Face Relationship* with *The LORD God*. Then because of that "*Spiritual Relationship*" *Jacob* received a *Blessing* and a *Name Change* his name was changed by "*Yahweh*" to *Israel* "*One who has struggled with God and has prevailed*".

Israel at this point *Appropriated* "*The Knowledge of God*" and would now *walk the path* of --- *Rigorousness!*

The *Blood Line* of *Israel* would continue from *Israel* to *King David*, and to *Mary* mother of "*The Messiah*" *Jesus Christ* who was the "*Goel*" (*The Kinsman Redeemer*) who will "*Redeem*" from the *Bondage of sin* all who will "*Believe in Him*"!

Then at the end of "*The Time of Man*" *The Lamb of God* "*Jesus Christ*" will *Redeem* and *Reclaim* the earth from *Satan*.

Note: It would be helpful for everyone that wants to learn more about *Jesus Christ* to do an independent study of the genealogy and of the two blood lines of our *LORD and Savior*.

Genesis 32:25–31 (NLT)

Jacob's Struggle with Yahweh!

²⁵ *When the man saw that he would not win the match, he touched Jacob's hip and wrenched it out of its socket.* ²⁶ *Then the man said, "Let me go, for the dawn is breaking!"*

But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

²⁷ *"What is your name?" the man asked.*

He replied, "Jacob."

²⁸ *"Your name will no longer be Jacob," the man told him. "From now on you will be called Israel, because you have fought with God and with men and have won."*

²⁹ *"Please tell me your name," Jacob said.*

"Why do you want to know my name?" the man replied. Then he blessed Jacob there.

³⁰ *Jacob named the place Peniel (which means "face of God"), for he said, "I have seen God face to face, yet my life has been spared."* ³¹ *The sun was rising as Jacob left Peniel, and he was limping because of the injury to his hip.*

The *sinful* Hebrew people of Israel are told to *Repent* and *Return* to that same *Face-to-Face Spiritual Relationship* with *Yahweh* that *Jacob* had; they must *Submit* to “*His Law*” and to *Depend* only on --- *Yahweh!*

The *Hardheaded* Hebrew people need to use *Hosea’s Painful Warning* as a “*Blessing*”!

The *Jews* in Israel must *Repent* and learn how to live with their brothers and sisters in *Peace* by showing them “*Genuine*” *Love* and *Justice*.

But *sadly*, the *Kings* religious leaders and people of Israel love to *Cheat Manipulate* and use *Dishonest man-made laws* to get rich by *Sinfully Abusing* their Hebrew brothers and sisters.

The *sinful Hebrews* have no *shame* or *guilt* and are “*Proud*” to *Boast* about how *Wealthy* they are and how *Clever* they are not to be *caught cheating* their brothers and sisters.

The *Unrepentant sinful* Hebrew people believe they can *live outside “The Law of God”*, *Cheating* on *Yahweh* with *false gods* and not be charged with the *sin* of “*Spiritual Infidelity*”. Then on top of that *Foolishly* thinking that *Father God* will ignore their *Dishonesty* with their brothers and sisters.

They are *Arrogant Fools*; all the *sinful Hebrew people* will be *Charged* and *Punished* by --- *The King of Kings!*

The same *Eternally Loving God* that “*Rescued*” the *Hebrew people* from *Egypt* in the past will now “*Return*” the *Children of Abraham* to “*Egypt*” (*Sin*) in chains as *slaves!*

Father God told *His Holy Prophets* to “*Warn*” the *Arrogant* people of Israel that, “*they were as worthless as the people in Gilgal!*”

The people of *Gilgal* were the Hebrews who *sexually assaulted* and *abused* their brothers and sisters with no *regret* or *shame*. *Gilgal* added more *sin* when they *sinfully worshiped* at *Pagan shrines* giving *burnt offerings* to *Pagan idols* and *false gods*.

The *sinful Arrogant* people of Israel in the time of the prophet *Hosea* were not like the *Faithful* descendants of *Abraham*, who were recorded in “*The Holy Scrolls*” as *captive slaves* chained in *Egypt*

The descendants of *Abraham* and *Jacob* in *Egypt* were *Wise* and listened to *Moses* the *Holy Prophet of God*, “*Repented*” and sought --- *The LORD!*

The captives in *Egypt* were *Repentant Faithful Hebrews* and listened to *Moses* the *Holy Prophet of Yahweh*, they were *Rescued*, brought out of *Egypt*.

The *Unrepentant sinful* Hebrew people in Israel *will not listen* to *Hossa* the *Holy Prophet of Yahweh*, they will be *Punished*.

Being *Fools* they practice *Adulterous Faithlessness “idol worship”* cheat and steal from the poor, so they will be “*Punished*” for their *sins* with *Death* or *Slavery* in a pagan nation.

This will be their *Disastrous Fate* because they will not “*Repent*” or *Listen* to the “*Holy Prophets*” *Yahweh* has *Lovingly* provided them!

Proverbs 1:25–29 (NLT)

The Call of Wisdom

²⁵ *You ignored my advice*

and rejected the correction I offered.

²⁶ *So I will laugh when you are in trouble!*

I will mock you when disaster overtakes you—

²⁷ *when calamity overtakes you like a storm,
when disaster engulfs you like a cyclone,
and anguish and distress overwhelm you.*

²⁸ *“When they cry for help, I will not answer.
Though they anxiously search for me, they will not find me.*

²⁹ *For they hated knowledge
and chose not to fear the LORD.*

Hosea 13:1–16 (NLT)

The LORD’s Anger against Israel

¹ *When the tribe of Ephraim spoke,
the people shook with fear,
for that tribe was important in Israel.*

*But the people of Ephraim sinned by worshiping Baal
and thus sealed their destruction.*

² *Now they continue to sin by making silver idols,
images shaped skillfully with human hands.*

*“Sacrifice to these,” they cry,
“and kiss the calf idols!”*

³ *Therefore, they will disappear like the morning mist,
like dew in the morning sun,
like chaff blown by the wind,
like smoke from a chimney.*

⁴ *“I have been the LORD your God
ever since I brought you out of Egypt.
You must acknowledge no God but me,
for there is no other savior.*

⁵ *I took care of you in the wilderness,
in that dry and thirsty land.*

⁶ *But when you had eaten and were satisfied,
you became proud and forgot me.*

⁷ *So now I will attack you like a lion,
like a leopard that lurks along the road.*

⁸ *Like a bear whose cubs have been taken away,
I will tear out your heart.*

*I will devour you like a hungry lioness
and mangle you like a wild animal.*

⁹ *“You are about to be destroyed, O Israel—
yes, by me, your only helper.*

¹⁰ *Now where is your king?*

Let him save you!
Where are all the leaders of the land,
the king and the officials you demanded of me?
¹¹ *In my anger I gave you kings,*
and in my fury I took them away.
¹² *“Ephraim’s guilt has been collected,*
and his sin has been stored up for punishment.
¹³ *Pain has come to the people*
like the pain of childbirth,
but they are like a child
who resists being born.
The moment of birth has arrived,
but they stay in the womb!
¹⁴ *“Should I ransom them from the grave?*
Should I redeem them from death?
O death, bring on your terrors!
O grave, bring on your plagues!
For I will not take pity on them.
¹⁵ *Ephraim was the most fruitful of all his brothers,*
but the east wind—a blast from the LORD—
will arise in the desert.
All their flowing springs will run dry,
and all their wells will disappear.
Every precious thing they own
will be plundered and carried away.
¹⁶ *The people of Samaria*
must bear the consequences of their guilt
because they rebelled against their God.
They will be killed by an invading army,
their little ones dashed to death against the ground,
their pregnant women ripped open by swords.”

Comments on Hosea 13:1-16

The LORD’s Anger against Israel

In the Northern Kingdom of Israel, the tribe of *Ephraim* was *Respected* and *Feared* by the other *Hebrews* who lived in Israel due to *Ephraim’s* abundant *Wealth* and *Power*.

The *sins* of *Worldly Wealth* and *Corrupt Power* have caused the *sinful* people of *Ephraim* to engage in the worship of *false gods* and *Pagan idols*. This *Unfaithful Adulterous* worship of the *Pagan false god Baal* has “*Sealed*” their fate.

The *Hebrews* in *Ephraim* will be *Consumed* by the *Fires of War* and will be carried away like “*smoke in the wind*”, they will again be “*slaves*” to “*Egypt*” (*Sin*)!

The *Forgetful Arrogant Children of Abraham* will not *Remember* how in the past they were

“Rescued” from slavery in Egypt by The Only True God --- Yahweh.

The *“Chosen People” Fail to Remember* when they were in the past instructed with the *Ten Commandments* at mount *Sinai*, where *The Written Law of Father God “Demanded”* the Hebrew people *Worshipped* only --- *Yahweh!*

The *Arrogant Prideful* people of Israel have forgotten the *Provision* of water food and *Protection* from *Father God* they received in the wilderness all the *dry and thirsty* years they moved as a protected caravan to the --- *“Promised Land”*.

The LORD of Heavens Armies will now *“Punish” His sinful children* with a *wild beast* like attack from their *Pagan Gentile enemies*, who will not show them or their children *Mercy*.

The *Headstrong* Hebrew people demanded that they have a *“king”* like all their *Gentile neighbors*, *Father God* allowed them to be *“Foolish”* and choose a king other than *“The True King”* --- *Yahweh!*

The LORD God warned *His children* they would live to *Regret* this *“Foolish”* act of *Disrespect*, it was a *sinful* and *Bad Decision*.

Now that they are in danger the *Foolish Children of Abraham* look for *Protection* from kings and *Hebrew* religious leaders of Israel.

Father God will at His chosen time use *His Fury* and *Fire* to *sweep away* the *Kings* and *false prophets*; who *can* and *will* *Protect* the *Disrespectful Fools* Now?

The *Sickening Smell* of the *Guilt* and *sinful Arrogant Pride* of the *Children of Abraham* has reached a level of *rot* and *decay* where *Father God* must take --- *Corrective Action!*

Psalms 81:8–13 (NLT)

Israel Listen to Yahweh!

⁸ *“Listen to me, O my people, while I give you stern warnings.*

O Israel, if you would only listen to me!

⁹ *You must never have a foreign god;*

you must not bow down before a false god.

¹⁰ *For it was I, the LORD your God,*

who rescued you from the land of Egypt.

Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it with good things.

¹¹ *“But no, my people wouldn’t listen.*

Israel did not want me around.

¹² *So I let them follow their own stubborn desires,*

living according to their own ideas.

¹³ *Oh, that my people would listen to me!*

Oh, that Israel would follow me, walking in my paths!

The Righteous God Yahweh will not *Protect* or *Pity* the *sinful* people of Israel because they are *Unrepentant*. *“The Terrors of The Grave”* and the *Humiliation of slavery* will be delivered to the once *Fruitful* and *Prosperous* Northern Kingdom of Israel.

The formerly *Blessed Fertile* land will be become *burned dry* and *barren* the *“Worldly Wealth”* Israel has acquired by *Theft* and *Greed* will be *“Stripped”* from them.

The *sinful Rebellion* and *Disrespect* for *Yahweh* demonstrated by the Hebrew people will have a *bloody cost*. The Hebrew people will be *killed* or *taken captive* by foreign invaders with no

respect or *pity* for children and pregnant women.

The costly payment for *Unrepentant Unforgiven sin* will be in the *hands* and *swords* of evil men who will deliver *slavery* or *brutal death* to all!

Hosea 14:1–9 (NLT)

Healing for the Repentant

¹ Return, O Israel, to the LORD your God,
for your sins have brought you down.

² Bring your confessions, and return to the LORD.
Say to him,

“Forgive all our sins and graciously receive us,
so that we may offer you our praises.

³ Assyria cannot save us,
nor can our warhorses.

Never again will we say to the idols we have made,
‘You are our gods.’

No, in you alone
do the orphans find mercy.”

⁴ The LORD says,
“Then I will heal you of your faithlessness;
my love will know no bounds,
for my anger will be gone forever.

⁵ I will be to Israel
like a refreshing dew from heaven.
Israel will blossom like the lily;
it will send roots deep into the soil
like the cedars in Lebanon.

⁶ Its branches will spread out like beautiful olive trees,
as fragrant as the cedars of Lebanon.

⁷ My people will again live under my shade.
They will flourish like grain and blossom like grapevines.
They will be as fragrant as the wines of Lebanon.

⁸ “O Israel, stay away from idols!
I am the one who answers your prayers and cares for you.
I am like a tree that is always green;
all your fruit comes from me.”

⁹ Let those who are wise understand these things.
Let those with discernment listen carefully.
The paths of the LORD are true and right,
and righteous people live by walking in them.
But in those paths sinners stumble and fall.

Comments on Hosea 14:1-3

Healing for the Repentant!

The last chapter of the book of *Hosea* is the written Instructions for “*The Revival of Israel*” from *Father God*, followed by *Father God’s Promise of Provision* for *His Chosen people*.

The Eternal God tells the *sinful* Hebrew people to *Confess* their *sins* and “*Repent*”, they must turn away from the *Adulterous worship* of *false god’s* and Pagan idols the Hebrew people must never again *worship* any *pagan god* they must *Worship* only --- *Yahweh!*

The Children of Abraham must never depend on their *military power* to *Protect* them, *His Disobedient children* must only look for *Protection* and *Provision* from the *One True God* --- *Yahweh!*

If *The Chosen People* obey *His Law* “*The Ten Commandments*” *Father God* will use *His Eternal Love* “*That Has No Limits*” to heal *His Children* and *Cure* their ---*Sinful Faithfulness*.

If the *sinful* Hebrews do choose to “*Repent*”, *God’s Righteous Anger* will be *Removed* gone forever never to be remembered.

Yahweh who is a *God of Eternal Love* has an *Ability* that *mortal man* does not have, *Our Father God* can *Truly* --- *Forgive and Forget!*

When *The Children of Abraham* do *Repent* and *Return* to *Worshipping* the only “*One True God*” the Hebrews will once again *Grow* and *Bloom* under the *Protection* of *Yahweh*.

The Children of Abraham will then “*Sink*” *Deep Strong Roots* into the soil of “*The Promised Land*” where they will again be “*Pleasant*” to the *sight* and *smell* of *Father God*.

The “*Creator*” of all things *Father God* “*Warns*” the people of *Israel*, do not *Return* to *sinful* idol worship.

They must remember *Yahweh* is the one who *Answers* their prayers, *He* is the one who *Provides* *Provision* and *Protection* to --- “*His Chosen People*”.

The *Hebrew people* are told to be “*Wise*” and to practice “*Discernment*” (The sound judgement which makes possible the distinguishing of good from evil, and the recognition of *Father God’s* wise instruction for *His* people).

Yahweh’s Children must be *Faithful* to their *Heavenly Father* and follow the *Corrective Instructions* that are found only in *His Law* --- *The Ten Commandments*.

Father God’s “*Law*” is the path that holds the *key to Life* --- *The True and Right Path!*

Faithful Righteous people will follow this “*True and Right Path*” that is “*God’s Law*” walking *Respectfully* and not *stumbling*, but this same “*Law*” and *narrow path* will cause the *foolish wicked sinners* to *stumble* and *fall*.

*Proverbs 4:10–15 (NLT)**Wisdom’s Ways*

¹⁰ *My child, listen to me and do as I say,
and you will have a long, good life.*

¹¹ *I will teach you wisdom’s ways
and lead you in straight paths.*

¹² *When you walk, you won't be held back;
when you run, you won't stumble.*

¹³ *Take hold of my instructions; don't let them go.
Guard them, for they are the key to life.*

¹⁴ *Don't do as the wicked do,
and don't follow the path of evildoers.*

¹⁵ *Don't even think about it; don't go that way.
Turn away and keep moving.*