

# Hosea #1

## Chapter 1

- 1) During Hosea's time Israel was split in half. The group that stayed close to the Lord was called *Judah* and the other group in the north was called *Israel*. Hosea's prophecies found here spanned the reign of which kings of Judah?
- 2) What was the first (and shocking) thing that the Lord instructed Hosea?
- 3) What reason did the Lord give?
- 4) What did Hosea do?
- 5) What was his wife's name?
- 6) The Lord told Hosea to give his son what name?
- 7) In II Kings 9&10, Jehu (a general in the army) kills Joram, the evil king of Israel in a valley called *Jezebel* and becomes king. His descendants were also evil rulers. What does God say he is going to do in Jezebel now? (look at verses 4 & 5)
- 8) What name did Hosea give to his daughter?
- 9) **Lo-ruhamah** means, "no mercy (compassion)". What did the Lord want to illustrate by having Hosea give his daughter this name?
- 10) He states very clearly that he won't have compassion on Israel (mentioned above in question one). Who did the Lord say he would have compassion on?
- 11) Did He plan to deliver them by...a) Bow b) Sword c) Battle d) Horses e) Horseman f) By Himself
- 12) What did they name the third child?
- 13) That name "\_\_\_\_\_" means, "not my people!"
- 14) It will come about that, in the place where it is said to them, "You are not My people," it will be said to them, "You are the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_."
- 15) Besides the Jews of the wayward tribes of Israel, who else does Paul say that this prophecy refers to? (see Romans 9:24-26)?
- 16) We Gentiles, who have trusted in Jesus, are now referred to as, "the son's of the living God!" Isn't that cool?
- 17) In verse 11, it says that the divided nations of Judah and Israel will come together and choose a leader one day. Who do you think that leader will be? a) Obama b) The true Messiah (Jesus)

## Chapter 2:1-15

- 1) If Lo-Ammi means "not my people", and **lo** means "not", What does *Ammi* mean?
- 2) What do you think *Ruhamah* means?
- 3) Judah was faithful and Israel was unfaithful. Which is represented by the names of Ammi and Ruhamah?
- 4) Reading verses 2-7, do you think the *mother* mentioned represents the country as a whole (the motherland as it were)?
- 5) The entire land (Israel and Judah combined) had been straying on and off, even though Judah was usually more faithful. Did God still see them as one land?
- 6) In verses 5- 7, what did God plan to do to bring the country back to himself? (choose one)
  - a) Make it easy for her to run away from Him so that she learns her lesson
  - b) Make it very difficult to get help or make deals with others so that she will realize who she should trust and depend on.
- 7) Does it sound like a good idea to pray for the Lord to put "a hedge" around believers who are straying from Him making it painful and difficult to continue in sin?
- 8) Look at verse 8. Who had been taking care of the whole country of Israel?
- 9) Who had they been giving the credit to?
- 10) Read verse 9. What in this verse clearly shows you that he is talking about a nation and not just his wife?
- 11) Read verses 10-13. Who was being honored and sacrificed to at the festivals and celebrations?
- 12) Since they honored and thanked Baal in the harvest celebrations, what did God determine to do?
- 13) As you read verse 14, do you get the idea that God no longer cares about Israel.
- 14) **Achor** means "trouble". How can a Valley of Trouble become a "door of hope"? (remember why the Lord decided to give Israel "trouble")
- 15) Does God sometimes give us trouble, to wake us up to the fact that we are straying far from Him?

# Hosea #2

## Chapter 2:16-23

- 1) What name did the people use to refer to the Lord in the past?
- 2) What name did He say they would use in the future?
- 3) "Ishi" means, "my man" or "my husband" and Baali means, "my master." What do you think the Lord meant when He said that they would no longer call Him "my master" but "my husband" instead?
- 4) "The Baals" were false gods. Did God want them mentioned?
- 5) A betrothal is an engagement for marriage. What will be some characteristics of God's engagement to Israel mentioned in verses 19 and 20?
- 6) Read I Peter 2:9 and 10. These verses speak about us as believers. What verse in Hosea 2 is being quoted?
- 7) Does Peter seem to expect that we will be familiar with these Old Testament passages?

## Chapter 3

- 1) What situation does God use to show what His relationship with Israel is like?
- 2) Read Hosea 1:2 and Hosea 2:5. Does it sound like Hosea's wife stayed faithful to him after they married?
- 3) What did he have to do to get her back, according to verse 2?
- 4) If your spouse is unfaithful, do you have to divorce him/her?
- 5) Did God love Israel and does He love us despite our unfaithfulness?
- 6) Are they sacrificing in the temple in Israel? Do they have a king now?
- 7) Has the prophecy in verse 4 been fulfilled?
- 8) When will verse 5 be fulfilled? (hint-it's in the verse)
- 9) Since verse 5 hasn't been fulfilled yet, will God deal with Israel again in the future? (read Acts 15:15 & 16)

## Chapter 4

- 1) What three things were missing from the land of Israel at this time?
- 2) What did characterize the people of Israel? (vs. 2)
- 3) When God judges a people, are animals also affected?
- 4) Do verses 4 and 5 make it sound like there was a lot of religious confusion?
- 5) What was the reason the people of God were destroyed? (choose one)
  - a) Because they didn't follow the things they knew were right
  - b) Because they didn't want to obey God
  - c) Because they lacked knowledge
- 6) Was the knowledge they needed available to them?
- 7) Is there a great deal of knowledge about God available to us today?
- 8) Will we be held responsible if we choose to reject it or neglect it?
- 9) As they increased, did the people of Israel get closer to God and obey Him more fully?
- 10) What did he say the result would be?
- 11) What did they direct their desire toward?
- 12) Were the priests any better than the people?
- 13) What was taking away the hearts of the people of Israel?
- 14) Are sexual sins, drinking and drugs prevalent in believers today also?
- 15) When you follow after sinful things in your life and in your mind, does it affect your relationship with the Lord, or can you keep these things separate?
- 16) Read verse 13. Was Israel supposed to be sacrificing and worshipping where ever they wanted? (read Deuteronomy 12:1-6)
- 17) How did these false religions mix sex with worship? (see verse 14)
- 18) The nation of God was divided into two parts, Israel (in the north) and Judah (in the south). What was the danger of Israel becoming so evil? (see verse 15)
- 19) God wanted to pasture Israel like lambs but what did they actually act like?
- 20) The northern kingdom (Israel) was also called, Ephraim. According to verse 17, how was God instructing Judah to deal with Ephraim?
- 21) Why? (see I Corinthians 15:33)

# Hosea #3

## Chapter 5

- 1) Had the priests been helping the people?
- 2) Does verse two make it sound like the people were just a little off track?
- 3) What did God say He would do in this verse?
- 4) If God loves us, don't we avoid His chastening? (see Hebrews 12:5&6)
- 5) What was keeping Ephraim (the northern tribes of Israel) from returning to God?
- 6) Was Judah (the southern, normally more faithful part of Israel), doing OK?
- 7) Why was Judah not going to find the Lord?
- 8) How had they treated the Lord?
- 9) Does God always keep waiting for us to respond? (see Psalms 103:8-10)
- 10) Do verses 8 & 9 sound like *a concert announcement* or *a warning of an impending battle*?
- 11) When you read Deuteronomy 27:17, do you get the idea that moving people's property lines is a very disgusting thing to God?
- 12) Do the princes of Judah remind you of the politicians of today?
- 13) What does God compare Himself to in verse 12?
- 14) Whose help did Ephraim seek when they realized they were in big trouble?
- 15) God will be like a lion to Ephraim. What does a lion do, according to verse 14?
- 16) What two things did the Lord expect to happen before He would return to deliver Israel?
  - a)
  - b)

## Chapter 6

- 1) What does Hosea call Israel to do in verse 1?
- 2) This is just for fun. Read verse 2. II Peter 3:8 says: "Do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day." Using this formula, how many years would Israel be set aside as a country?
- 3) The Romans destroyed Israel as a country 40 years after Jesus' death. The country was reestablished in 1948. Roughly, how many days would that add up to?  
Note: not sure this is what is being prophesied here but it is pretty cool!
- 4) "So let us know, let us press on to \_\_\_\_\_ the LORD. His going forth is as certain as the dawn; And He will come to us like the rain, like the spring rain watering the earth."
- 5) Are you worried the sun won't come up tomorrow? Any doubt about the Lord's return?
- 6) What does the Lord compare Judah and Ephraim's loyalty to?
- 7) What does God prefer? Loyalty or sacrifice? Knowledge of God or burnt offerings?
- 8) Would God rather that you obey Him or that you disobey Him and later repent and say you are sorry?
- 9) Is Adam the only one to blame for sin?
- 10) Describe how bad the priests had become in cities like Shechem?
- 11) Will God ever revive His people?

## Chapter 7:1-10

- 1) Samaria was the center of false worship in the land of Ephraim (northern Israel). What kind of things were going on in that city?
- 2) Did they care what God thought?
- 3) Are the rulers upset with all of this evil?
- 4) Were sexual sins any problem back then?
- 5) What was in their oven in verse 4?
- 6) What was in their oven in verse 6?
- 7) What's cooking in your oven these days?
- 8) Ephraim was described as "a cake not turned", because they were mixing with the nations around them. What happens to a cake (biscuit) that is not turned in the oven? (choose one)
  - a) Cooked perfectly
  - b) Not cooked
  - c) Burned on one side and not done on the other
- 9) What is the danger of mixing with the nations (unbelievers)? (see Psalm 106:35&36)
- 10) Did they return to the Lord?

# Hosea #4

## Chapter 7:11-16

- 1) How does Hosea describe Ephraim?
- 2) Who do they seek after for protection? a) The Lord b) Egypt and Assyria
- 3) Why would they receive “woe”?
- 4) Why would they receive destruction?
- 5) Did they sincerely (from the heart) ask God for help?
- 6) “They turn, but \_\_\_\_\_, they are like a deceitful bow;”
- 7) God doesn’t just want change. He wants us to turn towards Him. Does a deceitful bow shoot where you point it?

## Chapter 8

- 1) Which musical instrument was used to signal a battle?
- 2) Read verse 2. What is the first thing Israel will do when they are attacked?
- 3) What things in verses 3&4 will cause the Lord not to come to the aid of Israel?
- 4) Samaria was the center of false worship in Northern Israel. What image (idol) did they use to represent God?
- 5) Doesn’t the phrase, “They are incapable of innocence”, kind of remind you of the world today?
- 6) The Lord says, “They sow (plant) the wind”. What will they reap (harvest)?
- 7) Do you usually harvest the same amount you plant or much more?
- 8) What do you think the phrase, “They are now among the nations” means?
  - a) They will be scattered among the nations
  - b) They will join the United Nations
  - c) They are among the respected nations
- 9) Where do most Jews live today? (hint- this verse is still true!) a) In Israel b) In different nations around the world
- 9) Does it sound like the Jews will be well liked around the world?
- 10) How many precepts (rules to live by) were written for Ephraim?
- 11) Where do you think these rules for living were written?
- 12) Did they read them or try to follow them?
- 13) Did they present their sacrifices in sincerity?
- 14) For Israel has forgotten his \_\_\_\_\_ and built palaces;
- 15) What’s more important in your life, having a beautiful home, or remembering the Lord in your life?
- 16) What happened to those palaces and fortresses?

## Chapter 9:1-9

- 1) What picture of unfaithfulness and betrayal does the Lord use to represent His relationship with Israel?
- 2) Do you think these statements were especially painful for Hosea since his wife had been unfaithful and had been involved in prostitution?
- 3) Is it sometimes hard to talk about things that have been areas of personal sin or failure?
- 4) Do we need to hide these things or use what we have learned to help and strengthen others?
- 5) According to verse 3, who does the land of Israel belong to?
  - a) The Palestinians b) The Jews c) The Lord
- 6) What two countries are specifically mentioned as places where the Jews would end up living?
- 7) Were they going to keep performing their sacrifices and feasts?
- 8) Does verse 6 make it sound like these people were coming back?
- 9) Does verse seven make it sound like there is time to correct this problem?
- 10) Ephraim was located right above Jerusalem and could warn them. Does it sound like he would be warning anybody?
- 11) “They have gone deep in depravity. As in the days of Gibeah;” What was the deep depravity in the days of Gibeah? (see Judges 19:14-30)
- 12) How was Gibeah punished for their sins? (see Judges 20:34-38)

# Hosea #5

## Chapter 9:10-17

- 1) What does verse 10 say to you?
  - a) God saw Israel when they were nothing special but saw their potential.
  - b) God thought Israel was wild.
- 2) What did Israel do at Baal-Peor, that “devoted them to shame”? (see Numbers 25:1-9)
- 3) Does it affect our relationship with God when we start to mingle with the world and join in their practices?
- 4) Was their poor relationship with the Lord going to affect their children?
- 5) Did Ephraim have a nice location to live in?
- 6) Does a nice income and a fine home mean anything if you see your children slaughtered by the enemy?
- 7) Are our children in danger of the enemy today?
- 8) Why was God driving Israel out of His house?
- 9) According to verse 17, why was God going to cast Ephraim away?
- 10) Do you think it is important to listen to the Lord today?
- 11) How do we listen to Him?

## Chapter 10

- 1) Did Israel use all of their material blessings to serve and honor the Lord?
- 2) How does the prophet describe Israel’s heart?
- 3) In verses 3 & 4 the people sound contrite but are they sincere?
- 4) What was going to be carried into Assyria?
- 5) What will be Israel’s reaction to this? (choose one)
  - a) Realize that it was a worthless idol
  - b) Weep because they think a foreign country had stolen the real god
- 6) Describe a stick floating on the surface of the water.
- 7) Will they still be worshiping in their “high places”?
- 8) Then they will say to the mountains, “\_\_\_\_\_ us! “ And to the hills, “\_\_\_\_\_ on us!”
- 9) In verse 9, Israel is described as, “the sons of \_\_\_\_\_”.
- 10) How would you feel if God described you like that?
- 11) When it says Ephraim will have a “yoke” or a “harness”, what is it talking about?
  - a) Servitude and the loss of freedom
  - b) Opportunity for plenty of jobs
- 12) Is there any hope in verse 12?
- 13) “Sow with a view to \_\_\_\_\_, Reap in accordance with \_\_\_\_\_; Break up your fallow ground, For it is time to \_\_\_\_\_ the LORD. Until He comes to rain righteousness on you.”
- 14) When you are being disciplined, what *time* is it? (choose one)
  - a) Time to run
  - b) Time to seek the Lord
  - c) Time to relax
  - d) Time to complain
- 15) What was the basic reason Israel had “reaped injustice” and “eaten the fruit of lies”?
- 16) Look at verse 14. We don’t know much about the history of the battle mentioned here, but what happened in it, that made a lasting impression on people who knew about it?
- 17) Who does the prophet say will experience the same atrocity?

## Chapter 11:1-4

- 1) “Out of Egypt I called My \_\_\_\_\_”
- 2) What event in the New Testament, does this prophecy refer to, that no one reading it before the time of Christ understood? (see Matthew 2:13-15)
- 3) In verse 2, I think, the Lord is referring to the call of the prophets for the people to abandon their idols. How did Israel respond to these calls?
- 4) What important event in a parent/child relationship does the Lord use in talking about His relationship to Ephraim (northern Israel)?

# Hosea #6

## Chapter 11:5-12

- 1) Why were these people going to be taken away in captivity to Assyria?
- 2) Why are the cities going to be destroyed and consumed according to verses 5 & 7?
- 3) Read verse 8. Does God enjoy punishing His people?
- 4) What happened to the cities of Admah and Zeboiim? (see Deuteronomy 29:23)
- 5) Which cities were destroyed with them which are more famous? (Dt. 29:23)
- 6) Did God say He was going to execute His fierce anger against His people?
- 7) For I am \_\_\_\_\_ and not man, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8) When God roars like a lion, how will His people react?
- 9) How does verse 12 remind you of II Timothy 2:13?

## Chapter 12

- 1) What two evils characterized Ephraim (northern Israel)?
- 2) Who did Ephraim try to make deals with for protection, instead of seeking the Lord's protection?
- 3) The Lord was angry with Ephraim (northern Israel). Was He happy with Judah (southern Israel)?
- 4) "In the womb he took his brother by the \_\_\_\_\_."
- 5) What incident is this talking about? (see Genesis 25:24-26)
- 6) Did the scripture talk about the child in the womb as a "fetus" or as a person?
- 7) What is verse 4 talking about? (Genesis 32:24-32)
- 8) Does it seem like Jacob (later called "Israel") really strived to be God's man?
- 9) What is God telling Israel to do in verse 6?
- 10) How does God respond to people who cheat others (have false balances)?
- 11) Read verses 8-11. Did Ephraim think they had sinned?
- 12) What did God think?(See vs.11 and note that Gilead and Gilgal were in the north)
- 13) They were supposed to be sacrificing in Jerusalem. Where were they sacrificing?
- 14) What incident does verse 12 refer to? (Genesis 29:13-20)
- 15) Does it sound like the writer expects the reader to know the history of Israel from the book of Genesis?
- 16) What prophet is referred to in verse 13?
- 17) Who caused judgment to be brought on Ephraim?

## Chapter 13:1-13

- 1) The tribe of Ephraim was very powerful. The worship of what false god was their downfall?
- 2) What were they told to do during worship that really seemed to anger God?
- 3) Ephraim was compared to what 4 things that soon disappear? a) \_\_\_\_\_ b) \_\_\_\_\_ c) \_\_\_\_\_ d) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Is there any other savior besides the Lord?
- 5) There are many groups that say Jesus is not God. Why would Hosea 13:4 make this impossible when compared with Titus 1:3&4?
- 6) What led to Israel forgetting the Lord?
- 7) What could happen to us if God gives us everything we want to satisfy us?
- 8) Since they forgot God, what five animals did He say He would become like? a) \_\_\_\_\_ b) \_\_\_\_\_ c) \_\_\_\_\_ d) \_\_\_\_\_ e) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) Where was Israel's help supposed to come from?
- 10) Was it God's idea for Israel to have a king? (see I Samuel 12:12&13)
- 11) According to those verses, who was supposed to be Israel's king?
- 12) What emotion did God have when He gave Israel a king?
- 13) What emotion did He have when He took the king away?
- 14) When the pains of childbirth come, can the birth be easily delayed?
- 15) Do we sometimes keep on a path that leads to God's discipline despite His warnings?
- 16) Is that dangerous?

# Hosea #7

## Chapter 13:14-16

- 1) Verse 14 is talking about the evil nation of Ephraim (northern Israel). It asks these two questions: “Shall I \_\_\_\_\_ them from the \_\_\_\_\_ of Sheol?” “Shall I \_\_\_\_\_ them from \_\_\_\_\_?”
- 2) Does the last line in verse 14 make you think He would “ransom” or “redeem” them at this time?
- 3) What are the other two questions asked in verse 14?
  - a)
  - b)
- 4) Part of this passage is quoted in I Corinthians 15:51-57, when Paul is talking about the resurrection. It says: “But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, ***‘Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?’*** The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” Is the passage an exact quotation of Hosea 13:14?
- 5) Some people look at this passage and think there is a mistake by Paul. However, we need to remember that *quotation marks* are not found in the manuscripts of scripture. Is the phrase “Death is swallowed up in victory”, found anywhere in the Hosea passage?
- 6) I believe that Paul is referring to two passages in the Old Testament. Isaiah 25:8 and Hosea 13:14. Isaiah 25:8 says, “He will \_\_\_\_\_ up \_\_\_\_\_ for all time.”
- 7) To the people of Israel at that time He is saying, “Compassion will be hidden from My sight”, but to us, He is talking about how He will show compassion for us because His Son “swallowed up death for all time” and now death and the grave have no “sting”. What did the sting of death used to be according to I Cor. 15:56?
- 8) When was death swallowed up in victory for all time? (hint - God said, “It is finished”, at the time.)
- 9) Read Hosea 13: 15&16. Even if Ephraim felt safe for a while, would they be safe?
- 10) Describe how bad things would get in this coming battle.
- 11) Aren’t you glad that God, “gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ”, now?

## Chapter 14

- 1) What was God still calling Israel to do?
- 2) What caused Israel to stumble?
- 3) If we feel far away from God, what has probably been the cause?
- 4) What does God want us to do?
- 5) In verse two, are they told to get rid of sin through their own efforts or, are they told to ask God to take it away?
- 6) Could they depend on anything else to save them (like Assyria or their false gods)?
- 7) Isn’t it amazing how salvation has always been through God alone and not our own efforts?
- 8) If there was going to be true repentance in Israel, list some of the things that God said would happen. (list 10)
  - a)
  - b)
  - c)
  - d)
  - e)
  - f)
  - g)
  - h)
  - i)
  - j)
- 9) Who was in actuality looking out for Ephraim?
- 10) How does verse eight remind you of John 15:4?
- 11) Which verse do you think sums up the whole message of the book of Hosea?
- 12) If we learned from the book of Hosea, could we save ourselves from a lot of grief and heartache?