

## ***The Book of Hosea***

### ***Chapter One***

*Hosea 1:1 The word of the Lord that came unto Hosea, the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.*

*Hosea* means *salvation*.

*Beeri* means *fountain or well*.

*Uzziah* means *strength of Yah*.

*Jotham* means *Yahaveh is upright*.

*Ahaz* means *possessor*.

*Hezekiah* means *the might of Yah*.

I want you to make note that the above six men are of the **House of Judah** and then it switches to Jeroboam and Joash of the **House of Israel**.

*Jeroboam* means *his people are many*. Jeroboam is king over the ten northern Tribes, the House of Israel.

*Joash* means *to whom Yah hastens*.

A little history here: Jeroboam was king over Israel, **the Northern Kingdom, the House of Israel**, and they were all at the city of Samaria. Remember, this is the capitol of the **House of Israel**.

Samaria was about 30 miles north of Jerusalem and that was a pretty far piece to walk, just to get to Jerusalem for the seven yearly feast days that our Father commanded that they attend.

They are:

- ◊ *Feast of Passover—14<sup>th</sup> Aviv (Nisan)-- March-April*
- ◊ *Feast of Unleavened Bread—15<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Aviv (Nisan)-- March-April*
- ◊ *Feast of First Fruits—Aviv (Nisan)-- March-April*
- ◊ *Feast of Pentecost—50 Days Sivan-- May-June*
- ◊ *Feast of Trumpets—1 Tishri-- Sept-Oct*
- ◊ *Feast of the Day of Atonement—10<sup>th</sup> Tishri-- Sept-Oct*
- ◊ *Feast of Tabernacles—15<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> Tishri-- Sept-Oct*

So, 'ole Jeroboam decided to build two calves made out of gold and then told the people that they didn't have to make that long walk or journey down to Jerusalem, they could just stay at home and worship these two golden calves.

King Jeroboam told his people that they could stay at home and worship pagan idols made of gold rather than go to Jerusalem the seven times a year as our Father had commanded them to do.

This didn't sit well with our Father and Israel, as a whole, had a long history of turning their back to the Father and taking up with the pagan gods of the surrounding nations. Hey, it included doing a lot of drinking and orgies and things of that nature and the NATURE of these human beings gave in to these temptations and off they went, on their own path and not the path of our Father.

Cool it. We're human also and no different today.

You can see how angry our Father is from what He says in the next verse;

*Hosea 1:2 The beginning of the word of the Lord by Hosea. And the Lord said to Hosea, Go, take unto thee a wife of whoredoms and children of whoredoms: for the land hath committed great whoredom, departing from the Lord.*

If you want to get out there and whore around with these people why don't you just go and marry one of them! I mean, *the land hath committed great whoredom*, the whole land of people was whoring around, ignoring our Father and His commandments, so just go ahead and dig in with them.

*Hosea 1:3 So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim; which conceived, and bare him a son.*

So Hosea did exactly what our Father had instructed him to do, he went out and married Gomer, a harlot, a whore, and she gave him a son.

*Gomer* means *completeness* and, in their worship of idols, it was to the point of completeness. Which is why our Father is "divorcing" them. Giving them over to their own pleasures and desires.

*Diblaim* means *double-fig-cakes* and that is usually associated with sensual pleasures.

*Hosea 1:4 And the Lord said unto him, Call his name Jezreel; for yet a little while, and I will avenge the blood of Jezreel upon the house of Jehu, and will cause to cease the kingdom of the house of Israel.*

The only thing that our Father is going to *cease* is the NAME of the House of Israel, He's not doing away with all the people. How will He do away with the name? By scattering them across the earth, thus they would be called "the Ten Lost Tribes".

But they're not lost to our Father; He knows where each and every one of them went; he knows all their children and where they are....He knows because He is Almighty and All-knowing. Nothing gets past Him.

And what about *I will avenge the blood of Jezreel upon the house of Jehu*? What is that referencing? Don't overlook the fact that our Father named this little baby right after he was born, giving him the name of Jezreel. Why Jezreel?

First of all, the name Jezreel is a homonym which means that it has two meanings: the first one is "*may God scatter*", and you can find that written in Jeremiah 31:10; and the second meaning is "*may God sow*", and you can find that written in Zechariah 10:9:

*Jeremiah 31:10 Hear the word of the Lord, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say, He that scattered Israel will gather him, and keep him, as a shepherd doth his flock. KJV.*

*Zechariah 10:9 And I will sow them among the people: and they shall remember me in far countries; and they shall live with their children, and turn again. KJV*

He's going to scatter them and cause their name to be forgotten but then He will bring them back and that began to happen in May, 1948 when the International borders of Israel were once again reestablished. Like it or not, the good and bad fig began to return to the land of their fathers: Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Now, Jezreel is also a name of a place long before this child was born here in Hosea and we have to go back to the book of 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings to find out what that was all about. Something important must have happened in that field long ago or our Father would not have anything to *avenge* and Jehu had something to do with it.

Jehu had carried out the judgment of our Father on the house of Ahab, because it accorded with his own will; but he was guilty of murder because it was not executed purely according to the will of our Father. He would have disobeyed had it not served his own interest. This is seen from the fact that he practiced Jeroboam's idolatries for which Ahab had been judged.

All of this happened about 320 years prior to these writings of Hosea. Our Father never forgets.

*Hosea 1:5 And it shall come to pass at that day, that I will break the bow of Israel in the valley of Jezreel.*

Our Father will make it come to pass.

*Hosea 1:6 And she conceived again, and bare a daughter. And God said unto him, Call her name Lo-ruhamah: for I will no more have mercy upon the house of Israel; but I will utterly take them away.*

Keep in mind that this concerns the ten Northern Tribes, the House of Israel.

What does *Lo-ruhamah* mean? It means the opposite of pity and that's love:

**Lo-Ruhamah** OT:3819 *Lo' Ruchamah* (*lo roo-khaw-maw'*); from OT:3808 and OT:7355; **not pitied**; *Louchamah, the symbol. name of a son of Hosea:*

And the word *Lo* is:

**Lo** OT:3808 *lo'* (*lo*); or *low'* (*lo*); or *loh* (*Deuteronomy 3:11*) (*lo*); a primitive particle; **not** (the simple or abs. negation); by implication, **no**; often used with other particles (as follows):

Putting these two definitions together we have "not loved". This little daughter was not loved. Not loved by whom? By our Father. No mercy.

*Hosea 1:7 But I will have mercy upon the house of Judah, and will save them by the Lord their God, and will not save them by bow, nor by sword, nor by battle, by horses, nor by horsemen.*

Father now talking about the **House of Judah, the Southern Kingdom**, the Tribes of Judah and **Benjamin**.

*Hosea 1:8 Now when she had weaned Lo-ruhamah, she conceived, and bare a son.*

Hosea now has a son and a daughter.

*Hosea 1:9 Then said God, Call his name Lo-ammi: for ye are not my people, and I will not be your God.*

**Lo-ammi:** OT:3818 *Lo' `Ammiy* (*lo am-mee'*); from OT:3808 and OT:5971 with pronominal suffix; **not my people**; *Lo-Ammi, the symbolic name of a son of Hosea:*

And as with Lo' ruhamah, Lo here also means not. No love and no connection.

What's up with this? Why is our Father saying that the son and daughter of one of His prophets is not loved or recognized by Him? Because they are of the House of Israel; constantly rejecting the love given towards them by Him. They turned away from Him and now He turns away from them.

We're not different today. How many times have you and I turned away from Him because we wanted to do something that we knew He did not approve of? And once acted upon we think that we can push it into the cobwebs of our mind and ignore it.

Problem is it's going to eat at you until you do something about it and the feeling of relief that we get when we confess and repent of the things that offend Him, how much better we feel about ourselves afterwards.

Listen carefully.

*Hosea 1:10 Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured nor numbered; and it shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people, there it shall be said unto them, Ye are the sons of the living God.*

He's not going to toss them to the curb entirely because He still loves them, they are, after His children, just like you and I. After they were scattered they slowly came back together and formed one of the greatest countries on this earth...America. The superpower of them all.

The older I get the more sickened and disgusted I become when I see politicians like Obama, Pelosi, Reed, McConnell and Boehner. People think that there is a big difference between the Democrats and the Republicans and there is not one iota of difference. They simply fight against one another in their quest for power and leadership because that's where the big money is.

Both parties are selling this country out for the almighty dollar.

*Hosea 1:11 Then shall the children of Judah and the children of Israel be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land: for great shall be the day of Jezreel. KJV*

The **House of Judah** and the **House of Israel**. All twelve Tribes will be gathered together again and you're seeing it happen right before you today. Father said that He would plant them again in the land of their forefathers and not ever pluck them up again:

*Jeremiah 24:6 For I will set mine eyes upon them for good, and I will bring them again to this land: and I will build them, and not pull them down; and I will plant them, and not pluck them up. KJV*

The **one head** will be Jesus Christ, not only for Israel and Judah, but looking forward to the time of the end of this life, as we know it, when ALL humanity should look to Him. But, of course, they won't.

In the 37<sup>th</sup> chapter of Ezekiel there are two "sticks" mentioned, one having the name of Israel written on it and the other having the name of Judah written on it. These two houses or "branches" will be united under our Father after the reign of the Antichrist when, like it or not, we all become one under the head of Christ.

As human beings we always inflate our own opinion of ourselves, pointing out to others what we have done for Christ or our Father, trying to make sure that we receive the recognition we think we deserve but we need to be careful and not be like Jehu.

He did what our Lord expected of him but only because it coincided with his own ambitions, wants and desires. Had he thought differently of the situation he may have disobeyed our Father because he wanted to go off in a different direction.

Putting ourselves on our own back for following our Father's directives, only because it suits our own purposes at the time, will eventually backfire and cause our own destruction. Our Father sees the truth of our intentions even if we lie to ourselves about them.

People are taught by most religions that divorce is bad and against the laws of our Father and when someone says that He divorced Israel they might think that it's just a metaphor, using this word "divorce", when in actuality, He did divorce Israel with His own words:

*Jeremiah 3:8 And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also.*

Verse 9...

*Jeremiah 3:9 And it came to pass through the lightness of her whoredom, that she defiled the land, and committed adultery with stones and with stocks.*

We serve a jealous God and it makes Him very angry when we drift away from Him and begin to follow the directives of some church organization, some radical preacher or the latest trend within a society that is taught to ignore our Father.

## ***The Book of Hosea***

### ***Chapter Two***

**Hosea 2:1 Say ye unto your brethren, Ammi; and to your sisters, Ru-hamah.**

These words will be spoken after the fulfillment of Chapter 1, verse 11 has been accomplished. Let's review:

**Hosea 1:11 Then shall the children of Judah and the children of Israel be gathered together, and appoint themselves one head, and they shall come up out of the land: for great shall be the day of Jezreel. KJV**

What is this **Ammi**?

**Ammi:** OT:5971 `am (am); from OT:6004; **a people** (as a congregated unit); specifically, a tribe (as those of Israel); hence (collectively) troops or attendants; figuratively, a flock:

And what is **Ru-hamah**?

**Ru-hamah:** OT:7355 **racham** (raw-kham'); a primitive root; to fondle; by implication, **to love**, especially to **compassionate**:

You are My people and I love you. Who is our Father saying this to? Both the House of Israel and the House of Judah. This is what they'll be saying AFTER the punishment is over and He again shows them His love for them.

**Hosea 2:2 Plead with your mother, plead: for she is not my wife, neither am I her husband: let her therefore put away her whoredoms out of her sight, and her adulteries from between her breasts;**

Plead with Israel and Judah, twice for emphasis. "Mother" is being used of the nation and the people of those nations are asked to plead for a change of heart from the nations misguided. Father is saying that He is no longer "married" to Israel or Judah.

This analogy of being "wed" to our Father and a "marriage" taking place and being "with child" is used throughout the scriptures because we can better understand what He's telling us if He uses day-to-day activities in our lives to represent something spiritual.

If we are "with child" when He returns it means that we have gone to bed and slept with Satan, a metaphor that simply means that we have believed the lies that Satan has put forth rather than believing the truth that our Father has put forth.

The **whoredoms** and **adulteries** that are committed by this present generation of Israel is what our Father wants them to stop. Or else there's going to be some kind of punishment.

**Hosea 2:3 Lest I strip her naked, and set her as in the day that she was born, and make her as a wilderness, and set her like a dry land, and slay her with thirst.**

If we take this in the spiritual sense, the unfruitful land and thirst would be for the Word of God as illustrated in Amos, chapter 8:

**Amos 8:11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord: KJV**

And being **naked** is a result of not having any good works to take with us when we return to that heavenly realm for the Millennium and the Eternity. If you don't believe in or listen to the Word of God, you live according to the world around you, you will certainly be naked and not have the robe of comfort as the result of our actions in this life:

**Revelation 19:7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.**

There's that analogy again that we were just talking about.

*Revelation 19:8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.*

*Revelation 19:9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God. KJV*

This *righteousness* is comprised of all our good works. Well, exactly what constitutes a good work? Do we have to be a fantastic preacher and save most to the world? Do we have to dedicate our life to doing well for others like Mother Theresa?

Nope. A kind word to someone will do. A smile from you when others are facing a serious problem. All it takes is love and concern for your fellow man to receive some basic threads and if you take all of the good deeds, from the length of your entire life, you're probably going to have a pretty nice robe to wear "up there".

Just don't lie, cheat, murder....and so on. You'll not be called to the marriage supper if this is how you lived in this life.

*Hosea 2:4 And I will not have mercy upon her children; for they be the children of whoredoms.*

These are not the sins of the father passed on to the children; these are the **children committing the same sins as their fathers.**

*Hosea 2:5 For their mother hath played the harlot: she that conceived them hath done shamefully: for she said, I will go after my lovers, that give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, mine oil and my drink.*

The analogy continues... *I* representing the House of Israel as a whole and the bread, water, wool and so on are payment for listening to Satan and not our Father. Presents from the world. Not the spiritual. Remember what Jesus said about the "world" in general?

*James 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. KJV*

Satan makes it look so wonderful; our Father says that you are in danger of going to hell if you like it more than Him.

*Hosea 2:6 Therefore, behold, I will hedge up thy way with thorns, and make a wall, that she shall not find her paths.*

He's going to confuse her.

*Hosea 2:7 And she shall follow after her lovers, but she shall not overtake them; and she shall seek them, but shall not find them: then shall she say, I will go and return to my first husband; for then was it better with me than now.*

Who was the *first husband*? I would hope that it was Christ.

*Hosea 2:8 For she did not know that I gave her corn, and wine, and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold, which they prepared for Baal.*

Our Father blessed them and gave them all these wonderful things and what did they do with them? They offered them up to a false god, a god associated with Satan. His gifts going to Satan. Do you think that made Him happy?

*Hosea 2:9 Therefore will I return, and take away my corn in the time thereof, and my wine in the season thereof, and will recover my wool and my flax given to cover her nakedness.*

He's going to put a hole in their bucket big enough to drive a freight train through.

*Hosea 2:10 And now will I discover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and none shall deliver her out of mine hand.*

The sins that Israel is committing are the same kind of sins that we commit today. We're all human; we are basically the same today as those people back in the days of Hosea.

That pretty little lady, standing on the street corner in Jerusalem, with the earrings and painted lips is not different than the bleached-blonde with the plastic boob job that you were watching on your favorite porn channel the other night after your wife went to bed.

Or the wife telling hubby that she's going out with "the girls" only to find out she's rubbing body parts with Bubba down at the Dew-Drop-In bar in the next town over.

Don't get self-righteous and a big head....we're just as treacherous today as they were back then.

*Hosea 2:11 I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts.*

Our Father is still wailing on these people and they're going to be sad.

*Hosea 2:12 And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees, whereof she hath said, These are my rewards that my lovers have given me: and I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall eat them.*

Father is going to strip away all the goodies they received through their sinning. He's going to take away all His protection and let them go one-on-one with Satan and see how they like that. I give you all these blessings and you STILL want to dance with 'ole Slew Foot? Hey, go for it because Satan will chew you up and eat you for breakfast every day of the week.

At least when our Father punishes us He does it in love, Satan never loved us and he does if for revenge. He will have no mercy on you.

*Hosea 2:13 And I will visit upon her the days of Baalim, wherein she burned incense to them, and she decked herself with her earrings and her jewels, and she went after her lovers, and forgat me, saith the Lord.*

They get all prettied-up and take off to Satan's church on HIS feast days and you might think that we don't do that sort of thing nowadays but how about going to sunrise services on Easter morning? Remember what word Easter is translated from?

*Acts 12:4 And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people. KJV*

This is the only verse in the entire Bible where the word "Easter" is used but the Greek Septuagint has the word "pascha" and not Easter:

**Easter** NT:3957 pascha (pas'-khah); of Aramaic origin [compare OT:6453]; **the Passover** (the meal, the day, the festival or the special sacrifices connected with it):

Every other occasion of the word "pascha" is found it has been properly translated as Passover EXCEPT in this particular instance. At the time of the Crucifixion of our Lord, when He gave His life for the sins of all mankind SOMEONE chose to use the word "Easter" instead of "Passover", on the holiest day of the Christian year.

What does Easter mean?

From Nelson's Bible Dictionary:

*Easter was originally a pagan festival honoring Eostre, a Teutonic (Germanic) goddess of light and spring. At the time of the vernal equinox (the day in the spring when the sun crosses the equator and day and night are of equal length), sacrifices were offered in her honor. As early as the eighth century, the name was used to designate the annual Christian celebration of the resurrection of Christ.*

Eostre was a fertility goddess and the great Christian churches also associated some other "fertility" symbols with Eostre as well and they came up with the Easter bunny, egg coloring and sunrise services.

And we're different than the people of Hosea's time? Yeah, right.

*Hosea 2:14 Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her.*

I will try to bring “her” back to Me, Israel, that is

*Hosea 2:15 And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt.*

What happened in the *valley of Achor* that it might bring hope to the House of Israel?

Remember Joshua and the city of Jericho? Long story short: After the walls of Jericho came tumbling down.....I have to stop here and tell you something that is really unique and demonstrates the vast love of our Father towards His children even in the smallest things:

When these walls, made of stone and dirt, came tumbling down part of the rubble fell INTO the ground, level with the ground so that it was easy for the Israelite army to walk into the city. The parts that DIDN'T fall INTO the ground lay in such a way as to make an inclined ramp up into the city and they just walked right on in. I've always thought that that was remarkable.

Now, our Father told them that they were to burn everything that was in the city of Jericho and utterly destroy it but since there's always ONE knucklehead in every bunch, 'ole Achan decided to take some of the spoils and hide it with his personal stuff in his tent.

Part of the spoils was a robe that was worn by a Baal priest and Achan just fell in love with it because it looked soooo religious; it made him feel sooooo important. Trouble was, it ticked our Father off, kindled His wrath and that's not a good thing to do.

No one knew about it except our Father and when Joshua sent 3000 troops into the city of Ai, they were defeated and killed. Joshua asked our Father why He had left them and Achan was the reason why.

Judgment came swift to Achan and his family for every Israelite there stoned him and his family to death and they burnt all of their belongings. The valley within which Achan and his family were destroyed was named the Valley of Achor and later became the Valley of Trouble.

But hope sprang anew after Achan's transgression against our Father and that's why He mentions it here in Hosea. He will again bring hope to the House of Israel, after His judgment on them, just like He did in the Valley of Trouble.

Hosea believed that that “which is to be hath already been,” the great principle of the divine government living on through all the ages, and issuing in similar acts when the circumstances are similar. King Solomon believed the exact same thing when he said that “there is nothing new under the sun.”

*Hosea 2:16 And it shall be at that day, saith the Lord, that thou shalt call me Ishi; and shalt call me no more Baali.*

We need to know what the words *Ishi* and *Baali* mean:

*Ishi:* OT:376 'iysh (eesh); contracted for OT:582 [or perhaps rather from an unused root meaning to be extant]; **a man as an individual or a male person;** often used as an adjunct to a more definite term (and in such cases frequently not expressed in translation):

In the case of it being used here in Hosea it would mean “husband”.

*Baali:* OT:1180 Ba`aliy (bah-al-ee'); from OT:1167 with pron. suff.; my master; Baali, a symbolical name for Jehovah:

It started out to be a general term for Lord but over time it became associated with a general term for any heathen god, Baal.

Father is saying that we will refer to Him in the sense of a husband and not a higher authority. And, symbolically, He is our “husband” because we are to be “wed” to Him and not to Satan. And if you take up with Satan and believe his lies you, according to our Father, will be “with child”, a traitor, and you will have succumbed to the Antichrist in the last days.

*Hosea 2:17 For I will take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth, and they shall no more be remembered by their name.*

The House of Israel will no longer worship or call upon the name of some pagan god but they will call upon the True Father. But through it all, they will still be scattered and everyone will forget their name and who they were. Scattered across this globe.

If you were to say to someone today that they might have some Jewish ancestry in their blood they might take offense to it. Personally, I would be proud to make such a claim.

*Hosea 2: 18 And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely.*

This can apply to the present day, I reckon, but where can you lie down safely today? The days of going to bed at night and leaving your doors unlocked are long gone.

But if we look at the spiritual side of it, those who are “wed” to Him during these end times will defeat Satan, in the aspect that they will know that he is the fake messiah and not believe his lies. This will put the seal of our Father in their brain and they will make it successfully through the five-month tribulation of the Antichrist and enjoy the spiritual life throughout the Eternity.

And that's the place where you can lie down safely and securely. Even the carnivorous animals will lie down beside us in complete peace and safety.

*Isaiah 65:25 The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the Lord. KJV*

*Hosea 2:19 And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee*

We will “wed” Him at the “marriage”.

*Hosea 2:20 I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the Lord.*

Believe in Him and He will be your God and you will be His people. You will *know* Him by studying and reading His letter to us....the Bible. You will understand that He has feelings just like we do. Read enough of the Old Testament and you'll see His anger followed shortly thereafter by His love as He reprimands us and turns us back to Him and away from the ways of this world. Satan's world.

Thank God He loves us enough to reprimand us. Indifference is love-less and a sure trip to hell.

*Hosea 2:21 And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the Lord, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth;*

*Hosea 2:22 And the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall hear Jezreel.*

The earth and heaven are one, a togetherness that can never be separated.

*Hosea 2:23 And I will sow her unto me in the earth;*

A promise.

*and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy;*

That's ruhamah...

*and I will say to them which were not my people,*

Lo-ammi....not my people

*Thou art my people;*

Ammi....they are My people.

*and they shall say, Thou art my God. KJV*

Is He your God or is the world your god? How much time is left for you to make that decision? How much time is left for you to build up a store of rewards that will be given to you on Judgment Day? If you're going through this life with next to nothing, never promoted at work, never getting that raise in pay,

always being on the short end, NEVER RECEIVING HIS BLESSINGS, then keep on doing the same 'ole same 'ole.

And we'll forget about you very quickly after Judgment Day...

But if you want to connect to Him and become a part of something that will last forever and ever, get down on your knees and talk to Him. You don't need some memorized prayer, you don't have to pick up a hymnal and sing and you don't have to go to some church, some beth-aven.

Find a quiet spot at home where you can be undisturbed for a short period of time and then just talk to Him. Don't try to be eloquent, don't be self-effacing, He knows who and what you are before you begin to kneel.

Just talk to Him.

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## **The Book of Hosea**

### **Chapter 3**

In these verses our Father is teaching us by using examples of one or two individuals to represent the whole of Israel. In a sense, Hosea and his wives would represent Israel and her whoring after false gods and snubbing their nose at our Father. Drinking to excess and parting all night long.

The **adulteress** represent how Israel goes around whoring after false prophets, false teachers and false preachers, rather wanting their ears to be “tickled” with nonsense and lies rather than hearing the Word of our Father in all of its truthfulness.

Yeah, it's probably a lot more fun to play church and all the little games that come with it, making sure that everyone knows how holy you are, how dedicated to the “church” you are, rather than sitting there quietly with your hands caressing your bible while listening to a good teacher/preacher read the real truth of our Father's Word. I mean, that's kind of boring, isn't it?

In these days and times, who in their right mind wants to know anything about this Hosea fella and what he was up to 2700 years ago? Man, give me something current. Let's have a revival and get all lathered up while a really-professional speaker lies to us. Now that's having some fun!

They can't see any further down the road than their outstretched hand and mostly because they really don't want to. I'm gonna tell you....there are no rewards in heaven for “playing church” and ignoring our Father so you can whore around, spiritually, all you like and you had better enjoy it today because tomorrow has some dark clouds coming your way and there's no getting away from it.

EVERYBODY has to pay the price so get smart. Get off that “party wagon” you call a house of God and get down on your knees and thank Him for what He has given you, stop looking to others when you should be looking to our Father.

The House of Israel was ignoring Him....why are you doing that as well?

*Hosea 3:1 Then said the Lord unto me, Go yet, love a woman beloved of her friend, yet an adulteress, according to the love of the Lord toward the children of Israel, who look to other gods, and love flagons of wine.*

It would appear from this verse that Gomer has somehow died because our Father is telling Hosea to go out and find another prostitute, another adulteress.

*Hosea 3:2 So I bought her to me for fifteen pieces of silver, and for an homer of barley, and an half homer of barley:*

Fifteen pieces of silver was the price of a slave back in those days. “*Many days*” would indicate a limited period of time.

*Hosea 3:3 And I said unto her, Thou shalt abide for me many days; thou shalt not play the harlot, and thou shalt not be for another man: so will I also be for thee.*

Hosea has purchased her and now has the right to tell her what to do.

*Hosea 3:4 For the children of Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince, and without a sacrifice, and without an ephod, and without teraphim:*

In the Hebrew Manuscripts it would read like this:

“Many Days”

“Shall abide”

"The Children of Israel"

"Without a King"

*Hosea 3:5 Afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek the Lord their God, and David their king; and shall fear the Lord and his goodness in the latter days. KJV*

Verse 5 would read like this:

"Afterward"

"Shall return"

"The Children of Israel"

"Yahaveh, and David their King"

"In the latter days"

These ten "lost Tribes" of Israel will be without a king and that's as it should be. How can a people be scattered across the face of this earth and still have a king? Impossible.

But the day is coming when that WILL happen, after the "*many days*" period of time which is approaching with the Day of the Lord coming.

Are you going to be like lost Israel? Hosea was in the Old Testament times but you are fortunate because with the death on the cross of our Lord, you and I already have our "King" before us. All we have to do is acknowledge His Presence and existence.

Quit whoring around after things of this world. Yeah, I know, you've got the money and you're going to spend it on "toys" but if your religious foundation is based on some church "aven", a church of vanity, a church of nothingness, your soul will never be happy no matter how many toys you buy for yourself.

Once you find that true connection to our Father and our Lord, then, and only then, will you spend that money in the correct way. It's coming because of His blessings anyway, do some good with it.

I'm not talking just about wealthy people. Even if you only make minimum wage your "toys" might be drugs or alcohol and not a Maserati or a Ferrari. In our Father's eyes it's not how much you make, it's what you do with it. You may get more rewards on how you spend ten dollars as opposed to someone who spends ten thousand dollars.

It all comes down to what your intentions are. And future blessings are based on that. Don't waste your time praying for something you'll never get. If you're not in good standing with Him, He ain't listening anyway.

## *The Book of Hosea*

### *Chapter 4*

*Hosea 4:1 Hear the word of the Lord, ye children of Israel: for the Lord hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.*

The false prophets of Hosea's time are the same in this generation. They were speaking and preaching lies from their own hearts then just as they do today. There is no knowledge of God today because they aren't taught the Word of God.

How can you teach about our Father with one or two verses in a sermon every Sunday morning? At that rate it would take over 500 years to teach the entire bible. How can you let your soul be deprived of that spiritual food unless, in your heart of hearts, you really could care less about any of this stuff?

Some would say: "Well, I don't believe in that bible nonsense anyway...in this life it's every man for himself." It's not enough to say that when things are all over and the final Judgment is here that they will find out the truth of it all then. By "then" it will be far too late.

Something has to be done now, today...we cannot let Satan take all those souls just because they're too lazy to study or too ignorant to care. So what is a person to do? One must have an interest in something before you can learn and be educated about it.

If you have no interest in our Father you're pretty much on your own. No one can force you to study about Him or find out what He wants us to know by reading the bible. It's up to every individual.

The people that I try to reach are those that love our Father but are in water that is too deep for them because they listen to the lies of Satan from their local preachers. They're not going to tread water for much longer.

*Hosea 4:2 By swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery, they break out, and blood toucheth blood.*

"blood toucheth blood" means that they kill each other, not just their enemies. Here in America we have a race that kills each other more than they kill people of other races. Self-destructive, to be sure. It's called Black on Black crime. It's sad when you do this to your own people.

Is not this same type of violence occurring in most countries around the world today? If we are to learn from past history in the Old Testament and our Father is doing this to the people of the ten lost Tribes, what will He do to us for committing the same debaucheries?

*Hosea 4:3 Therefore shall the land mourn, and every one that dwelleth therein shall languish, with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven; yea, the fishes of the sea also shall be taken away.*

Our Father did the very same thing to the Egyptians in Isaiah:

*Isaiah 19:4 And the Egyptians will I give over into the hand of a cruel lord; and a fierce king shall rule over them, saith the Lord, the Lord of hosts.*

*Isaiah 19:5 And the waters shall fail from the sea, and the river shall be wasted and dried up.*

*Isaiah 19:6 And they shall turn the rivers far away; and the brooks of defence shall be emptied and dried up: the reeds and flags shall wither.*

*Isaiah 19:7 The paper reeds by the brooks, by the mouth of the brooks, and every thing sown by the brooks, shall wither, be driven away, and be no more.*

*Isaiah 19:8 The fishers also shall mourn, and all they that cast angle into the brooks shall lament, and they that spread nets upon the waters shall languish.*

*Isaiah 19:9 Moreover they that work in fine flax, and they that weave networks, shall be confounded.*

*Isaiah 19:10 And they shall be broken in the purposes thereof, all that make sluices and ponds for fish.*  
KJV

There's going to be a drought and the water is going to dry up. It's going to kill all the fish in the ponds, rivers, lakes, streams, and brooks. They're not going to languish in riches and splendor because "languish" in the Hebrew means:

*Languish* OT:535 'amal (aw-mal'); a primitive root; **to droop**; by implication to **be sick, to mourn**:

They're going to be exhausted because of the lack of water and food. They're going to be despondent, depressed, seeing no hope for the future. They *shall be broken in the purposes thereof*. It's going to happen and our Father is going to cause it to happen. Why?

Because they didn't listen or follow His commandments. Within these **five** atrocities: *swearing, and lying, and killing, and stealing, and committing adultery* they have broken **five** of His commandments.

*Swearing:* Exodus 20:7 *Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.*

*Lying:* Exodus 20:16 *Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.*

*Killing:* Exodus 20:13 *Thou shalt not kill.*

*Stealing:* Exodus 20:15 *Thou shalt not steal.*

*Adultery:* Exodus 20:14 *Thou shalt not commit adultery.*

California is entering its fourth year of a record-breaking drought. When Father puts a plague on you it will usually last for seven years. Will California have this drought for the next four years before it begins to get better? Is our Father trying to tell us something or is this just an abnormal dry spell?

*Hosea 4:4 Yet let no man strive, nor reprove another: for thy people are as they that strive with the priest.*

If you get into a disagreement with your neighbor who are you going to go to if the priest is a no-account scoundrel to begin with.

*Hosea 4:5 Therefore shalt thou fall in the day, and the prophet also shall fall with thee in the night, and I will destroy thy mother.*

Day or night, Israel is not going to avoid the punishment that's coming. "Mother" here is Mother Israel, the Israelite State where the citizens are the children.

*Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.*

Where do people get most of their knowledge about our Father? No doubt, from the church they attend. But if they get the same mantra every Sunday morning, most of which they know by heart, where do they go to increase their knowledge and get closer to our Father? They have to go somewhere other than that church they've been attending for so many years.

Many so-called Christians are more than content to keep going because it's a security blanket for them. Same 'ole, same 'ole = no surprises. No rocking of the boat. No stirin' of the puddin'. They reject any changes to the format of their church. They're comfortable right where they are and they don't want that to change.

And when the Antichrist comes they'll fall right in step with whatever he preaches without giving it a second thought.

Maybe these Christians will be covered by the cloak of innocence that our Lord said He would put over those that just could not escape out of the religious-rut that their church keeps them in. I certainly hope so. They're not bad people, they're just scared. They need their horizons enlarged so that they can see the bigger picture.

The thought of that frightens them and that's exactly what their preacher wants. Keep that 10% coming in every Sunday. While their soul is kept forever on the edge of darkness. Christ said that we are the children of the light, why doesn't their preacher give them some light?

He's scared too. He doesn't want to be out there looking for a job a few months down the road or, at least, that's what he thinks will happen if he teaches the truth. But in reality, if he were to start teaching the Scriptures chapter by chapter he would eventually have more people coming than the building could hold.

So, the people keep sinning the same 'ole sins and nothing changes except the leaves on the maple tree out beside the church.

What a terrible thing to do to the children of our Father whose soul was placed in their hands for guidance and enlightenment. It's good that some of them are scared because they will be the first to be judged on Judgment Day.

*1<sup>st</sup> Peter 4:17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?*

They haven't been taught the gospel of God, how are they supposed to know what to obey?

*1<sup>st</sup> Peter 4:18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?*

KJV

"Scarcely be saved" is absolutely right! There's hardly any difference between them and the ungodly! Talk about being saved by the skin of their teeth! Maybe even the ungodly know more about the Scriptures than they do. Satan surely does.

*Hosea 4:7 As they were increased, so they sinned against me: therefore will I change their glory into shame.*

Generation after generation of these Israelites that progressively get worse in their sin against our Father but soon He will bring shame on them. When? On Judgment Day.

*Hosea 4:8 They eat up the sin of my people, and they set their heart on their iniquity.*

They enjoy sinning! Look here....if what you are doing is pleasing to this flesh and blood body, chances are it's a sin against the laws of our Father.

*Hosea 4:9 And there shall be, like people, like priest: and I will punish them for their ways, and reward them their doings.*

The priest is supposed to be teaching them the laws of God but our Father says that they are pretty much alike. Sinning the same sin under the cloak of darkness. I don't know about you but I, for one, do

not want to have anything to do with this *reward them their doings*. Do you want our Father to reward you for sinning? No way, brother. Don't want any part of that.

*Hosea 4:10 For they shall eat, and not have enough: they shall commit whoredom, and shall not increase: because they have left off to take heed to the Lord.*

They're not going to be satisfied or prosper. The day must always come when the piper asks for his money; somebody always has to pay the price and our Father knows exactly how to do it and get their attention.

*Hosea 4:11 Whoredom and wine and new wine take away the heart.*

All this partying takes your mind off of the Father and away from His love. You can thank Satan for these temptations because he knows how the flesh and blood body works better than the Creator. Remember sex, drugs and rock and roll of the 1970's? I sure do.

*Hosea 4:12 My people ask counsel at their stocks, and their staff declareth unto them: for the spirit of whoredoms hath caused them to err, and they have gone a whoring from under their God.*

Good grief. It gets even worse. Do you know what this word **stocks** means?

**Stocks** OT:6086 `ets (ates); from OT:6095; **a tree** (from its firmness); hence, **wood** (plural sticks):

This is a direct reference to grove worshipping, carving the likeness of a male penis out of a tree trunk. Not only do they ignore our Father and whore around and stay drunk all the time but in their stupor they ask council of an idol that they carved out of wood.

*Hosea 4:13 They sacrifice upon the tops of the mountains, and burn incense upon the hills, under oaks and poplars and elms, because the shadow thereof is good: therefore your daughters shall commit whoredom, and your spouses shall commit adultery.*

Up there on that tree-covered mountain, carving up their idols out of the oaks and poplars and elm trees and everybody drunk and having an orgy. "C'mon everybody, let's party!"

Think it's any different today? "C'mon everybody, let's jump into my new Dodge Charger and go to some rave party over at this rundown warehouse and rub body parts while we drink and get high on ecstasy and coke and 8-balls.

*Hosea 4:14 I will not punish your daughters when they commit whoredom, nor your spouses when they commit adultery: for themselves are separated with whores, and they sacrifice with harlots: therefore the people that doth not understand shall fall.*

The men are separated from their wives and are bumping bellies with the Temple harlots. Didn't know that there were Temple harlots, did you? They were right outside the Temple doors. Waiting. They also did a little sewing during the times that they weren't "busy":

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 23:4 And the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest, and the priests of the second order, and the keepers of the door, to bring forth out of the temple of the Lord all the vessels that were made for Baal, and for the grove, and for all the host of heaven: and he burned them without Jerusalem in the fields of Kidron, and carried the ashes of them unto Bethel.*

I want you to get a good understanding of what's going on here. Inside the Temple of God, in the room that was in front of the Holy of Holies, that room within which our Father would appear as a cloud and the priests could come and communicate with Him, they worshipped the pagan god Baal next to a tree trunk that was carved to look like a male penis.

INSIDE THE TEMPLE OF OUR FATHER.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 23:5 And he put down the idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in the cities of Judah, and in the places round about Jerusalem; them also that burned incense unto Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the planets, and to all the host of heaven.*

They burned incense and worshipped everything except our Father: they worshipped Baal and the sun and the moon and the planets and everything they could think of. It had gotten this bad.

But Hilkiah goes in and has all of these things that were used in idol worship, inside our Father's Temple, taken outside and burned

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 23:6 And he brought out the grove from the house of the Lord, without Jerusalem, unto the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and stamped it small to powder, and cast the powder thereof upon the graves of the children of the people.*

Burned it all until it was nothing but powdered ash and then they threw it on the graves of the people. An insult.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 23:7 And he brake down the houses of the sodomites, that were by the house of the Lord, where the women wove hangings for the grove. KJV*

Yep, there were male and female prostitutes outside the Temple and during their idle time the women wove coverings to put over the image of the male penis to hide it after everyone got through worshipping it. Boy, if this doesn't bring Ezekiel to the front of your mind I don't know what will...

*Ezekiel 13:18 And say, Thus saith the Lord God; Woe to the women that sew pillows to all armholes, and make kerchiefs upon the head of every stature to hunt souls! Will ye hunt the souls of my people, and will ye save the souls alive that come unto you?*

This here is what our Father thinks of the "fly-away-doctrine" but it carries the same thought of covering up something that is vile and offensive to our Father.

*Ezekiel 13:19 And will ye pollute me among my people for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread, to slay the souls that should not die, and to save the souls alive that should not live, by your lying to my people that hear your lies?*

"Pollute me among my people for handfuls of barley and for pieces of bread" means that these preachers were preaching for the money, not to save souls, because they were doing the exact opposite...they were selling these souls to Satan.

*Ezekiel 13:20 Wherefore thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I am against your pillows, wherewith ye there hunt the souls to make them fly, and I will tear them from your arms, and will let the souls go, even the souls that ye hunt to make them fly.*

Our Father is going to rip these souls, His souls, out of the grasp of these wretched preachers and save them because they should be saved. Directly the opposite of what the preachers wanted, they wanted to save the souls that should have been damned to hell.

*Ezekiel 13:21 Your kerchiefs also will I tear, and deliver my people out of your hand, and they shall be no more in your hand to be hunted; and ye shall know that I am the Lord.*

Here they were hiding the truth of our Father from the people; in Hosea they were hiding the "grove idols" from our Father. Think He didn't know it?

*Ezekiel 13:22 Because with lies ye have made the heart of the righteous sad, whom I have not made sad; and strengthened the hands of the wicked, that he should not return from his wicked way, by promising him life:*

You have saddened the people because they listened to the lies that you spewed from that pulpit and now their soul is going to hell.

*Ezekiel 13:23 Therefore ye shall see no more vanity, nor divine divinations: for I will deliver my people out of your hand: and ye shall know that I am the Lord. KJV*

Our Father will save as many as will listen to Him. Are you listening?

Back to Hosea:

*Hosea 4:15 Though thou, Israel, play the harlot, yet let not Judah offend; and come not ye unto Gilgal, neither go ye up to Beth-aven, nor swear, The Lord liveth.*

Do you know why our Father brings up *Gilgal* here? Because that's where the ten Northern Tribes, the House of Israel, under King Jeroboam, built the two golden calves because the king told the people that it was too far to travel all the way down to Jerusalem for the required feast days and they could just stay where they were and worship these two golden idols.

They went from worshipping in a house of God, **Beth-el**, to worshipping in a house of the Devil, **Beth-aven**. A house of nothing. A house of vanity.

*Hosea 4:16 For Israel slideth back as a backsiding heifer: now the Lord will feed them as a lamb in a large place.*

For those of you that don't know that much about farm life, a *backsiding heifer* is a one-two year old cow that you can't do anything with. She won't go where you want her to go, she's always jumping a fence somewhere and the best thing you can do with her is sell her to someone else. Let them have the headache.

You can't feed a lamb or a heifer in a large place..they're unprotected. You can't bring them in close to you.

*Hosea 4:17 Ephraim is joined to idols: let him alone.*

As I've said before, *Ephraim* is just another name for the ten Northern Tribes, the House of Israel. Ephraim is used because it was the largest of the ten Tribes.

*Hosea 4:18 Their drink is sour: they have committed whoredom continually: her rulers with shame do love, Give ye.*

Their sacrifices are contemptable, interwoven with the traditions of men and the church.

*Hosea 4:19 The wind hath bound her up in her wings, and they shall be ashamed because of their sacrifices. KJV.*

What it actually says is the "wind has bound her up in her skirts" which means that the House of Israel is all bound up, she doesn't know where she's going or where she is. Scattered 'round the world. No name any more.

What has our Father told us here in this chapter? His people are destroyed for their lack of knowledge because they have rejected His knowledge. Our Father says that He will also reject their children, the lay people.

You can't make them learn anything, just like that old heifer, always jumping fences, spending time chasing the neighbors' bull instead of being under the yoke to do some good work.

## *The Book of Hosea*

### *Chapter 5*

Our Father continues to point out the degradation into idol worship that the House of Israel, the Northern Kingdom, the ten Tribes, have sunk.

There's one thing that really ticks our Father off and that's worshipping something besides Him. No, we don't carve idols out of wood these days or make molten images out of gold to pray to and worship any more.

Idol worship today is anything that takes our focus and attention away from Him. Now, don't go off the deep end, He knows about raising a family and working and a myriad of things that need to get done every day in each one of our lives, He's not stupid. Nor is He obsessive.

But you have to admit, most of us are too busy to even THINK about Him throughout our day. He didn't put us here in these earthly bodies so that we could make the things of this world more important to us than Him.

He understands that families are necessary for the placement of souls that are left in heaven, to be breathed within each new fetus and come through this world. He understands that we have to work and make a living to buy the things that are necessary for us to exist. He understands that we need time off from both of those activities to enjoy ourselves a little. Vacations, going to the movies and such.

He doesn't expect all of us to be Monks and live in a Monastery our whole life and pray constantly to Him. Most Monks raise their own food and cattle and even that takes time away from Him. They don't all live on donations.

Most times the only reason we even think about Him or attempt to pray to Him is when we get our butts in some really hot water or cancer strikes a loved one or some tragedy happens and we want to know why He let that happen to us. Some people actually blame Him.

He didn't do those things to us. Usually it's the food we eat that gives us cancer or the environment we live in or some drunk driver drifting over into our lane. Most times it's another human being that does these things to us or our loved ones.

#### **HE GETS IT!**

But if going to church on a Sunday morning is the only time you have for Him throughout your week and all you get is a verse or two and the rest of it is church doctrine or some kind of nonsense, many times not remembered by the time we get to the parking lot to go home, where's the satisfaction for Him in that? You call that worshipping Him?

How can He possibly say: "That child of mine really loves Me. He spent 51 minutes this morning listening to some dead-head spout a bunch of junk and they go home really happy that they've done something for ME! And it will be next Sunday before they do it again."

Well, let's see. 51 minutes every Sunday times 52 Sundays.....that's 44 hours a year. That's 1.8 days out of 356. Not even two full days out of the year dedicated to Him. That's 363.2 days dedicated to the things of this world.

1.8 Days for our Father.

363.2 Days for the World.

This is all the time we have for the Creator of the universe and our very soul and existence.

Pathetic.

*James 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. KJV*

And we wonder why He doesn't bless us.

All He wants is for us to make HIM our God and for us to love Him and be HIS people, and if we love Him we'll think about Him more often than we do.

Back to Hosea....

*Hosea 5:1 Hear ye this, O priests; and hearken, ye house of Israel; and give ye ear, O house of the king; for judgment is toward you, because ye have been a snare on Mizpah, and a net spread upon Tabor.*

He refers to the priests to begin with and then all of the people. The priests are supposed to be the religious leaders of Israel and yet have allowed this degradation to spread throughout all of Israel.

Mizpah, meaning "watchtower", and Tabor, meaning "the mound", were places where hunters would spread their nets and snares to capture animals. Our Father uses it here as an analogy of how the priests have led the people, or "snared" the people into idol worshipping.

*Hosea 5:2 And the revolters are profound to make slaughter, though I have been a rebuker of them all.*

These *revolters* are apostates or people who have renounced their religion or God and so the Israelites have done by ignoring our Father and worshipping pieces of stone and wood.

*Rebuker of them all* really means that they have deeply revolted, notwithstanding all His prophetic warnings.

*Hosea 5:3 I know Ephraim, and Israel is not hid from me: for now, O Ephraim, thou committest whoredom, and Israel is defiled.*

Father is using both names here for these ten Tribes...Ephraim and Israel. Whoredom defiles everybody involved within it.

*Hosea 5:4 They will not frame their doings to turn unto their God: for the spirit of whoredoms is in the midst of them, and they have not known the Lord.*

They're not going to change their ways and turn back to the Father until He gets their attention with a big, big stick.

*Hosea 5:5 And the pride of Israel doth testify to his face: therefore shall Israel and Ephraim fall in their iniquity; Judah also shall fall with them.*

Their false pride or arrogance makes them throw it back in our Father's face and they're not content to just have themselves sink so low, they're going to bring Sister Judah down with them.

Israel/Ephraim = House of Israel    Judah = House of Judah.

*Hosea 5:6 They shall go with their flocks and with their herds to seek the Lord; but they shall not find him; he hath withdrawn himself from them.*

They're going to take the best of their flocks, their offering, and present it to the Lord but in their present state of sin, He's going to disappear from before them and ignore them.

There's a lesson there to be learned by us today: whenever you kneel down to pray to Him make sure you have asked for forgiveness of all your sins first. You want to present yourself before Him as pure as you can be so get the black marks of sin off your soul and then humble yourself before Him.

*Hosea 5:7 They have dealt treacherously against the Lord: for they have begotten strange children: now shall a month devour them with their portions.*

They are acting covertly before Him, bringing their offerings like good little children and when they return home they go back to idols. Do they think that He cannot see through that?

They're not the children of our Father, they're the children of whoredoms. They are reared to worship false gods and not the true God.

*Hosea 5:8 Blow ye the cornet in Gibeah, and the trumpet in Ramah: cry aloud at Beth-aven, after thee, O Benjamin.*

Tell it from the hill tops so the entire country can hear the call. Why are they crying or calling? These are war cries for the Assyrians are approaching to take Israel into captivity. "*After thee*" should really be "behind thee" because they are already past Benjamin.

Benjamin and Judah were located down in the south and the Assyrians are going to take the other ten Tribes so quickly it will happen within a month's time.

*Hosea 5:9 Ephraim shall be desolate in the day of rebuke: among the tribes of Israel have I made known that which shall surely be.*

Our Father told them that this was going to happen, it should not be a surprise to them. He told them that the Assyrians would come and take these ten Tribes captive just like He told Judah that the king of Babylon would take Judah captive about 200 years down the road.

*Hosea 5:10 The princes of Judah were like them that remove the bound: therefore I will pour out my wrath upon them like water.*

Who removed *the bound*? The bound is the boundary, the limit line and it has to do with religion. Boundaries keep people within the ancient laws of our Father but Ahaz and his bunch (the princes of Judah) removed those boundaries and set up a pagan altar made by Urijah the priest.

It was fashioned after one from Damascus...this is the idolatry our Father is mad about. They also built an altar to Molech and offered and burned their children to him in the Valley of Hinnom. Doesn't get any worse than this.

*Hosea 5:11 Ephraim is oppressed and broken in judgment, because he willingly walked after the commandment.*

What and whose commandment did these ten Tribes walk after? We covered it briefly earlier and you can find it written in 1<sup>st</sup> Kings 12:28;

*1<sup>st</sup> Kings 12:28 Whereupon the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold, and said unto them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. KJV*

'Ole Jeroboam told them: "You don't have to go all the way down to Jerusalem to worship. We can do it right here!" They followed the commandment of a man and not the commandments of our Father.

*Hosea 5:12 Therefore will I be unto Ephraim as a moth, and to the house of Judah as rottenness.*

As a moth eats a hole in a garment so is the rottenness of Judah. Everything they have is gone soon enough.

*Hosea 5:13 When Ephraim saw his sickness, and Judah saw his wound, then went Ephraim to the Assyrian, and sent to king Jareb: yet could he not heal you, nor cure you of your wound.*

**Sickness** refers to the gradual decay of their morality.

**Wound** is the justice inflicted upon them through their enemy; the Assyrians.

*Ephraim to the Assyrian*..Menahem applied to King Pul for help, giving 1000 talents of silver. Hosea went to Shalmaneser.

*Hosea 5:14 For I will be unto Ephraim as a lion, and as a young lion to the house of Judah: I, even I, will tear and go away; I will take away, and none shall rescue him.*

Our Father says that it doesn't matter who Ephraim goes to He's going to punish them no matter what.

*Hosea 5:15 I will go and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: in their affliction they will seek me early. KJV*

When it's all over our Father is going back to His Throne and wait for them to come to Him for forgiveness, and declare what their offences were and Ephraim will do it early after the punishment starts.

This is what it takes sometimes to get people's attention. Destroy whatever it is that they possess. Israel knew this time was coming but they ignored His warnings.

It's almost impossible to capsulize each chapter of Hosea because the subject continues through several but I think that this sentence captures the essence of this chapter:

**They who set snares to entrap others to their destruction shall be caught themselves in the judgment of God.**

Every preacher that stands behind a pulpit, in front of his congregation, needs to read that line and take it to heart. How does a preacher set snares to entrap others? By not giving the people the truth of our Father's Word. They change it by inserting church doctrine and religious traditions which NEVER have an ounce of truth in them.

Pastors/preachers need to understand that when you lie to the people it's not enough that you will receive judgment before all others, you should be charged with spiritual malfeasance because you may have caused lifelong spiritual damage to any number of people.

In some cases, maybe even spiritual murder.

It's difficult to change a person's mind on something that they have believed all their life. The rapture theory and the any-moment doctrine, for example. By preaching these heresies they have set the trap and if people believe these lies it could be for their spiritual destruction.

King Jeroboam could easily have taken the people to Jerusalem for the annual feast days, it wasn't all that difficult and maybe he did it in ignorance, I don't know, but when he had the two golden calves made he set a trap and a snare for all the people of the House of Israel and it brought about their destruction.

## *The Book of Hosea*

### *Chapter 6*

*Hosea 6:1 Come, and let us return unto the Lord: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.*

Some of what our Father has been saying to them is finally starting to sink in a little. "Hey, let's get our act together and get right with the Lord and the damage that He has done to us will be healed two-times over."

Father always replenishes twice as much as He has taken away in the first place. He's torn them up a little bit and now He's going to put some bandages on the wounds.

*Hosea 6:2 After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.*

I think that our Father put this verse in for a special reason. During the five months of the tribulation of the Antichrist there will be some, His Elect, that understand all that's going on but the doubters and unbelievers, those that are following the Antichrist, will not. They still believe that Satan/Antichrist is the true Messiah.

After Satan kills the two witnesses it's written that they will lie in the streets of Jerusalem for a period of three days and then they will rise up and ascend towards heaven. Our Lord will come down and we will all be able to see Him, He will be living right in front of us.

This is talking about the end generation, the generation of the fig tree, those of us that will remain during this time. If this book, Hosea, is all about salvation, where will you be during this time? Are you going to be one of His Elect or one of the unbelievers?

Are you going straight to Judgment Day or is there a 1000 year period, the Millennium, in your future or are you going straight to the angels that will guard and protect you in profound silence until Judgment Day? There are only three paths available from which you can choose at this time.

- ◊ Judgment Day
- ◊ The Millennium
- ◊ Sanctity of Heaven

Praise God to those that go to the sanctity of Heaven and His presence because for them it will be all over. Nothing left for you to prove. That's what salvation will get you.

*Hosea 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth.*

Getting yourself back in the good graces of our Father will allow Him to give you the *latter and former rain*. Do you know what those *rains* are?

When you plant a seed you give it plenty of water and this allows the heart of the seed to begin to grow and take root...this is the *former rain*.

After it grows to maturity it will need some additional rain to be able to produce fruit....this is the *latter rain*.

Of course, this is an analogy of someone who begins to see the light of truth and not the traditions of some church system. Our Father will shower you, the *former rain*, with all kinds of truth if you get into His Word, begin to study and show yourself approved.

As your knowledge base increases He can now be able to use you to bring others to the same spot you were in a short time ago and He will, again, shower you with the *latter rain* so that you are able to bring others into the light of truth. That's called producing fruit.

*Hosea 6:4 O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away.*

Our Father is showing His emotions, His love for ALL His people, the ten Tribes of Ephraim as well as Judah and Benjamin. He is lamenting that their love for Him is compared to the morning dew. It's strong until a little temptation gets in the way and then it evaporates like the morning dew when the sun strikes it.

*Hosea 6:5 Therefore have I hewed them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth: and thy judgments are as the light that goeth forth.*

He has tried to shape them by the words He gave to the prophets, to get them to change the way they live.

*Hosea 6:6 For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.*

He really didn't want their burnt sacrifices but it was the only way that He could make them show their love for Him. If they were willing to give up the best of their yearly flock or herd or crop and "give" it to Him then that would demonstrate the depths of their love for Him. He really wanted obedience which follows love.

*Hosea 6:7 But they like men have transgressed the covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me.*

They were traitors to Me. The margin in the Manuscripts has "Adam" instead of "men", referring back to the sin of Adam and Eve in the Garden. Who are these traitors? The ten Northern Tribes, Ephraim, Israel.

*Hosea 6:8 Gilead is a city of them that work iniquity, and is polluted with blood*

Gilead was a city of sanctuary because of all the homicides committed in that area by the marauding bands across the desert. It also held a school for the training of priests.

*Hosea 6:9 And as troops of robbers wait for a man, so the company of priests murder in the way by consent: for they commit lewdness.*

The priests at Gilead had become so corrupt that they murdered people that were coming there for sanctuary, just like the bands of robbers out in the desert.

*Hosea 6:10 I have seen an horrible thing in the house of Israel: there is the whoredom of Ephraim, Israel is defiled.*

The idolatry is again mentioned.

*Hosea 6:11 Also, O Judah, he hath set an harvest for thee, when I returned the captivity of my people.*

A harvest of judgments for the seeds of wickedness that Judah had planted. Idolatry.

A short little chapter in Hosea that shows the corruption of the priests, practicing idolatry and murder.  
"Well, we don't do that kind of thing today!" Really.

Personally speaking, I consider the misleading of the people through the constant preaching of the traditions of some religion to be spiritual murder and which is worse? The murder of your earthly body or the murder of your heavenly soul?

*Matthew 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. KJV*

Preachers. Worshipping idols and committing murders.

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## **The Book of Hosea**

### **Chapter 7**

At the risk of boring you to the point that you go outside and watch the grass grow instead of reading this, I've got to give a little history of the kings of Israel and Judah so you can better understand why our Father is as angry as He is with them:

Of the nineteen kings that the House of Judah had over them, every single one of them was a bad apple, rotten to the core. Over the span of 242 years, during which these 19 kings reigned, King Zimri lasted only 7 days; King Zechariah lasted 6 months; King Shallum lasted 1 month. The longest reigning king was Jeroboam II at 41 years.

We are not much better. Some of the presidents that we've had, Richard M. Nixon for one, should have been taken out by the people of this country but they are protected by congress and those politicians within that body that gain power, influence and riches from these corrupt leaders.

Besides, many of the voters in this country, the ones that want a free lunch from the government, are all standing there with their hand out waiting for the freebies. Why we put up with leaders and people like that is beyond me.

I get it that most of us are busy 40 plus hours a week earning a living but isn't there enough patriotism left among us to even talk about kicking some of these scoundrels out? No, there's not. We are all kept in check by being told that "we have to get rid of them at the voting booth", the sensible and civilized way of cleaning the governments' clock.

But when the guy who is running against some dirtbag is equally or even more dirty and corrupt than the guy sitting in the office, what are we to do? So, despair and futility set in and the outcome is that most voters don't even go to the polls to vote anymore, which makes the reelection of some of these bums almost certain.

A merry-go-round that never stops turning.

Let's list the kings before we go to the book of 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings:

- ✧ 14<sup>th</sup> King-Zechariah
- ✧ 15<sup>th</sup> King-Shallum
- ✧ 16<sup>th</sup> King-Menahem
- ✧ 17<sup>th</sup> King-Pekahiah
- ✧ 18<sup>th</sup> King-Pekah
- ✧ 19<sup>th</sup> King-Hoshea (Not to be confused with the prophet Hosea)

Alright, we're going to understand fully why our Father is so angry with the **House of Israel** and why they went into captivity to the Assyrians....2<sup>nd</sup> Kings, chapter 15.

***2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:8 In the thirty and eighth year of Azariah king of Judah did Zachariah the son of Jeroboam reign over Israel in Samaria six months.***

Don't get confused...

Azariah king of Judah is the **House of Judah**.

Zachariah is now the king of the **House of Israel**. He is the 14<sup>th</sup> King of the **House of Israel**.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:9 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord, as his fathers had done: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.*

What were the sins of Jeroboam? Jeroboam was the first king of the split kingdoms of Israel and Judah. He was the one that had the two golden calves made and told the people that they didn't have to go all the way to Jerusalem for the yearly feast days, they could just stay at home and worship these two idols. Bad decision.

I mean, for heaven's sake, King Solomon was deposed by our Father for allowing idol worship among the people and the transgression of His Commandments and what does his successor do? He has two golden calves made.

Good grief!

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:10 And Shallum the son of Jabesh conspired against him, and smote him before the people, and slew him, and reigned in his stead.*

Shallum kills King Zechariah and takes the throne for himself. He is the 15<sup>th</sup> king of the **House of Israel**.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:11 And the rest of the acts of Zachariah, behold, they are written in the book of the Chronicles of the kings of Israel.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:12 This was the word of the Lord which he spake unto Jehu, saying, Thy sons shall sit on the throne of Israel unto the fourth generation. And so it came to pass.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:13 Shallum the son of Jabesh began to reign in the nine and thirtieth year of Uzziah king of Judah; and he reigned a full month in Samaria.*

Both Houses are paralleled here: Shallum was the king of the **House of Israel** DURING the reign of Uzziah king of the **House of Judah**.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:14 For Menahem the son of Gadi went up from Tirzah, and came to Samaria, and smote Shallum the son of Jabesh in Samaria, and slew him, and reigned in his stead.*

Then Menahem went to Samaria and killed King Shallum and he takes the throne for himself. He is the 16<sup>th</sup> king of the **House of Israel**.

All of the kings of the **House of Israel** resided in the city of Samaria, the capitol, so when it's stated that "Samaria has fallen" it is inclusive of the entire population of the **House of Israel**.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:15 And the rest of the acts of Shallum, and his conspiracy which he made, behold, they are written in the book of the Chronicles of the kings of Israel.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:16 Then Menahem smote Tiphsah, and all that were therein, and the coasts thereof from Tirzah: because they opened not to him, therefore he smote it; and all the women therein that were with child he ripped up.*

Menahem was one of the cruelest of all the kings, killing all the women that were pregnant in the city of Tiphsah. The Hebrew Texts verify the English "*ripped up*" for he indeed ripped open the bellies of these women and allowed the fetus to spill out onto the ground.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:17 In the nine and thirtieth year of Azariah king of Judah began Menahem the son of Gadi to reign over Israel, and reigned ten years in Samaria.*

Azariah is king over the **House of Judah**; Menahem is king over the **House of Israel**.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:18 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord: he departed not all his days from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.*

Fifteen kings after King Jeroboam, the children of Israel are still worshipping those two golden calves

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:19 And Pul the king of Assyria came against the land: and Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, that his hand might be with him to confirm the kingdom in his hand.*

The full name of King Pul of Assyria is Tiglath-Pileser III. Now, 'ole King Pul is an instrument of our Father. He, along with King Shalmaneser V, will be the ones that put the **House of Israel** into captivity.

But, for the moment, King Menahem of the **House of Israel**, has bought him off for a thousand talents of silver

*| 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:20 And Menahem exacted the money of Israel, even of all the mighty men of wealth, of each man fifty shekels of silver, to give to the king of Assyria. So the king of Assyria turned back, and stayed not there in the land.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:21 And the rest of the acts of Menahem, and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the Chronicles of the kings of Israel?*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:22 And Menahem slept with his fathers; and Pekahiah his son reigned in his stead.*

It seems that King Menahem died of natural causes and his son Pekahiah would become the 17<sup>th</sup> king over the **House of Israel**.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:23 In the fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah Pekahiah the son of Menahem began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned two years.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:24 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.*

Under King Pekahiah, the children of the **House of Israel** continued to worship the golden calves that King Jeroboam had made, in addition to many other sordid idol worshipping.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:25 But Pekah the son of Remaliah, a captain of his, conspired against him, and smote him in Samaria, in the palace of the king's house, with Argob and Arieh, and with him fifty men of the Gileadites: and he killed him, and reigned in his room.*

Pekah and his band of conspirators kill King Pekahiah and Pekah becomes the 18<sup>th</sup> King of the **House of Israel**.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:26 And the rest of the acts of Pekahiah, and all that he did, behold, they are written in the book of the Chronicles of the kings of Israel.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:27 In the two and fiftieth year of Azariah king of Judah Pekah the son of Remaliah began to reign over Israel in Samaria, and reigned twenty years.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:28 And he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord: he departed not from the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel to sin.*

The time that has passed from the reign of King Jeroboam until King Pekah will be about 235 years and STILL the children of the **House of Israel** continue to worship the two golden calves.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:29 In the days of Pekah king of Israel came Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria, and took Ijon, and Abel-beth-maachah, and Jonoah, and Kedesh, and Hazor, and Gilead, and Galilee, all the land of Naphtali, and carried them captive to Assyria.*

The captivity begins with the Assyrian King Tiglath-pileser (Pul) taking some of the cities from the territories of the **House of Israel**.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:30 And Hoshea the son of Elah made a conspiracy against Pekah the son of Remaliah, and smote him, and slew him, and reigned in his stead, in the twentieth year of Jotham the son of Uzziah.*

Hoshea will be the 19<sup>th</sup> and last king of the **House of Israel** because they will become Assyrian captives. One hundred years later the Babylonians would overrun the Assyrian empire and they would eventually be taken over by the Persians.

The people that comprised the **House of Israel**, what happened to them? Some assimilated into the cultures of the Assyrians and other nations; their descendants can be found among the populations of Syria, Iraq and other countries of the Middle East today.

Many of the Israelites of the Northern Kingdom migrated across the Caucasus Mountains and went into southern Russia, Europe, the British Isles, Canada and eventually America.

In 722 BC these peoples “disappeared” becoming the “ten lost tribes of Israel”. For 2670 years they lived and prospered and had children and in 1948, when the security council of the United Nations granted Israel the right to once again establish her national boundaries, is when they took shape and form again and started moving back to their homeland.

This might be a little confusing to some because I’ve stated before that Israel lost her status as a nation in 70 AD when the Roman general Titus destroyed the Temple and the city of Jerusalem but this only involved the **House of Judah**. The **House of Israel** “disappeared” 792 years previously.

Perhaps now you can see why it is so important to understand the difference between these two “Houses”.

There are verses in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> chapters of 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings that point out the occurrence of Idol worship among the **House of Israel** and the **House of Judah** and I’m going to pick and choose those verses to illustrate that the sin of worshipping those two golden calves was not the only sin of the Houses of Israel and Judah.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:35 Howbeit the high places were not removed: the people sacrificed and burned incense still in the high places. He built the higher gate of the house of the Lord.*

These “*high places*” are elevated places of land upon which they would build altars to worship their idols of stone and wood. King Solomon built the Temple of our Father and then turned around and “built altars on high places” for his foreign wives which is why our Father broke the United Kingdom of Israel into two parts: the **House of Israel** and the **House of Judah**.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 16:3 But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, yea, and made his son to pass through the fire, according to the abominations of the heathen, whom the Lord cast out from before the children of Israel.*

To “*pass through the fire*” was the practice of worshipping the god of the Ammonites known as Molech. Parts of that practice involved the burning of children which were laid upon the outstretched arms of the brass idol with a fire burning beneath.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 16:4 And he sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.*

“*Under every green tree*” was a practice called “Grove” worshipping. This involved cutting down a fairly straight tree, trimming off the limbs and bark and shaping one end of it to resemble the end of a male penis. One end was thrust into the ground so that it remained upright.

The larger version of this idol was eventually brought into the Temple, and apparently, during this "Grove Festival" they sold smaller versions for the women would buy them and hide them in their tents. I don't have to go into much detail on this but if you think that this practice was limited to Old Testament times have a look in your local Adult Book & Toy store and see what items are available for women....that need batteries.

In chapter 17 we find our Father dealing with the **House of Judah** and this will recap the taking of the **House of Israel** by the Assyrians.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 17:14 Notwithstanding they would not hear, but hardened their necks, like to the neck of their fathers, that did not believe in the Lord their God.*

Obstinate kind of people, headed down a road with no turnoffs or intersections.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 17:15 And they rejected his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they followed vanity, and became vain, and went after the heathen that were round about them, concerning whom the Lord had charged them, that they should not do like them.*

We could blame all of this idol worship on the heathen nations that were around Israel but that would only leave them to their own devices and we see how a society can corrupt its own morals by just looking around at the world today. The minds of men can think up almost anything.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 17:16 And they left all the commandments of the Lord their God, and made them molten images, even two calves, and made a grove, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 17:17 And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke him to anger.*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 17:18 Therefore the Lord was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of his sight: there was none left but the tribe of Judah only. KJV*

I think that I've painted a good enough picture of both the House of Israel and the House of Judah to show you just why our Father was so angry, disappointed and hurt by these children of His.

"Well, thank goodness we don't do that sort of thing today." Really? The Supreme Court just recently decreed that all 50 States must allow and recognize same-sex marriages. And we don't do that kind of stuff today? Homosexuality and Lesbianism.

Moral decay in this country is running rampant.

Alright, let's listen to our Father....

*Hosea 7:1 When I would have healed Israel, then the iniquity of Ephraim was discovered, and the wickedness of Samaria: for they commit falsehood; and the thief cometh in, and the troop of robbers spoileth without.*

As we have seen, the "throne" of kings sits in Samaria and brother, there were some wicked kings.

*Hosea 7:2 And they consider not in their hearts that I remember all their wickedness: now their own doings have beset them about; they are before my face.*

Some of them probably don't even believe that He exists. More than that, He never crosses their mind throughout their day. If He did, they might think twice before doing some of the things they do.

I tried a small experiment on myself some years ago....throughout my day, on at least one day, I tried to imagine that Christ was standing behind my right shoulder, seeing everything that I did that day. It was

tiresome to consciously think and imagine Him there constantly because if I drifted just a little bit I quickly forgot to imagine Him and I went on with my day.

I wanted to see if I would act differently with Him in my consciousness all day long. The jury is still out on this since my life wasn't a cesspool of sin to begin with and I think that how we act unconsciously is a sign of our true self, our true nature, so I never perused that experiment any further.

*Hosea 7:3 They make the king glad with their wickedness, and the princes with their lies.*

I guess they did make the king glad, he was the one that commanded that they do such things and when they willingly complied, he was happy.

*Hosea 7:4 They are all adulterers, as an oven heated by the baker, who ceaseth from raising after he hath kneeded the dough, until it be leavened.*

The Hebrew is literally, 'burning from the baker.' This implies that the fire continued to burn of itself, even after the baker ceased to feed it with fuel. So their lusts were ever on fire, even in the short respite Satan gives until his leaven has worked.

*Hosea 7:5 In the day of our king the princes have made him sick with bottles of wine; he stretched out his hand with scorners.*

On the day of the king's birthday or coronation he was drunk, they partied with "bottles" of wine, not glasses. The "heat" that the wine produces within the body being symbolized for the heat of passion that they are constantly feeling because there is nothing or no one to quell that passion. It runs rampant and unabated. Constantly.

*Hosea 7:6 For they have made ready their heart like an oven, whiles they lie in wait: their baker sleepeth all the night; in the morning it burneth as a flaming fire.*

Their hearts were burning with a desire to kill this man and they did. In front of many witnesses. No one stepped forward to stop it. One murder after another:

- ✧ King Zechariah was killed by Shallum in front of all the people. He reigned for only 6 months.
- ✧ King Shallum was killed by Menahem after reigning for only 1 month.
- ✧ King Menahem died of natural causes?
- ✧ King Pekahiah was killed by Pekah after reigning for only 2 years.
- ✧ King Pekah was killed by Hoshea after reigning for 20 years.
- ✧ King Hoshea was imprisoned by the Assyrians and possibly died there.

*Hosea 7:7 They are all hot as an oven, and have devoured their judges; all their kings are fallen: there is none among them that calleth unto me.*

They are all so busy killing the kings and committing whoredoms and idol worshipping that they never even considered calling on the name of the Lord.

*Hosea 7:8 Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned.*

"*A cake not turned*" is only half-baked. They are out there among the very people that taught them idol worship and they will remain half-baked until they return to the Father and give up worshipping pieces of stone and wood.

*Hosea 7:9 Strangers have devoured his strength, and he knoweth it not: yea, gray hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not.*

These *strangers* are the Assyrians and they not only took Ephraim's strength, they put them in captivity.

*Hosea 7:10 And the pride of Israel testifieth to his face: and they do not return to the Lord their God, nor seek him for all this.*

Who is the *the pride of Israel?* The excellence of Judah.

*Hosea 7:11 Ephraim also is like a silly dove without heart: they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria.*

Easily deceived without understanding. Israel lay between these two strong countries, Egypt and Assyria and although warned against an alliance with either one, Israel went to one or the other to become strong enough to war against the other and it led to their demise.

*Hosea 7:12 When they shall go, I will spread my net upon them; I will bring them down as the fowls of the heaven; I will chastise them, as their congregation hath heard.*

Our Father begins to speak: as the prophets have prophesized I will punish them eventually.

*Hosea 7:13 Woe unto them! for they have fled from me: destruction unto them! because they have transgressed against me: though I have redeemed them, yet they have spoken lies against me.*

For all that He has done for them they still seek power from other men, not Him.

*Hosea 7:14 And they have not cried unto me with their heart, when they howled upon their beds: they assemble themselves for corn and wine, and they rebel against me.*

They wail and moan at how badly they are being treated but they never cried out to Me.

*Hosea 7:15 Though I have bound and strengthened their arms, yet do they imagine mischief against me.*

I have healed their wounds and strengthened them and still they ignore Me and worship idols.

*Hosea 7:16 They return, but not to the most High: they are like a deceitful bow: their princes shall fall by the sword for the rage of their tongue: this shall be their derision in the land of Egypt. KJV*

They pretend to seek our Father at times but eventually return to idol worshipping. They're like a bow that has a flaw in it and therefore shoots wide of the mark.

Israel may have convinced themselves that God either forgot or didn't even see their transgressions against Him. They put it out of their mind and kept on having their parties.

People are like that even today and this country, this wonderful nation, as a whole, needs to get down on her knees and plead for Him to intervene and to get us back on the right track.

On the other hand, if our Father controls everything and no king comes to power unless He approves it, we may be exactly where we need to be in the grand Plan that He has for us and this country.

The best thing, the ONLY thing that we can do is to individually keep ourselves close to Him, pray to Him, repent of our sins before Him and then, regardless of where this country is headed or what the world as a whole will do to us, we will be safe and secure in His hand.

## **The Book of Hosea**

### **Chapter 8**

We know for a surety that our Father loves us as well as these ten Tribes of the House of Israel else He wouldn't be sending punishment for not obeying Him. He only punishes the ones that He loves and it's to turn their head around and put our focus back on Him and His letter to us.

This book, this Bible, is the way that He talks to us and teaches us and tells us how He wants us to live. He truly wants every one of us to spend eternity with Him and when He created us at the beginning that was supposed to be it, that was supposed to be heaven and eternity. Right there. Nothing else coming down the road.

But He gave us free will so that, if we loved Him in return, we could show it from our heart, not as some robot preprogrammed to say: "I love you, I love you." Like little wooden souls.

But with free will comes the opportunity to make bad decisions, destructive decisions. With our Father on one side and Lucifer, Satan, on the other, all souls soon had a decision to make: to follow Satan in his quest to sit in the Seat of God or stand with our Father.

I don't believe that most of the souls wanted to make that decision, I believe that most were entirely comfortable living in this paradise exactly as our Father had created it. I believe that this decision was forced upon them.

And when that happened the true spirit of the soul came forth. Revelations tells us that 1/3 of all souls fell in line with Satan after making that decision:

*Revelation 12:4 And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. KJV*

So, like it or not, here we are today, constantly facing decisions throughout our day that we probably are not even aware that we are making. Do we participate in the sinful ways of the world or do we stand firm and resist? He told us that He would never let us be tempted over and above what we are capable of withstanding and would always give us a way out.

Do we look for that way out or do we jump in and say "party on"?

Through the media of television, the web, music and entertainment, just to name a few, we are tempted with the worldly pleasures that surround us. The same held true for these Israelites. The temptations of their day are wrapped in different packaging than the ones we face.

Same temptations, different presentations. Theirs may have been presented rather modestly, ours are dressed in glitter, exploding pyro techniques, booming, raucous music that overwhelms the mind, split-second graphic flashes on digital screens bigger than football fields showing half-naked breasts and bodies of voluptuous women transformed by surgical techniques. Part human, part plastic.

All trying to sell us a product, change our way of life, give us hope for the future and, heaven knows, make that almighty dollar.

Boy, would Hosea's mouth drop open when seeing all this and the way we live or what!

Their sin city was Samaria. Ours is Las Vegas. No difference.

So, as we begin this eighth chapter our Father continues to chide them, pointing out their transgressions against His laws and His will and the promise that discipline is coming very soon. The hammer is gonna drop.

*Hosea 8:1 Set the trumpet to thy mouth. He shall come as an eagle against the house of the Lord, because they have transgressed my covenant, and trespassed against my law.*

In the Hebrew, *mouth* is literally “*to thy palate*”. The trumpet executes a call to action, rousing the enemy to come quickly.

Here the eagle strikes quickly, swooping down on her prey, grasping it with talons that will soon rip the flesh apart but even our Father calls Himself an eagle in Deuteronomy chapter 32. He protects His weak children as an eagle protects her young.

Israel will go up to the Assyrians for help but even after paying the thousand talents of silver the Assyrians will still come after them.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 15:19 And Pul the king of Assyria came against the land: and Menahem gave Pul a thousand talents of silver, that his hand might be with him to confirm the kingdom in his hand. KJV*

In Isaiah chapter 14, the “Assyrian” is a type of antichrist and this is how you can relate this to today. Who is the Antichrist? Satan.

*Hosea 8:2 Israel shall cry unto me, My God, we know thee.*

Oh yeah, when the times get rough we all see a need to call on Him and tell Him how much we need His help right now...not tomorrow, right now but the way we act and live our lives belies the truthfulness of our pleading.

Some even call on Satan to help them in their time of need and you can bet that he will do so a lot faster than our Father because he wants you entangled in his web.

Some preachers on Judgment Day will stand before Him saying: “We knew you, Lord, we cast out devils and spirits in your Name” and He will cast them aside saying: “I never knew you”. Why didn’t He know these preachers?

*Matthew 7:22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?*

*Matthew 7:23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. KJV*

Because their whole life in the ministry was teaching lies, they didn’t care enough about Him to teach the truth. They taught the rapture theory, the any-moment and the fly-away doctrine, all the traditional beliefs of the church.

*Hosea 8:3 Israel hath cast off the thing that is good: the enemy shall pursue him.*

The *thing that is good* would be our Father. And the enemy is still coming to pound them with chastisement.

*Hosea 8:4 They have set up kings, but not by me: they have made princes, and I knew it not: of their silver and their gold have they made them idols, that they may be cut off.*

Israel set up Jeroboam as their king, he wasn’t sanctioned by our Father. He had appointed the house of David as the rightful kings of the whole nation. And it was Jeroboam that had the golden calves made and then told these Tribes not to go to Jerusalem, just stay here at home and worship.

And our Father has cut them off.

*Hosea 8:5 Thy calf, O Samaria, hath cast thee off; mine anger is kindled against them: how long will it be ere they attain to innocency?*

How long is it going to be before they get their hearts right and come back to Me? He'll take them back if they simply repent and change their ways but that's not going to happen any time soon.

If you put your faith in some MAN and believe the things that he preaches, things that are sanctioned by some church organization, things that are false, you're going to find yourself in a world of hurt real quick.

Check these preachers out, see if they preach according to the Scriptures or not. If they don't, leave! Don't go back. Of course, you have to have a little knowledge of the Bible to be able to determine whether what he's saying is the truth or not.

That's why you need to study on your own. It's your soul, don't turn the rights of it over to some idiot.

*Hosea 8:6 For from Israel was it also: the workman made it; therefore it is not God: but the calf of Samaria shall be broken in pieces.*

Our Father didn't make those idols, they were hand-made by men but He's going to break them up into little pieces.

Remember back during the days in the desert after the Exodus. Moses went up on Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments and while up there he left his brother Aaron in charge of it all. When he came back down from the mount he discovered that they were all singing and having a party and whoring after some golden calf that they had made.

What did Moses do?

*Exodus 32:20 And he took the calf which they had made, and burnt it in the fire, and ground it to powder, and strawed it upon the water, and made the children of Israel drink of it. KJV*

He ground it up into a powder, threw it in some water and made them DRINK the gold dust. Lesson to be learned? God doesn't like golden idols of any sort. But it didn't matter, they continually kept going back to the worshipping of idols just like their heathen neighbors.

*Hosea 8:7 For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind: it hath no stalk: the bud shall yield no meal: if so be it yield, the strangers shall swallow it up.*

Ever try to sow the wind? Nothing but hot air. And if you try to sow a bunch of it it'll turn into a whirlwind and it won't produce anything. Not stalk to it, no bud bursting out from it, just nothing but hot air whirling around.

It won't give you anything to eat from it, it's just a bunch of nothing. Remind you of any preachers you've listened to? Rant and rave on for an hour and all you end up with is hot air. There's no "meat" in the words, nothing of substance for your soul to take in and get some good out of.

Just a lot of empty words that sound real religious, let's sing a couple of religious songs and send them all on their way.

People swallow it up hook, line and sinker because they're too lazy to study on their own. Let some Elmer Gantry take control of how they worship the Creator and they end up with a free trip to the Lake of Fire if they're not careful.

*Hosea 8:8 Israel is swallowed up: now shall they be among the Gentiles as a vessel wherein is no pleasure.*

Our Father is going to scatter these ten Tribes among the Gentiles, they'll be swallowed up among the billions of other people and they're not going to be happy about it because, until recently, they'll never be able to go back to the land of their forefathers.

*Hosea 8:9 For they are gone up to Assyria, a wild ass alone by himself: Ephraim hath hired lovers.*

They went up to Assyria to try to buy protection for a thousand talents of silver.

A wild ass is an independent 'ole cuss, he likes to be alone and our Father is kind of saying that Israel should travel alone, like a wild ass, rather than try to hook up and bribe the very people that will soon conquer them.

*Hosea 8:10 Yea, though they have hired among the nations, now will I gather them, and they shall sorrow a little for the burden of the king of princes.*

*Hosea 8:11 Because Ephraim hath made many altars to sin, altars shall be unto him to sin.*

Where do you find an altar these days? Usually, inside a church and it's saying that even your churches will bring sin into your life, there's sin inside these churches. Maybe from behind the altar by the person that preaches there?

*Hosea 8:12 I have written to him the great things of my law, but they were counted as a strange thing.*

They didn't understand anything about His laws..."Well, I didn't know that." No, you probably didn't because you didn't study on your own. You never felt the satisfaction of reading it for yourself and thinking that maybe our Father is pleased that you have done so.

*Hosea 8:13 They sacrifice flesh for the sacrifices of mine offerings, and eat it; but the Lord accepteth them not; now will he remember their iniquity, and visit their sins: they shall return to Egypt.*

Blood sacrifices of animals was never intended to remove or forgive sin. In many places our Father stated that He hated the stink of their burning flesh, it make His nostrils burn. It was only done as a sign of obedience because our Father told them to do so and He only wanted to see if they loved Him enough to go ahead and take the best of their crop or their flock and give it to Him.

Many were losing a lot of money by doing that. They got high dollar for the best of their flocks and crops. Father wanted to see if they would give that up because they wanted to love and please Him.

He's not going to send them back to Egypt, He wants them to remember the 400 years that they spent as slaves to the Egyptians. Stop doing the things that enslave you to others.

*Hosea 8:14 For Israel hath forgotten his Maker, and buildeth temples; and Judah hath multiplied fenced cities: but I will send a fire upon his cities, and it shall devour the palaces thereof. KJV*

If you lean on your Father you won't have to find security by building a fence around yourself for protection.

Eight chapters so far. What have we learned?

He wants us to love Him and not worship false idols, whatever they may look like or be made of.

Stop your evil ways and start living your life according to His Commandments.

Depend on Him and none else. Man will lead your soul to hell.

## **The Book of Hosea**

### **Chapter 9**

Our Father can get pretty graphic sometimes and some people, preachers mainly but also the high-minded, better than thou, muckety-ducks sitting out there in the pews, like to whitewash over some of His words.....His words.....and interject their own. I mean, we can't say something like that in front of little children, can we?

The words "whore", "whoredoms" and "whoring" have been used by the Father quite often in this book of Hosea so far and I feel that He chose those particular words because they are the words that we would most likely understand and be able to relate to and therefore obtain the true meaning of what it is that He is telling us.

That's special, isn't it? As human beings, He certainly thinks that we have a good understanding of what "whoring around" really means.

Preachers don't like to use words like that, they're too goody-goody. "Well, I would never use those words in my own daily life, I certainly can't say them to the congregation on Sunday morning. Someone could get offended by it."

To that I say to hell with them. If they're too good to say the Scriptures as they are written then go peddle your wares somewhere else. But of course they don't have to do that, their pastor will "protect them" from hearing such vile things and "tickle" their ears with lying words.

And while the good preacher is whitewashing our Father's words, he's reinforcing their belief in the rapture theory, the any-moment and fly-away doctrines every time he opens his mouth. Something our Father said was an absolute lie.

Hypocrites. Every one of them.

Hosea, chapter nine...

*Hosea 9:1 Rejoice not, O Israel, for joy, as other people: for thou hast gone a whoring from thy God, thou hast loved a reward upon every cornfloor.*

Let's look closely at some of the "words" that our Father uses here:

**Whoring** - OT:2181 **zana** (*zaw-naw'*); a primitive root [*highly-fed and therefore wanton*]; **to commit adultery (usually of the female, and less often of simple fornication, rarely of involuntary ravishment)**; figuratively, **to commit idolatry** (*the Jewish people being regarded as the spouse of Jehovah*):

**Loved** - OT:157 **'ahab** (*aw-hab'*); or **'ahab** (*aw-habe'*); a primitive root; **to have affection for (sexually or otherwise)**:

**Reward** - OT:868 **'ethnan** (*eth-nan'*); **the same as OT:866; a gift (as the price of harlotry or idolatry)**:

They've gone after their idols with the fervor of someone who is sexually aroused and has to end up paying for the opportunity to have sex with them. Relate this to today....they're out there paying some preacher to lie to them. They want it done to them. I guess it gives them some sort of security, repeating the same lies over and over again. It's familiar to them.

*Hosea 9:2 The floor and the winepress shall not feed them, and the new wine shall fail in her.*

They're not going to make a profit on what they produce. The threshing floor prepares the seed and the wine press prepares the grape.

*Hosea 9:3 They shall not dwell in the Lord's land; but Ephraim shall return to Egypt, and they shall eat unclean things in Assyria.*

This is repeated from the previous chapter...they're not going back to Egypt, this is to remind them of their previous bondage to the Egyptians.

*Hosea 9:4 They shall not offer wine offerings to the Lord, neither shall they be pleasing unto him: their sacrifices shall be unto them as the bread of mourners; all that eat thereof shall be polluted: for their bread for their soul shall not come into the house of the Lord.*

"*Bread of mourners*" is funeral food. Let's all take a covered dish over to so-and-so's house, help them through this bad time, keep their strength up.

They're not going to be worth burying in their own land but rather swept out and used for manure or burning.

*Hosea 9:5 What will ye do in the solemn day, and in the day of the feast of the Lord?*

What is this solemn day and when will it happen? The *solemn* day is the day of the marriage feast, on the day that the Lord returns. He's coming back and He's expecting a virgin bride but that's not likely to happen because they have whored around, not only with their idols of wood and gold, but with Satan/Antichrist as well.

Figuratively speaking, they will be "with child", with Satan's child when He returns because they believed the lies of their preachers and they didn't know the difference between the true Messiah and the fake. What a messed up bunch of people. They're so deep in the quagmire they can't even see daylight.

And there's no Millennium for these scoundrels. They knew what they were doing, they loved to hear the lies every Sunday morning, and they loved the world more than they loved the Lord or the Father.

*Hosea 9:6 For, lo, they are gone because of destruction: Egypt shall gather them up, Memphis shall bury them: the pleasant places for their silver, nettles shall possess them: thorns shall be in their tabernacles.*

Spiritual desolation. Their churches have been dead for centuries and are now grown over with weeds. No spiritual life in those buildings whatsoever. Beth-aven. Houses of nothing. Houses of vanity, now desolate.

*Hosea 9:7 The days of visitation are come, the days of recompence are come; Israel shall know it: the prophet is a fool, the spiritual man is mad, for the multitude of thine iniquity, and the great hatred.*

Satan, as the antichrist, is coming for a visit and some of them know it, they can feel it. The hollowness in their soul from the lack of any spiritual food, denied to them by their preacher, growls within them. Your prophet, your preacher, rather, is a fool.

He teaches for money, destroys souls with his lies, and is encouraged by Satan himself, and perhaps some of them realize what they have done and they'll begin to hate themselves for it but it's far too late. No chance to turn around now.

Sure, these preachers can be forgiven, by our Father, for what they've done but there will still be a price to be paid for each and every soul that they damaged and committed to hell. Our Father is not going to overlook the souls that have been destroyed by these men and women.

He's not going to say: "Yeah, you lied to them, they believed your lies, they followed Satan/Antichrist, they're going to walk into the Lake of Fire but now you're forgiven and all is good again."

No way in hell, partner. Somebody is going to have to pay.

*Hosea 9:8 The watchman of Ephraim was with my God: but the prophet is a snare of a fowler in all his ways, and hatred in the house of his God.*

You'll notice that both words "**God**" is spelled with a capital "G" and not a lowercase "g". This indicates in the King James that it refers to the Father and not some idol.

The word in the Manuscripts is **Elohim**, our God as the Creator of all things.

There were some within this House of Israel that truly loved our Father and watched for the signs and the seasons, they studied the Word, anticipated and kept their eyes open. Perhaps people like you and me that care enough to study His letter to us.

That study to know what the signs are and what to look for and if you are reading this today you are a watchman. Standing on top of the house, looking out over the horizon, seeing if the enemy is close. Figuratively speaking, of course.

Whoever you are, you are the reason that I write.

The prophet, the preacher, is a tool of Satan because he sets the snares and traps that entangle the innocent souls and our Father hates them.

*Hosea 9:9 They have deeply corrupted themselves, as in the days of Gibeah: therefore he will remember their iniquity, he will visit their sins.*

"**Corrupted themselves**" means that they went into moral decay on purpose. They chose to do so. They liked that kind of lifestyle.

But what happened *in the days of Gibeah*? Why is our Father associating this city with Hosea and the House of Israel? What does He want them to remember?

We can find Gibeah in the book of Judges and the entire story entails the 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> chapters. A sketch of the story would be as follows:

The main character is never identified by name, simply called a Levite. And he put together a concubine and one of the women left and went back home to her father. So the Levite packed a couple of asses and followed her to her dad's house.

He intended to speak cordially with her and simply take her back home but the woman's father persuaded the Levite to have a few glasses of wine and stay for the night. The following day the Levite procrastinated and again spent a second night.

On the third night he decided to leave and he and his servant got as far as Jerusalem by the time the sun was setting and not wanting to spend the night in this city, they continued on to Gibeah.

Once there they couldn't find a room for the night but an old man was coming in from the fields and convinced the Levite and his servant and his concubine to spend the night in his home as it was too dangerous to stay on the street.

Gibeah was a town that was inhabited by the people of the Tribe of Benjamin, they were Benjamites. When they heard that there was a stranger, this Levite, spending the night with this old man they surrounded the house, beat on the door loudly and demanded that the Levite be brought out so that they may "know" him.

*Judges 19:22 Now as they were making their hearts merry, behold, the men of the city, certain sons of Belial, beset the house round about, and beat at the door, and spake to the master of the house, the old man, saying, Bring forth the man that came into thine house, that we may know him. KJV*

And yes, you are right if you think that to “know” this Levite was for the men of Gibeah to have carnal knowledge of him. They wanted to have a homosexual encounter with this Levite.

But the old man offered his virgin daughter and the women of the Levites’ concubine to these men of Gibeah if they would simply leave the Levite alone. The men of the city ravaged the women all night long and when it was over the woman lie dead on the doorstep of the old man’s house.

The Levite was so enraged at what the Benjamites had done that he took a knife and cut the woman’s body up into twelve pieces and delivered a piece of her to the leader of each of the twelve Tribes.

The Chief of all the Tribes gathered them all together for a meeting and assembled 400,000 foot soldiers and a select group of these soldiers went to Gibeah to seek out the men who committed this vile act but all the Benjamites stood together and decided to go to war rather than give up these men.

The battle was hard fought and lasted for three days but Israel triumphed over Benjamin finally and destroyed nearly all of the people of the Tribe of Benjamin.

I mentioned earlier that when the Kingdom of Israel was broken into two nations, that Judah and the remnants of the Tribe of Benjamin would become the House of Judah and remain around the area of Jerusalem. This is the story of why the Tribe of Benjamin was nearly annihilated, because of an intended perverted act of homosexuality and the murder of a young woman.

Those who believe that homosexualism is a byproduct of genetics are at odds with Him because our Father doesn’t think about it in that light. He knows the hearts and minds and genetic structure of each and every one of us and if it were indeed a “wiring” problem within the individual, I’m of the belief that He would have more compassion for them and the sexual practices that they engage in.

It is an abomination in His eyes and I cannot help but believe that one can love the sinner and not the sin. My conviction goes no further than that. Love them in spite of the sin. Genetics or no genetics.

He says that He will remember that sin, He won’t forget it because it nearly took the twelve Tribes down to eleven Tribes.

*Hosea 9:10 I found Israel like grapes in the wilderness; I saw your fathers as the firstripe in the fig tree at her first time: but they went to Baal-peor, and separated themselves unto that shame; and their abominations were according as they loved.*

Uncultivated grapes are bitter, not sweet.

**Baal-peor** was a Moabite idol and the practice was to have young women prostitute themselves, a sin which Israel took to heart and loved every minute of it.

“**That shame**” was from the continued worshipping of the ‘Asherah, the carved tree trunk that resembled the male appendage.

I feel that it needs to be pointed out that the ‘Asherah could almost be looked at as penile worship and that along with the sin committed in Gibeah would lead one to believe that this was THE paramount idol.

The conundrum here is that the very process that our Father put into place to repopulate this earth at the close of the first heaven/earth age, the creation of flesh and blood bodies that would, through sanctioned sexual encounters, provide enough earthly bodies within which to place each soul that was created before in the world that was, that we humans would exploit that sacred act of propagation and eventually let it be the downfall of all Israel.

*Hosea 9:11 As for Ephraim, their glory shall fly away like a bird, from the birth, and from the womb, and from the conception.*

Everything that they received they threw away. Conception, womb and birth.

*Hosea 9:12 Though they bring up their children, yet will I bereave them, that there shall not be a man left: yea, woe also to them when I depart from them!*

When He leaves you, you are in for some serious times. Israel has gotten to the point, in their pagan worshipping of these various idols, that our Father is about to forsake them. With some of their minds clogged with wanton desire to satisfy their sexual needs, they are glad to see Him depart from them. They don't like to be reminded of how low they have sunk morally.

Much like an alcoholic telling everyone to leave his house and leave him alone so he can continue to get drunk without accusing eyes staring at him.

This takes me back to the two possessed men who lived in a cave near the city of Gergesenes that were possessed of devils and when our Lord had commanded the devils to leave these men and go into a herd of some 2000 swine that the swine ran off a cliff and killed themselves in the sea. Even these animals would rather be dead than demon possessed.

But when the townspeople came to see what was going on, instead of thanking and praising our Lord for what he had done they asked Him to leave, which He did and went back to the boat.

The Lord had relieved the fear that they all had of these two men, made them feel more comfortable, and they asked Him to leave them alone!

So, whether He leaves of His own accord or you ask Him to leave you alone, He will do it, He will leave, He will forsake you and leave you to your own devices.

Have a nice day, Bubba.

*Hosea 9:13 Ephraim, as I saw Tyrus, is planted in a pleasant place: but Ephraim shall bring forth his children to the murderer.*

Ephraim's children will only be brought up to be killed. Physically.

But what about spiritually? Who was the first murderer? Cain, the offspring of Satan. Israel is already firmly within Satan's grasp, what are they to do? Change the way they live. Ask our Father to forgive them for all their sins. He'll do it.

*Hosea 9:14 Give them, O Lord: what wilt thou give? give them a miscarrying womb and dry breasts.*

Stop any further children from being born? The barenness of their wombs may be a blessing though it will be described as great misfortune.

*Hosea 9:15 All their wickedness is in Gilgal: for there I hated them: for the wickedness of their doings I will drive them out of mine house, I will love them no more: all their princes are revolters.*

What happened in Gilgal?

*1st Samuel 11:14 Then said Samuel to the people, Come, and let us go to Gilgal, and renew the kingdom there.*

*1st Samuel 11:15 And all the people went to Gilgal; and there they made Saul king before the Lord in Gilgal; and there they sacrificed sacrifices of peace offerings before the Lord; and there Saul and all the men of Israel rejoiced greatly. KJV*

They made Saul their first king and rejected our Father at Gilgal. Do you think that our Father would have taken Israel into the depths of sexual perversion, as did all of Israel's kings, had He been their king? Not a chance in hell of that happening.

Yep, they rejoiced greatly and in ignorance. At the time they had no concept of what their future held.

*Hosea 9:16 Ephraim is smitten, their root is dried up, they shall bear no fruit: yea, though they bring forth, yet will I slay even the beloved fruit of their womb.*

No point in having any more kids, our Father says that He's going to kill them all anyway. Why? Because of the depths of their degradation. It must be better, in His mind, to kill the offspring rather than let them grow up and continue in this sin.

*Hosea 9:17 My God will cast them away, because they did not hearken unto him: and they shall be wanderers among the nations. KJV*

And surely they were. They were called the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel. The world may have lost them, they may have lost themselves but our Father knows where each and everyone went. They're His children and He loves them, regardless.

And isn't that the saving grace for us today? No matter what we do, or how far we sink into the cesspool as human beings, our Lord died on the cross so that we could ask for forgiveness and crawl back up onto solid ground and be in good standing with Him and the Father once again.

All you gotta do is ask.

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## **The Book of Hosea**

### **Chapter 10**

*Hosea 10:1 Israel is an empty vine, he bringeth forth fruit unto himself: according to the multitude of his fruit he hath increased the altars; according to the goodness of his land they have made goodly images.*

The Hebrew for the word *empty* means to “spread-out” as in our Father’s blessings pervading throughout all of Israel and the good things they produce they do for themselves and not our Father. The land is good because He has blessed it for them.

But there is still an abundance of idolatry.

*Hosea 10:2 Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty: he shall break down their altars, he shall spoil their images.*

They’re pulled both ways, they’re double-minded. It can be read as “*if the Lord is your God, then follow Him; if Baal is your god, then follow him.*” In one sense they love the Father but they also love the practices of idol worshipping.

“Well, I go to church and I worship God there, I don’t worship some idol.” If you go to church and the Word of God is taught there, then you’re statement is probably true but if you’re taught the practices of some church domination or church system or the thoughts of one preacher, if you’re taught to believe in things that are a lie to our Father then, you have worshipped nothing.

What is an idol? It’s a false god. A golden pig is a false god. A wooden structure that resembles the male appendage is a false god. Satan is a false god because he simply mimics the true God. He’s a fake.

If you build a bunch of altars and put false gods on them He will get to the point where He will tear them down Himself, He’ll tire of asking you to do it and when that happens He usually tears down a whole lot more than just a false god and its altar.

Many people think that they are above idol worship in these days and times, but if you’re working 60-70 hours a week, for months on end, to buy a new Tracker Pro Team 195 TXW Mod V bass boat to take up to the lake and go fishing with the family and you ignore Him throughout, that boat may be an idol to you.

He didn’t put us here to be great lawyers or physicians or parents or custodians of the planet, He put us here because He didn’t want to kill a good many of us when we screwed up in the first heaven/earth age.

Everything that is created or built on this planet by human hands is secondary to our primary purpose for being here. Sure, some of these things make our life easier and He is not against us using the very brain power that He endowed us with, to make our life here just a little more comfortable, while we put in the days, months, and years until this life is spent and we go back to Him, but we have to put Him first in our life.

Everything else is secondary. Matthew said it pretty well:

*Matthew 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. KJV*

You can't serve our Father and idols at the same time. You can't serve the world and our Father at the same time. You can't serve yourself and our Father at the same time.

Focusing on Him and this book that tells us all we need to know to get back to Him and be in good standing with Him should be our primary purpose. If you can't study on your own, study with me at this website. It's the very reason that I put this site up and try to keep it current new works from the Scriptures, primarily, and with current events of the world that intertwine those Scriptures.

If you have a question that you can't get an answer to, send me an email and I'll try my best to resolve the problem.

Or not. It's up to you.

*Hosea 10:3 For now they shall say, We have no king, because we feared not the Lord; what then should a king do to us?*

They didn't believe that our Father would do anything to them if they continually transgressed His laws and Commandments, why should they fear some man who might be king over them?

*Hosea 10:4 They have spoken words, swearing falsely in making a covenant: thus judgment springeth up as hemlock in the furrows of the field.*

They made a deal with Shalmaneser and reneged on it and made another one with King So of Egypt. King Shalmaneser of Assyria made siege against them and put King Hoshea of Israel in prison. (Make note of the difference between the prophet Hosea and King Hoshea.)

Regardless, our Father forbid the Israelites to make a covenant with any heathen nation. They didn't listen, they didn't love Him enough to have faith in what He told them. That He would watch over them and protect them and bless them.

When the Israelites reached the Land of Canaan they were told to kill and destroy all the inhabitants thereof and they disobeyed our Fathers' instructions and made friends and covenants with the Amalekites, Hittites, Jebusites, Amorites and the rest of them.

Why did our Father want these people killed off so His people could move in and live there? Because many of them were descendants of the fallen angels and they had made it through the flood and because they disobeyed our Father these people would bring hardship and bloodshed to the Israelites for many years to come.

Our Father knew what He was talking about, they didn't.

It's ALWAYS good to listen to the instructions of our Father when He gives them to us. The Bible is plum full of these instructions. Have you ever read them?

His judgment will be as poison (hemlock) on their crops. Their crops will not nourish them. He will not nourish them.

*Hosea 10:5 The inhabitants of Samaria shall fear because of the calves of Beth-aven: for the people thereof shall mourn over it, and the priests thereof that rejoiced on it, for the glory thereof, because it is departed from it.*

There are two kinds of churches: a Beth-el, a church where the Word of God is taught and Beth-aven, a church where the Word of God is NOT taught.

And in the church where the Word of God is NOT taught, the Israelites worshipped a couple of golden calves. Today, in a church where the Word of God is NOT taught, the people are misled with traditions and practices of established religion.

Just because a verse or two is included in the good preachers' sermon doesn't make it a House of God, a Beth-el. And yeah, the preachers rejoiced on it because it kept the congregation and the tithes coming in.

There is no glory in it and our Father will separate Himself from those houses and the people and the preacher.

This word **priests** in the Hebrew is:

**"Priests"**--*kamar* (*kaw-mawr'*); from OT:3648; properly, *an ascetic* (*as if shrunk with self-maceration*), i.e. **an idolatrous priest** (*only in plural*): KJV - *Chemarims* (*idolatrous*) priests.

They are best known as Chemarim because they go about in black, i.e., ascetics and they're written about in 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 23:5 (in the margin) and in Zephaniah 1:4.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 23:5 And he put down the idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in the cities of Judah, and in the places round about Jerusalem; them also that burned incense unto Baal, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the planets, and to all the host of heaven.**

Don't overlook the highlighted parts of that verse... **whom the kings of Judah had ordained**.

If they were ordained from the Father, they were called **k'ohen**.

If they were ordained by man, as the kings of Judah had done, they were called **K'marim** or in the English **Chemarim**.

**Zephaniah 1:4 I will also stretch out mine hand upon Judah, and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, and the name of the Chemarims with the priests;** KJV

Punishment is also extended to Judah and Jerusalem.

**Hosea 10:6 It shall be also carried unto Assyria for a present to king Jareb: Ephraim shall receive shame, and Israel shall be ashamed of his own counsel.**

This king Jareb might be a figurative king or the nickname of another unmentioned king but the reference by our Father is quite simple: Jareb, in the Hebrew, means:

**Jareb**--OT:3377 *Yareb* (*yaw-rabe'*); from OT:7378; *he will contend*; *Jareb*, a symbolical name for Assyria:

**Jareb** really means adversary on the one hand and the **Assyrian**, from Isaiah 14:25, is another name for Satan or the Antichrist:

**Isaiah 14:25 That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot: then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders.** KJV

The Assyrians will bring judgment against the House of Israel while the **Assyrian**, Antichrist, will appear just before that last Day of Judgment for all the people of this world.

Israel will be ashamed of their own council because they never went to the Lord to seek His council, they went to men instead.

**Hosea 10:7 As for Samaria, her king is cut off as the foam upon the water.**

'Ole King Jeroboam will be cut off faster than your hand can flick the foam off the top of seawater.

*Hosea 10:8 The high places also of Aven, the sin of Israel, shall be destroyed: the thorn and the thistle shall come up on their altars; and they shall say to the mountains, Cover us; and to the hills, Fall on us.*

The sin of Israel are the places of Aven. What does *Aven* mean? Nothingness. A house of God where nothing concerning the Father is taught to any extent that it might do some people some good. And once the people that go to such a church realize that, they'll pray for mountains to fall on them, to cover up their embarrassment at being a part of such deception.

This prophesy is also a direct reference to Revelation chapter 6:

*Revelation 6:15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;*

*Revelation 6:16 And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:*

*Revelation 6:17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand? KJV*

Everyone that followed the Antichrist will not be able to stand, that's for sure. Are you going to be able to stand? Is it coming in your lifetime? It's coming in the generation of the fig tree and we're living in that generation right now, Y'all.

*Hosea 10:9 O Israel, thou hast sinned from the days of Gibeah: there they stood: the battle in Gibeah against the children of iniquity did not overtake them.*

Sinned from the days when the Tribe of Benjamin did unspeakable things to two young women and the eleven other Tribes tried to annihilate them.

*Hosea 10:10 It is in my desire that I should chastise them; and the people shall be gathered against them, when they shall bind themselves in their two furrows.*

There's that double-mindedness again. Our Father said that it is His desire to punish them and He certainly will use the Assyrians to accomplish it.

*Hosea 10:11 And Ephraim is as an heifer that is taught, and loveth to tread out the corn; but I passed over upon her fair neck: I will make Ephraim to ride; Judah shall plow, and Jacob shall break his clods.*

You might have sympathy on one little 'ole heifer and instead of putting her out in the fields every day, pulling against the traces and digging up the furrows, you might put her in the barn and let her pull the windmill as she walks on the grains of corn to grind them up and if you keep the muzzle off of her, she can get a few mouthfuls of corn throughout the day.

Makes for a pretty nice day for that little heifer. Easy work, easy food.

Our Father is saying that He's going to leave that heifer alone and make Ephraim, Judah and Jacob do all the plowing, all the breaking up of the clods, all the work.

*Hosea 10:12 Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.*

The good things that you do in this life will bring righteousness and mercy upon you from our Father but you have to *seek the Lord*, look for Him and all those blessings will come to you. How do you look for Him? Humble yourself, get down on your knees and ask for forgiveness of your sins. Then tell Him that you love Him and then He will come into your life.

He won't do it until and unless you ask!

If you break His laws and Commandments, you're not going to be able to hide under mountains or hills. Just stand up and take His righteousness because when it's over you will be cleansed and your heart and soul will feel so much better for it.

He's not going to kill you...if He wanted to do that He would have done it back in the first heaven/earth age but instead He put us here so stand up and take it. You deserve it.

*Hosea 10:13 Ye have plowed wickedness, ye have reaped iniquity; ye have eaten the fruit of lies: because thou didst trust in thy way, in the multitude of thy mighty men.*

His people, and this includes us as well, have listened to so much hogwash from people calling themselves "men of God" that it chokes the very light from your world. You live in spiritual darkness and you don't even know it. You think that you're doing well but the only person telling you that, is the lying mouth standing behind that podium.

Our Father isn't telling you that. He says that the fruit of their lies is tainted fruit. Looks good on the outside but it's rotten as hell on the inside.

*Hosea 10:14 Therefore shall a tumult arise among thy people, and all thy fortresses shall be spoiled, as Shalman spoiled Beth-arebel in the day of battle: the mother was dashed in pieces upon her children.*

Well, we've had **Beth-el** and **Beth-aven** and now we've got **Beth-arebel**. What's that all about?

**Beth-arebel**-- OT:100 **Beyth 'Arbe'l** (bayth ar-bale'); from OT:1004 and OT:695 and OT:410; **house of God's ambush**; Beth-Arbel, a place in Palestine:

It means **AMBUSHED**. What does ambushed mean?

1. A sudden attack made from a concealed position.
  - a. Those hiding in order to attack by surprise
  - b. The hiding place used for such an attack

You and your wife go to a church on some Sunday morning, maybe for the first time, the kids are all spiffed up and you take a seat in a pew, not up front, but somewhere in the middle or towards the back. You sit down and expect what? A sideshow?

Of course not. You expect something religious. Music, songs from the hymnal, a lot of shaking hands and welcoming, a sermon that is so full of insight, assuring you that God loves you in spite of your wicked ways, and it makes you weep inside because it took you so long to finally come through those huge heavy doors of the church.

The sermon lasts for 30-35 minutes, a schedule has to be kept because they get restless if you go on and on, a few verses are quoted from a version of the Bible, which is important, because it adds validity to the rest of the words that this preacher will drone on about.

You smile and shake hands, again, as you leave, you climb into the car and as you're leaving the parking lot your wife may ask you this: "Honey, did you know about that rapture theory because I didn't. But I'm glad the pastor talked about it because now I'm not worried about anything scary happening to us if the Lord returns next week. We'll all be taken out of here before it all begins. We'll be safe."

Ambushed. In a house of nothing. And they went home feeling good about it.

I remember as a child a morning that my father took me to the barber shop to get my hair cut. The barber took him first so I had some idle time to just look around at the pictures on the wall or out the window.

There was a poster hanging on one wall, a cartoon depiction really, of a car going down the interstate. The driver was missing but there was a woman sitting in the front passenger seat and a small boy and girl sitting in the back. The woman had a very frightened look on her face, apparently because the driver was gone and there was no one to steer the car.

The caption at the bottom said "Do you want to be raptured out of here?"

Many years later I understood how powerful that poster really was. Did people really think that God would actually do that sort of thing? Leave some of His children helpless like that while taking the good husband to heaven to be saved from the fire and brimstone destruction that is soon to follow?

I decided right then that it was not possible for this "rapture" whatever to be something a loving God would do to those that loved and trusted in Him.

Ambushed. By the lies of established religion.

That poster touched me so deeply that 64 years later I can still see it as clear as day, as if I had stood in front of it yesterday.

*Hosea 10:15 So shall Bethel do unto you because of your great wickedness: in a morning shall the king of Israel utterly be cut off. KJV*

This word *Bethel* is the same as Beth-el or Beth-El, just a different spelling for House of God.

In the period of time that is designated as a "morning", our Father can change anything and it's always for the good of His children.

He will never lie to us or deliberately confuse us. He is not the author of confusion. Satan is. The Antichrist, Satan in another disguise, is. If there are verses in Scripture that seem to contradict each other it is our understanding of these verses that is awry. He is always faithful and true.

Ten chapters so far and the subject is still the same: Stop listening to and consulting with some man; stop worshipping idols and turn your thoughts and heart back to Him so that He can shower you with His righteousness.

## **The Book of Hosea**

### **Chapter 11**

Don't forget that this entire book is dedicated to the foretelling of the destruction of the ten Northern Tribes or said in another way, the House of Israel. Father is not going to just "destroy" them, He's going to "disperse" them around the world.

But within each chapter we will be able to see ourselves and the way that we live our lives today because we're human beings, just like they were, and the nature of such never, ever changes.

What happened to these Israelites back then happens to us today. The sins that they committed are the same sins that we commit today, the only difference is the packaging that it comes wrapped in.

"Whoredom" is predominant among the Jews in this book of Hosea and if taken on an individual level, 'ole Achid might be walking down a street in Samaria one evening and see a good-looking lady standing on a street corner and we, in certain parts of town, can see the same thing.

But Achid didn't have a computer back then and that, in and of itself, opens up a complete world of sexual misbehavior and sometimes decadence. Let's look at just five facts about the web:

A search for the word God produced 1.4 billion results.

A search for the word Sex produced 1.7 billion results.

The total number, in 2013, of all websites worldwide was 759 million.

The lowest estimate of how many sites are sexually oriented is 4% or 30.4 million sites.

The highest estimate is 37% which produces 280.8 million sites.

With the click of a button from anywhere in the world a person can view sexually oriented material in a matter of seconds. And Satan stands up there in Heaven, looking down on us, and saying: "Gotcha."

A lot of people will never kill or steal but EVERYBODY has sex on their mind at some point in their day.

That's just one example of the similar sins experienced by both the Israelites and you and me today. The opportunity of sin in this fashion today is mindboggling compared to what 'ole Achid faced but the list goes on and on.

This is the reason that our Father gave us this book, the Bible, for our instruction. And if you have never read it how can you possibly have any idea of what it is that our Father expects from us? An hour in some church once a week is pitifully and pathetically insufficient.

Nor do you have to become a bible scholar. Just try to read it daily and do it with understanding or you're just passing time. These people that tell you "well, I've read the entire bible, front to back." That's probably a good thing but how much did you get out of it? How much did you understand?

On Judgment Day our Father is not going to stand before billions of souls and say: "How many of you read my best seller from cover to cover? Let me see a show of hands. Alright, Y'all come on in."

In this same scenario He might ask: "How many of you knew the difference between My Son, the True Messiah and Satan/Antichrist, the fake messiah? Alright, Y'all come on in."

Alright, Hosea 11:1

*Hosea 11:1 When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt.*

When the children of Israel were small in number our Father called them out from Egypt. Why were they there in the first place? Let's read Matthew 2:15.

*Matthew 2:15 And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son. KJV*

Joseph and Mary were warned by an angel sent from our Father that Herod wanted to kill this newborn Savior and that they should go into Egypt until it was safe to return, which would be, after Herod's death.

The prophet spoken of here in Matthew is old Hosea himself.

*Hosea 11:2 As they called them, so they went from them: they sacrificed unto Baalim, and burned incense to graven images.*

The prophets called them and the more times the prophets called the people, speaking the words of the Father through the Holy Spirit, the more they withdrew from Him.

They continued to worship Baalim, which is a deviation of the word Baal. Baal was the male version of a god of the Phoenicians and the Canaanitish peoples while Ashtoreth was the female divinity. They simply continued to turn their back to the Father and worship the gods of the heathen nations around them.

*Hosea 11:3 I taught Ephraim also to go, taking them by their arms; but they knew not that I healed them.*

Father led these ten Tribes to places and they didn't even know that He was doing it. He watched over them and healed them when it was needed and they knew it not.

Maybe some of you have gotten that feeling when you made a decision, perhaps stopped what you were doing and took a different path in your life and it ends up that it was really not your decision at all. It was the Father silently working in your life and you didn't even know it. You thought that it was your idea when it really wasn't. It was His.

If and when that ever happens, it's a good feeling, to recognize that there is something else in this world besides what we can see and hear and it's difficult to hang on to that feeling and understanding with the world continually beating down on you every day of your life.

Soon the memory of that incident fades into the recesses of our mind, the uplift that we received has left us and we settle down into the rut of daily life again.

*Hosea 11:4 I drew them with cords of a man, with bands of love: and I was to them as they that take off the yoke on their jaws, and I laid meat unto them.*

Father would draw them and pull them along to make the work easier and He did it because of His love for them.

When a yoke is placed over an animals' head it rests on the back of his neck. As the animal strains into it, to pull the plow, the yoke will have a tendency to come up the front of his neck so there was a strap, call it a throat-strap if you will, that kept the yoke from coming too far up and bruising the shoulders and the bottom of the jaw of the animal.

Our Father is saying that it's like He Himself took His hand and lifted that yoke to keep it from injuring His people and He held food out in front of them to eat with His own hand.

He took care of them with His own hands. How truly special is that example.

*Hosea 11:5 He shall not return into the land of Egypt, but the Assyrian shall be his king, because they refused to return.*

And still Ephraim, the ten Tribes, ignored Him, turned their backs to Him, worshipped pieces of wood and stone and iron, whored around with the heathen nations. He's not going to kick them back into bondage to the Egyptians but He surely will let the Assyrians have a go at it.

Again, who was the Assyrian a "type" of? Isaiah 14:25:

*Isaiah 14:25 That I will break the Assyrian in my land, and upon my mountains tread him under foot: then shall his yoke depart from off them, and his burden depart from off their shoulders. KJV*

Verse 6.

*Hosea 11:6 And the sword shall abide on his cities, and shall consume his branches, and devour them, because of their own counsels.*

What is the sword of our Father? His tongue of truth, the truth of His Words. He will consume their sons and daughters because they never came to Him for counseling. They relied on Syria and other men.

How would we seek His "council" today? By reading the book that He gave us. It's all in there. Every answer that we seek is within those pages and if you put forth the effort to read and understand He will enlarge you by letting the Holy Spirit guide you to places within that book that can answer those questions.

Instead, will fill the front pages with the dates of births and deaths, keep it stuck away in a drawer in the china cabinet in the dining room and go to some man, some preacher, who many times is as dumb as a sack full of hammers in how to even live life on a day to day basis, much less, helping someone in spiritual need because all they know are the rules and regulations of some church system.

And while we fumble around with knuckleheaded preachers we don't even recognize that He is working in the background for our own good. He'll come to the foreground if we ask Him to but He won't do that without our asking.

*Hosea 11:7 And my people are bent to backsliding from me: though they called them to the most High, none at all would exalt him.*

This reads better if the word is "hell-bent" on going in the opposite direction from Him. And you and I know that to be true, don't kid yourself. It's a whole lot more fun to backslide than to toe the line: "Hey, we can either go toss down a few cold ones or go to that Bible study class on the other side of town...what do you want to do people? Yeah, let's go toss a few, can't hurt anything. Party on brother!"

*Hosea 11:8 How shall I give thee up, Ephraim? how shall I deliver thee, Israel? how shall I make thee as Admah? how shall I set thee as Zeboim? mine heart is turned within me, my repentings are kindled together.*

He loves them so how could He possibly give up on them? How could He do to them what He did to Admah and Zeboim? If you don't recognize these two names, they are the sister cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, along with a third city named Belar/Zoar and what did our Father do to them?

Yep. Fire and brimstone.

Why? For the sins of sexual depravity. Homosexualism and lesbianism. Might as well say it like it is.

How could He destroy His own people as He did those five cities? He truthfully does not want to.

*Hosea 11:9 I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city.*

He's going to control His anger with them as He has done for a long time. A man would destroy them for vengeance but He is their Creator who lives among them, though they see Him not.

*I will not enter into the city* means that He will not bring a siege against the city and His people and destroy them as He did Admah and Zeboim.

*Hosea 11:10 They shall walk after the Lord: he shall roar like a lion: when he shall roar, then the children shall tremble from the west.*

Father will summon them loudly and *walk after* means that they will return and follow Him. What is this *from the west*? It means that He's going to save His people from around the world, from wherever they had been dispersed. We can see this also in Zechariah 8:7 & 8:

*Zechariah 8:7 Thus saith the Lord of hosts; Behold, I will save my people from the east country, and from the west country;*

*Zechariah 8:8 And I will bring them, and they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God, in truth and in righteousness. KJV*

His people going back to Jerusalem has already begun; started back in May of 1948, the beginning of the year of the fig tree.

Some scholars believe that the west country refers to the Mediterranean Sea, as far as a land location is concerned, not the actual Sea itself but the peoples of Europe. This is written in Isaiah 11:11 as well:

*Isaiah 11:11 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. KJV*

Verse 11:

*Hosea 11:11 They shall tremble as a bird out of Egypt, and as a dove out of the land of Assyria: and I will place them in their houses, saith the Lord.*

Again, this is looking forward to the time when our relationship with Him will be much different. No longer will we choose to turn away from Him and go another path but we will be His people.

The things that our Father has in store for us in the eternity makes tossing down a few cold ones look like a sick joke. Our imaginations cannot even think of what this eternity is going to be like.

*Hosea 11:12 Ephraim compasseth me about with lies, and the house of Israel with deceit: but Judah yet ruleth with God, and is faithful with the saints. KJV*

This is not to say that Judah or the House of Judah is sinless or guiltless because they too will come under the bondage of the Babylonians and be chastised for their inequity.

Over and over again our Father tells us that all He wants is for Him to be our God and for us to be His people, His children. Can you imagine the love that will befall us, from Him, when the eternity finally comes and this actually becomes a reality?

For the rest of forever and forever we will finally have that loving two-way relationship with Him. Nothing to intervene, no distractions, no temptations from Satan and his crowd but a pleasantness and content heretofore unknown since the time of the first heaven/earth age, before the fall of Lucifer/Satan.

That's really something to look forward to, isn't it? How empty that makes the desires of the flesh, the need for earthly things that seem to engulf our minds. But it takes seconds, and minutes, and hours, and

days, and months, and years and millennia before every human being has put in the time in these bodies to achieve that focal point, that end point.

Don't live your life as if this is all there is to existence. Don't do the time and end up with nothing. How sad would that be.

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## **The Book of Hosea**

### **Chapter 12**

*Hosea 12:1 Ephraim feedeth on wind, and followeth after the east wind: he daily increaseth lies and desolation; and they do make a covenant with the Assyrians, and oil is carried into Egypt.*

This word *wind* is *ruach*, in the Hebrew, and it means *breath or soul*. These ten Tribes are feeding on, praying to and expecting much from idols that can do nothing for them, much like most Christian churches today, whose preachers feed the flock spiritual nothingness.

If you spend an hour in your church and you don't walk away with a tummy full of the Words and Wisdom from our Holy Father then you've just wasted your time and He will not bless you for you wasting your own time. He doesn't reward nothingness.

And your good intentions be damned. What's that old saying: "The road to hell is paved with good intentions." That's a pretty good axiom for worthless preaching. You can't stand before Him and say: "Well, I tried to learn your Word but my pastor just wouldn't teach it to me."

Father expects you to be smart enough to realize that after two or three sermons, if you don't get something of substance, something that you can talk about with others after you leave that building, then you need to high-tail it out of there and find another church or stay at home and study on your own.

And if you keep going back and listening to the same worthless words you are increasing the lies in your head and the desolation, the separation from the Father, will continue to grow and get larger.

These ten Tribes have always gone to other men or countries and made deals with them instead of going to our Father and asking His council.

*Oil is carried into Egypt* means that they carry a present with them when they go to ask a favor of someone or a country from which they want something, like Syria or Egypt. Maybe their soldiers could fight with yours or have them to protect you from another enemy.

There have been countless times that our Father has told ALL of the Tribes that if they simply depended on Him and loved Him enough to do that, that He would make them successful in ALL of their battles. They didn't listen very often.

It's sad to say that this great Christian nation does that a lot. We give billions of dollars to these countries in the Middle East and expect loyalty in return and we always end up with nothing. Our politicians don't know how to bargain successfully.

It seems that as long as they get their payoff money up front, they'll vote on just about anything that has to do with buying friends through the concept of foreign aid. The only country in the Middle East that gets foreign aid from us and uses it for the good of their citizens and their country is.....and get this.....Israel.

Our wonderful friends in Israel that Obama keeps crapping on every time he has an opportunity and why not? He's a Muslim, heart and soul. His mouth says different but his soul does not.

It's interesting that oil and Egypt are mentioned here because, of all the Middle Eastern countries, Egypt is about the only one that has to buy oil and have it shipped in. Most other countries have tremendous reserves below their ground.

So taking oil as a present makes good sense.

*Hosea 12:2 The Lord hath also a controversy with Judah, and will punish Jacob according to his ways; according to his doings will he recompense him.*

Another figure of speech, or a *Synecdoche*, if you would, for you to pay attention to here. Where “Ephraim” is used for the ten Northern Tribes and “Judah” is used of the two Southern Tribes, “Jacob” is used to indicate the natural seed of Israel which includes ALL twelve Tribes.

We also need to remember who the “man” Jacob was. He was the second son of Isaac and Rebekah. I’ll say more in a few verses.

Father has a little controversy with the House of Judah as well as the House of Israel but He’s telling all twelve Tribes here that they will reap what they sow, as far as He is concerned.

You will get back FROM Him according to what you DO FOR him. He’s in control....do you actually want to kick Him in the shins like Ephraim has been doing since the beginning of this book?

The only thing that you need to do FOR HIM is to show your love. How difficult is that?

*Hosea 12:3 He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and by his strength he had power with God:*

Jacob was a twin brother of Esau, who was the first of the two to see the light of the day. *He took his brother by the heel in the womb* means that he “grabbed” at Esau’s heel, possibly to keep him from being the first-born and therefore receiving the blessings from their father Isaac.

The name Jacob has dual meanings: one is “heel-grabber”, obviously from the above verse, while the other is “supplanter”, which means to overcome. Jacob will eventually “overcome” his brother.

Our Father declared that these two men would grow up and become two separate nations, completely understandable as America and Russia, from the history given in the Scriptures.

Esau, by virtue of being born first, deserved the blessings from his father but Rebekah made sure that Jacob received them through the deception of Isaac as he lay on his deathbed. They didn’t have to do this because it was a part of our Father’s plan that Jacob would be the greater of the two and it caused Jacob much trouble in years to come to have been a part of that deception.

*Hosea 12:4 Yea, he had power over the angel, and prevailed: he wept, and made supplication unto him: he found him in Bethel, and there he spake with us;*

When Esau discovered the deception and realized that the expected blessings had been taken from him by his brother he vowed to kill him so Rebekah sent Jacob off into and across the desert to go live with her brother Laban.

While on his journey to return to the land of Canaan years later, he rested one night and used a rock for a pillow. The Scriptures relate that during that night he wrestled with the Angel of the Lord, the very manifestation of our Father Himself and *had power over the angel* along about daylight but during the struggle our Father dislocated Jacobs’ hip which caused him to limp the rest of his life.

As dawn approached at the end of that night, our Father changed Jacob’s name to Israel:

*Genesis 32:28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed. KJV*

*He had power over the angel*, ,,,not in the physical sense but through the power of his tears and the power of his supplication when Jacob said:

*Genesis 32:26 And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. KJV*

*He found him in Bethel....* take us back to the beginning of Jacob's flight across the desert to avoid being killed by Esau when he experienced a dream of a ladder leading up from earth to heaven, seeing angels walking up and down, and he used that stone for his pillow and renamed the place from Luz to Bethel, the House of God.

Two points of interest from these few verses: after Jacob's hip had been dislocated the Jews never ate the thigh of the animal again because of the damage to the sciatic nerve in Jacob's hip and; two, that stone that he used for a pillow would be guarded and carried by Israel and centuries later would become known as the Stone of Scone, reverently placed beneath the coronation chair of future kings and queens of England, now residing in Scotland.

*Hosea 12:5 Even the Lord God of hosts; the Lord is his memorial.*

I always like to point out some of the sacred names of our Father whenever the opportunity presents itself and in the Hebrew the words **Lord God** mean **Yahaveh Elohim**.

**Yahaveh** is our Father in His *covenant relationship* to whom He has created.

**Elohim** is our Father in His *relationship to us as our Creator*.

Put these two names together, in the English, and it will read thus: **Our Father and His children**.

**The Lord is his NAME.**

Verse 6:

*Hosea 12:6 Therefore turn thou to thy God: keep mercy and judgment, and wait on thy God continually.*

The very name, **Hosea**, means *salvation* and that opportunity is given to us by our Lord Jesus Christ by His death on the cross.

*Wait on thy God continually...* means that every day of your life you should be aware, in the recesses of your mind, of His Second Coming, His coming back to us, to spend the next part of His overall Plan with us, during the Millennium.

It's going to happen no matter what you or I do. It's been declared, the finger of God has written it across the universe, HE IS COMING BACK. Will you be a part of the Millennium and, if so, what part will you play? Teacher or student? If you are one of His Elect you should already know the answer to that.

*Hosea 12:7 He is a merchant, the balances of deceit are in his hand: he loveth to oppress.*

We're certainly not talking about our Father here so who is the "He"? The word **merchant** means *Kena'an*, and He's talking about the Kenites. They just love to tip the scales in their own favor.

Our Father cannot bear to destroy His own children and He knows that much of what they do comes from the influence of the "shining one". It's the continuance of the battle between our Father and Satan that began back in the age that was.

Satan loves to oppress His children which is another reason for you to become knowledgeable of this book, the Bible. You will learn and understand the ways of Satan and in the future be better able to fend him off in your daily life.

*Hosea 12:8 And Ephraim said, Yet I am become rich, I have found me out substance: in all my labours they shall find none iniquity in me that were sin.*

*"We haven't done a thing wrong, we've prospered and been successful because of our own labors and we didn't commit any sins while doing it!"*

All ten of these Tribes are boasting at their successes and they don't even acknowledge their own sins while doing so. Sometimes you can mistake success in this world, playing the game according to their rules, and make yourself believe that you are rich by the blessings of our Father.

But if you're honest with yourself you will know that much of what you have gained is through cheating and lying; you have done it their way and not by the ways of our Father.

*Hosea 12:9 And I that am the Lord thy God from the land of Egypt will yet make thee to dwell in tabernacles, as in the days of the solemn feast.*

But if you repent and start doing things according to His laws He will bless you and you won't have that feeling of guilt when you do reach some success in this life.

*Hosea 12:10 I have also spoken by the prophets, and I have multiplied visions, and used similitudes, by the ministry of the prophets.*

*I have also spoken by the prophets...* literally means "upon" the prophets. He gave His instructions to the prophets and they did their job by transferring His thoughts to you. What are you going to do with them? Do you even know what they are? Have you ever heard them?

They should have shown you the right way, did you take it? Or did you act like these ten Tribes and turn your back to Him and thank the world for what you receive.

He gives us examples of other peoples and shows us how He dealt with them when they pleased Him and when they did not. They're called ensamples or "types". By their actions ours should be changed if necessary.

*Hosea 12:11 Is there iniquity in Gilead? surely they are vanity: they sacrifice bullocks in Gilgal; yea, their altars are as heaps in the furrows of the fields.*

Gilead and Gilgal were on opposite sides of the Jordan River, indicating that He's talking to both the House of Israel and the House of Judah. All the seed of Israel. In all quarters alike they are vile to Him.

Their altars are as piles of animal dung because they sacrifice, not to Him, but to something that cannot hear, or speak, or walk or bless them.

**Heaps-** OT:1530 *gal* (*gal*); from OT:1556; something rolled, i.e. a heap of **stone or dung**.

A similar interpretation would be that as they clear the fields of stones so that they can plow the furrows, from a distance these piles of stone represent little mini-altars.

Either way, it's what they offer on those altars that offends Him.

*Hosea 12:12 And Jacob fled into the country of Syria, and Israel served for a wife, and for a wife he kept sheep.*

Jacob fled into the arms of his uncle Laban and when Jacob fell in love with Rachel, he worked there for him for 21 years, marrying Rachael's sister Leah, through Laban's deception, during that time. He took care of Laban's stock and through his efforts as a husbandman, increased his flock a thousand times over.

*Hosea 12:13 And by a prophet the Lord brought Israel out of Egypt, and by a prophet was he preserved.*

Who was this prophet? Moses. Led them right on out of Egypt saving all His people.

*Hosea 12:14 Ephraim provoked him to anger most bitterly: therefore shall he leave his blood upon him, and his reproach shall his Lord return unto him. KJV*

Ephraim, these ten Tribes, will have the rotten fruit that they produce thrown right back on them. These people knew better and they followed the lead of a king like Jeroboam, to build two golden calves to worship instead of going down to Jerusalem as our Father had told them. They were lazy and wanted to have a good time and stay where they were.

It was not all that unusual for the Israelites to worship the idols of the heathen so it probably was no big deal to them when the calves were created. They might have even said: "Hey, this king is just like us."

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## **The Book of Hosea**

### **Chapter 13**

At this very moment, where is God? "Well, He's right up there in heaven." That answer just doesn't cut it anymore. It's juvenile, childish and has ignorance written all over it. The only correct and mature answer is...Our Father is everywhere.

When our Father was telling Moses that He would lead His people out of Egypt, Moses said: When I stand before the people, who shall I say sent me?

*Exodus 3:13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?*

*Exodus 3:14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. KJV*

**I AM** existence.

Period.

In every atom and molecule, He is there. Nothing is real and tangible except it was created by Him.

He sees everything. He observes. **He watches.**

How different would you live your life...how different would we **ALL** live our lives, if we were cognizant of His focus on us 24/7/365? If you knew and realized minute by minute every day that when you lifted your hand or brushed back hair that had fallen across your face, that He was watching every movement?

It would probably make us all feel a little nervous and self-conscious.

But in reality He does do that, nothing escapes His attention so you are only deluding yourself if you think that you can hide anything from Him. When you confess your sins to Him He already knows what you have done before you began to speak. The key to forgiveness is that you have to **acknowledge** that sin and kneel there and **ask** for it. Personally. One on one.

Can't do it through another person, can't have your priest or pastor or a group of Tuesday evening members of some church going out on visitation. You have to do the asking.

In verse two of this chapter He had been **watching** Ephraim, the Ten Northern Tribes, the House of Israel, and He saw that the tendency of these human beings, day by day, was for them to sink deeper and deeper into the muck and mire of temptation and sin.

And if you haven't picked up on it by now, their greatest sin involved sensuality and sexuality and idol worship.

*Hosea 13:1 When Ephraim spake trembling, he exalted himself in Israel; but when he offended in Baal, he died.*

Ephraim, the single Tribe, was reverently feared by the other tribes because of their strength of numbers and when they followed our Father and adhered to His laws and principles he was feared, not reverently, but with fear of destruction in their hearts by the heathen nations.

But **when he offended in Baal**, when he prayed and offered sacrifices to some idol, he died a spiritual death. A death far worse than a physical one. Remember what our Father said?

*Matthew 10:28 And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. KJV*

If you are in good shape with the Father it doesn't matter who kills your flesh and blood body because when it dies your soul goes straight to the Father. That flesh and blood is going to die eventually anyway, maybe someone may have taken that life too soon.

But if you live a long life, maybe 98 years nowadays, and your soul goes to the Lake of Fire on Judgment Day, what have you gained? Nothing. Not a darn thing. So you had better have some fun in this life that you live in this earthly body because there will be no eternity for you.

Max out those credit cards and live like a big spender, that's all you're going to get.

*Hosea 13:2 And now they sin more and more, and have made them molten images of their silver, and idols according to their own understanding, all of it the work of the craftsmen: they say of them, Let the men that sacrifice kiss the calves.*

He's been watching these people and hoping that they'll change their ways but it sure does not look as if that's going to happen so go ahead and kiss those cold, metal gods that your craftsmen have made for you. Give them all the adoration you think they deserve.

When you make something of a religious nature, like these two calves that King Jeroboam had made, according to **your understanding**, you're in for a world of hurt, both physically and spiritually. Every time you think that you've patched that hole that He put in your bucket... wham!.. there's another one. Fix that one....wham! ...there's another one. How much of this can you take? Or better still, how much can your family take?

If the Father is putting a hole in YOUR bucket the rest of your family will be affected by that as well. It won't be just you. Are you prepared to put your family through this? They will enjoy the prosperity and the blessings when you do things our Father's way but they will also suffer when YOUR bucket is empty.

They HAD a good understanding of how our Father wanted them to act, I mean, they toted that Tabernacle around the desert for forty years! What a job that must have been...probably took a thousand men to assemble and disassemble that tent and the poles and all that came with it. Carry it from one place to another.

But it was THE place where our Father communicated with them.

Father gave them instructions on how to build that one, He didn't wait for them to figure it out or do it their way or how they understood among themselves that it should be built and there weren't any gold and silver replicas of some cow inside when they got it all set up. Sometimes I marvel when I think about all they went through out there in that desert.

But let man's imaginations run free today and see what kind of "religious buildings" they design and build. Huge structures made out of steel and glass and so on. They don't but they might as well put some golden calves inside these buildings as well because our Father sure isn't inside, not with what they teach.

*Hosea 13:3 Therefore they shall be as the morning cloud, and as the early dew that passeth away, as the chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the floor, and as the smoke out of the chimney.*

When we turn our backs and keep our Father out of the equation everything that we do will end up as nothing. If we build it out of rock, concrete, wood, steel or glass it will eventually rot and fall down. Just like the sun when it burns the morning dew off of the flowers you planted in pots on the back porch.

*The chaff that is driven with the whirlwind out of the floor* ....might be a little difficult to understand. When they cut the wheat down in the fields they wrapped it in bundles and brought it to the barn. Then

they took the stalks and beat them against the floor to knock the wheat grains loose from the chaff or the part that holds it to the stalk.

To separate the chaff from the wheat they would throw it up into the air and fan it with something held in their hands that would create a wind when moved up and down. The wheat grains, being heavier than the chaff, would fall to the floor and the chaff would be blown off to the side.

Our Father is saying that your efforts are going to be worth about as much as the chaff that is blown off to the side. It's worthless. Can't even feed it to the animals.

*Hosea 13:4 Yet I am the Lord thy God from the land of Egypt, and thou shalt know no god but me: for there is no saviour beside me.*

I want you to notice that the word *god* in that verse is not capitalized, meaning that it's a man-made god, an idol, not a competing or different deity other than our Father.

When you pray to that tree or that idol, does it ever answer you back? Of course not. They are no good to you, they cannot forgive your sins nor save your worthless soul from hell.

Our Father needs people in these end times that won't wilt or evaporate when Satan puts a little heat on them. He needs people that are knowledgeable in His Word, someone that can stand up once in a while and say: "That's not in the Bible! I don't know where you got that but our Father didn't say that or teach that."

It seems like today we are expected to apologize for just about everything. We have public displays of grief along the roadsides where a loved one may have been killed by a drunk driver. That always reminds me of the 'ole boys back in Jerusalem that wore sackcloth and put dirt and ashes on their heads and stood on the street corner looking for public sympathy and recognition of their plight, whatever it might have been.

I understand the hurt and the feeling of loss when a loved one or a relative gets taken well before their time but public displays of grief is not the way to go. Pull the family unit together and grieve behind closed doors where you can talk and pray to our Father and have Him help you through this time of need.

Bunny rabbits, stuffed bears and flowers from the closest 7-11 or QuickStop is not the way to do it. It's superficial and empty.

Yeah, it's the spot where their soul left this earthly body and returned to our Father, but I think the people that understand that part of it are few and far between. It's the public grief that's important to them.

*Hosea 13:5 I did know thee in the wilderness, in the land of great drought.*

Father knew them out there in that desert. When they were 1-2 million strong and there wasn't enough water at times but He always came through for them as He promised He would. He made water come from sources that you would never think that it could come from. It was His miracles that kept them alive.

Water is pretty plentiful in this country today and He said that in the end times there won't be a drought of water or a famine for food but for hearing and understanding the Word of God. When you place a stuffed teddy bear on the side of the road you are showing me that there is a huge emptiness within you and it's going to take some "manna", some "meat" from our Father to fulfill that need.

*Hosea 13:6 According to their pasture, so were they filled; they were filled, and their heart was exalted; therefore have they forgotten me.*

Good time Charlies, every last one of them. Let the good times roll. All the bills are paid, got a new car sitting in the driveway, doing good at work, wow, the blessings just keep on a'comin.

Many people don't know that these wonderful things are blessings from Him. They think that they've done it all themselves. They forget about Him and begin to think about how wonderful and smart they themselves are. Their hearts are full of pride and that, my friend, is one of the seven deadly sins.

These people are acting just like Ephraim:

*Deuteronomy 6:11 And houses full of all good things, which thou filledst not, and wells digged, which thou diggedst not, vineyards and olive trees, which thou plantedst not; when thou shalt have eaten and be full;*

These are things that our Father has done for us, we didn't do them.

*Deuteronomy 6:12 Then beware lest thou forget the Lord, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. KJV*

It takes a steadfast determination to keep our Father in the forefront of our life every day. Even Satan can "appear" to have an influence on how prosperous we are but if you fall for his malarkey and marketing you'll end up with a double portion of hurt from our Father.

*Hosea 13:7 Therefore I will be unto them as a lion: as a leopard by the way will I observe them:*

There He is, watching us again

*Hosea 13:8 I will meet them as a bear that is bereaved of her whelps, and will rend the caul of their heart, and there will I devour them like a lion: the wild beast shall tear them.*

He's going to pull the rug right out from under some of these people and they're going to wonder why, they won't even get it when this begins to happen.

The *caul* of your heart is called the pericardium. It's a sack that fits around your heart and Father says that He's going to tear that open and rip your heart right out of there.

Pretty graphic, I know, and it's a figure of speech when our Father says things like this but it's only to show you how strong His emotions become when He sees you running off in another direction other than the one that He would have you be on.

It hurts Him to see you hell-bent on hurting yourself. And this is spiritually more than physically. He doesn't want you to take a path that leads right into the lair of Satan himself.

*Hosea 13:9 O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself; but in me is thine help.*

He can help us with anything if we will just ask Him to do so.

Let me tell you this: as long as our Father is spiritually beating you up it means that He still loves you and cares about you. When that stops, when you finally take the time to talk to Him and you can feel in your bones that there is no one listening on the other end, that's when you should get really worried.

He will still take you back and love you but don't let Him have to take you to the gutter before you begin to listen and obey.

There is no one on this planet that hates to be told what to do more than myself. But in my old age, I've gotten to the point to where I will listen to everything He has to say and I will follow His Words as closely as I possibly can but the human world can still kiss the dark side of my moon.

I don't owe **them** anything. I owe **Him** everything.

Wise up! Don't get to be my age before you start listening to Him. Read His Word and after a while you will hear Him speak to you through those pages. It will happen, I can attest to that.

*Hosea 13:10 I will be thy king: where is any other that may save thee in all thy cities? and thy judges of whom thou saidst, Give me a king and princes?*

"We want a man-king, just like all the other heathen nations. We don't want God to be our King."

I don't see that they acted all that great in the days before Saul became their first man-king. Seems to me that they were screwing up pretty good on their own when our Father WAS interacting with them.

*Hosea 13:11 I gave thee a king in mine anger, and took him away in my wrath.*

He was angry that they preferred some human being to lead them and when these man-kings screwed up and led them into idol worshipping He took them out, if you know what I mean.

The House of Israel had 19 "man-kings" and each and every one of them led the people to worship idols.

The House of Judah had 20 "man-kings" and only 8 of them tried to follow our Father and rule His people according to His wishes.

*Hosea 13:12 The iniquity of Ephraim is bound up; his sin is hid.*

Ever been constipated? That's the analogy that is being used here. What does the word **bound** mean in the Hebrew?

**Bound**-- OT:6887 **tsarar** (tsaw-rar'); a primitive root; **to cramp**, literally or figuratively, transitive or intransitive (as follows):

They keep all their sin bound up inside themselves and it's giving them spiritual cramping, they're doubled over with the pain and while so doing, they think that they can deny that the sin is there to begin with. That's what the word **hid** means, deny:

**Hid**-- OT:6845 **tsaphan** (tsaw-fan'); a primitive root; **to hide (by covering over); by implication, to hoard or reserve; figuratively to deny; specifically (favorably) to protect, (unfavorably) to lurk:**

*Hosea 13:13 The sorrows of a travailing woman shall come upon him: he is an unwise son; for he should not stay long in the place of the breaking forth of children.*

What is the subject here? The sins of Ephraim. Verse 13 says that the constant accumulation of these sins shall be like the sorrows of a travailing woman. Spiritual pain.

**Stay long in the place of the breaking forth of children?**... Father is talking about the birth canal. Do you know what happens today if a fetus should **stay long in the place of the breaking forth of children?**

Partial-birth abortion. Twenty-three States still allow this procedure. The analogy used here is to demonstrate that if Ephraim does not stop worshipping golden idols our Father will have the Assyrians cause them great harm and even death.

Ephraim **is an unwise son** because he should have seen the punishment coming. Heaven knows that our Father warned them enough through the prophets who tried many times to turn their heads around.

*Hosea 13:14 I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death: O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction: repentance shall be hid from mine eyes.*

Kinsman Redeemer. He is our closest relative; He will redeem them (and us) from the grasp of a spiritual death BUT it's too late to stop what's coming. He has made a decision and He's going to carry forth with it. The Assyrians will be used by our Father for the chastisement.

Don't ever forget that one of Satan's names is death. Spiritual death. Hook up with him and follow him and that will surely happen to you.

*Revelation 6:8 And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth. KJV*

Verse 15:

*Hosea 13:15 Though he be fruitful among his brethren, an east wind shall come, the wind of the Lord shall come up from the wilderness, and his spring shall become dry, and his fountain shall be dried up: he shall spoil the treasure of all pleasant vessels.*

The east wind is a hot wind because it comes in from across the desert and it's a wind brought up by the Lord.

*He shall spoil the treasure of all pleasant vessels...* Who is the "he"? The Assyrians.

Shalmaneser began the siege of Samaria in 723 B.C. and it ended in 721 B.C.

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 17:6 In the ninth year of Hoshea the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried Israel away into Assyria, and placed them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes. KJV*

At the end of three years it was over:

*2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 18:10 And at the end of three years they took it: even in the sixth year of Hezekiah, that is the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken. KJV*

At Sargon's palace at Khorsabad the inscriptions mention that the number of captives was 27,280 Israelites

*Hosea 13:16 Samaria shall become desolate; for she hath rebelled against her God: they shall fall by the sword: their infants shall be dashed in pieces, and their women with child shall be ripped up. KJV*

From the moment that these Ten Tribes began to sin and pay homage to Baal they became "spiritually dead" in the eyes of our Father and the Assyrians are going to tear them apart.

Repentance is so very important to us because a soul with unrepented sin assigned to it cannot coexist with our Father. We've all heard that the "wages of sin is death":

*Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. KJV*

Paul also wrote:

*Romans 8:6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

*Romans 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.*

*Romans 8:8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. KJV*

If you love the world and the things within it, you will have a tremendously difficult time pleasing the Father. And yes, repentance will wipe away all those sins but a habitual sinner, one that commits the same sins over and over again, may have a difficult time even getting repentance because they won't ever **ask for it**. It's there for them but they are too concerned with themselves and the pleasures they seek.

Sinning is using the world for self-gratification.

The Lord said that He will allow Satan and his dominions to tempt you but never over and above what you can handle. He will always provide a way out and if you never take that opportunity, He may well believe that you would rather have the pleasures of sin and not the security of forgiveness.

I sure hope that you don't live your life that way. What a waste that would be.

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## **The Book of Hosea**

### **Chapter 14**

We come to the last chapter of this wonderful book of Hosea. The Father's purpose for sending Hosea to these Ten Northern Tribes was to let them know that, even though they were at the height of prosperity, their focus on sensual and sexual pleasures and idol worship was going to bring them down hard. There is always a price to pay for our disobedience to the Father, even today.

We keep ourselves so occupied with raising our kids, climbing the ladder at work, exercising at the gym, partying on the weekends and the myriad of other things that keep us busy and frazzled each and every day until we can finally lay our head down on a pillow and call it done for that day, that we hardly think about Him until Sunday morning or something bad happens to us or our children or a relative.

Then we pray fervently, with our hands clasped together, begging Him to hear our pleas. And without regard to our current status with Him, He ALWAYS HEARS our prayers. He even keeps them in little golden vials, or bottles to show us that He hears.

If and when we receive no noticeable help or relief from the situation from Him, many times we get upset with Him, disgruntled, and vow to never ask Him for anything else the rest of our natural life!

Occasionally there will be a time when His hand moves across the face of our day and something minutely miraculous happens and we cannot help but know that He had something to do with it and we almost tear up with sincere gratitude. And we never even prayed about it.

He does hear our prayers and He does watch over us constantly and why He works or doesn't work in our daily lives is something I'll have to ask Him when I get "up" there because I don't know for sure.

I do know that He sees the overall picture of our lives while we see only specific incidents and I have to retain the faith that He knows what's good for us and let it go at that.

Pray to Him more often. Talk to Him more often. Developing a relationship with Him is up to us, not Him. Try to talk to Him every day, no matter what you're doing. You'll be surprised how much more comfortable you will feel for doing so.

Alright, chapter 14 of the book of Hosea.

Salvation. That's what this book is all about.

*Hosea 14:1 O Israel, return unto the Lord thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity.*

This is addressed to all the Tribes. Unless you stop the way that you live, stop the continual sin day after day, He's going to punish you but He's going to do it out of His love for them and us. Just because we're sinners doesn't mean that He doesn't love us.

Every human being is a sinner, I don't care what some people say and many people like to feel self-righteous and say: "Well, I never sinned as much as my neighbor does!" Doesn't matter. If you break just one of His laws you are guilty of breaking all of them:

*James 2:10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.*  
*KJV.*

You may not have murdered someone but that little 'ole white lie that you told yesterday carries the same magnitude as if you had. There are no "little" sins or "big" sins in His eyes. Break one: you've just broken them all.

*Hosea 14:2 Take with you words, and turn to the Lord: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips.*

Get down on your knees and ask for forgiveness, ask Him to take away your sins through the blood of Christ. He'll do it. He's just waiting for you to ask with sincerity in your heart. Bring us back into the fold, Father.

*So will we render the calves of our lips...* means that when they go into captivity they will no longer be able to have blood sacrifices of calves any longer so they (you) must speak to Him about their sins and then receive the thanksgiving for having them removed.

Now, don't think that I'm saying that the blood of animals was necessary for the forgiveness of sin because it wasn't. Blood sacrifices did not take away sin. But the willingness to kill the best of your herd or flock would SHOW our Father that you loved Him enough to do that.

They will talk to the Father and not sacrifice animals.

*Hosea 14:3 Asshur shall not save us; we will not ride upon horses: neither will we say any more to the work of our hands, Ye are our gods: for in thee the fatherless findeth mercy.*

*Asshur*...in this case has no article before it so it's referring to Satan, that Antichrist. The Assyrian. He will not be able to save you.

*We will not ride upon horses....*have you ever noticed that the Hebrew Nation, as a whole, never rode a horse throughout all of Scripture while almost all of their enemies did? One would think that this would put them at a great disadvantage, and so it would, but the reason for it is so that whenever they were successful in any battle, they could not attribute their success to the brutes they rode upon but rather our Father stood with them in every fight and HE was the reason that they won. Not because of some horse.

*The work of our hands...*you cannot "work" your way into salvation. Salvation is a gift, not a payment fulfilled. The thing that makes our "works" so important is that they are the only thing that we can take with us into the Millennium and the Eternity.

Each and every good work, figuratively, represents a thread of linen. And when you have many hundreds or thousands of "threads" you can weave a "garment" out of them and this will be the garment or "robe" that you will wear in Heaven:

*Revelation 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them. KJV*

And:

*Revelation 20:13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. KJV*

And:

*Revelation 19:8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. KJV*

Question is....do you have any "righteous works" in this life? Will you walk around during the Millennium and the Eternity with nothing more on than a bikini? Or will you have a long, flowing robe to wear? I sure hope that I have a robe because NOBODY should see this body in a bikini. You had better hope that I wear a robe as well. Not a pretty sight!

Everybody finds mercy in our Father. In the first part of this book they named that little girl ***Io ruhamah***, meaning “no mercy” and here Father is saying that she will receive mercy.

Father said to name the other one ***Io ammi***, which means “not My people” and here, with mercy, they will **all** be His people.

*Hosea 14:4 I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him.*

If you will simply repent, sincerely, of your sins, the anger that our Father feels for you will melt away and His love will come forth.

*Hosea 14:5 I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon.*

Where once the dew was melted away with the rising sun and the people wilted under the weight of their sins, here it will be used to grow the people, in the love that our Father will shower down upon them.

*Hosea 14:6 His branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lebanon.*

When you get your soul right with our Father, spiritually, mentally and physically, He will cover you with His branches and protect you.

From some idiot down the street, on drugs, with a gun in his hand? Probably not. We're supposed to be smart enough to stay from people like that.

But the overall protection, from Satan and his cohorts, from the temptations of the world, if you will let Him.

*Hosea 14:7 They that dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive as the corn, and grow as the vine: the scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon.*

You can rest under the shade of His shadow.

*Hosea 14:8 Ephraim shall say, What have I to do any more with idols? I have heard him, and observed him: I am like a green fir tree. From me is thy fruit found.*

We don't need idols any more, we have our Father.

*Hosea 14:9 Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the Lord are right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall therein.*  
KJV

Ephraim is feeling good right now because of the forgiveness afforded by our Father but soon, as all human beings will do, they will slip back into the world. They will give in to the temptations, they will give in to the flesh demanding that it experience something special, something sensual.

And so it goes for all of us who live in this world. Remaining close to our Father with everything around us screaming for our attention, is pretty hard to do at times. It's a daily struggle and so it should be. If it were easy even the sluggards would end up in heaven with us and if that were so, I don't think I want to be there.

I've had enough of those kinds of people in this life.

I hope that you've enjoyed this book. Salvation should be first and foremost in everyone's mind. The day will come soon enough when the chance to prove our love for Him will be gone and when that happens there will be no second chances in the Millennium.

Good or bad, the dye will already have been cast for most people when the first day of the Millennium begins. Don't be a student throughout that period. Be a teacher, be one of His Election.

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