

# Hosea

## AKA Worst Marriage Ever and Worst Kids Names Ever

- Written by the prophet with the same name: Hosea
- Name
  - Ho-ZEE-uh
  - “Salvation”
  - Part of the name Joshua or Yehoshua with the “Ye” added for Yahweh
- Audience: Northern Kingdom – the last prophet to them
- Timeline: ~752 BC – 722 BC (fall of Israel)
  - Four Judah kings: Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah (his coregency with his father)
  - Seven Israel kings: Jeroboam II, Zechariah, Shallum, Menahem, Pekahiah, Pekah, Hoshea
  - Israel is heavily besieged and pillaged during Hosea’s ministry.
- Purpose
  - Hosea's purpose was to announce that because the nation had broken Yahweh's covenant (the Mosaic Covenant) and that judgment was coming.
- What is the Mosaic Covenant?
  - Mosaic = “Relating to Moses”
  - The covenant created on Mt. Sinai
  - Marriage covenant.
- The main illustration of how committed Yahweh is to His people is how He told Hosea to behave towards his unfaithful wife Gomer.
  - Gomer is an “adulterous woman” both before and after their marriage.
  - Hosea had to buy back his wife
  - Named his three children prophetic names
    - Jezreel – for the punishment of the house of Jehu for the massacre at Jezreel
    - Lo-Rhamah – “Not Loved” for Yahweh would not longer show love to Israel
    - Lo-Ammi – “Not my people” for Israel was no longer Yahweh’s people and He was no longer their God.
    - “Yet the Israelites will be like the sand on the seashore, which cannot be measured or counted. In the place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ they will be called ‘children of the living God.’ <sup>11</sup>The people of Judah and the people of Israel will come together; they will appoint one leader and will come up out of the land, for great will be the day of Jezreel.
- The five basic themes that recur through the book:
  - Israel continued to break the covenant that God had made with her
  - The broken marriage covenant of Hosea and Gomer illustrated Israel's sin.
  - In spite of Israel's unfaithfulness, God remained faithful to her.
  - The Israelites could expect severe punishment for breaking the covenant.
  - In spite of her unfaithfulness, Israel would again enjoy gracious benefits from God, including future restoration following her punishment.

- The genre of the book is narrative for the first 3 chapters and prophetic oracle in poetic form for the last 11 chapters. Oracles:
  - The Charge Against Israel
  - Judgment Against Israel
  - Israel Unrepentant
  - Israel to Reap the Whirlwind
  - Punishment for Israel
  - God's Love for Israel
  - The Lord's Anger Against Israel
  - Repentance to Bring Blessing