

A STUDY OF HOSEA

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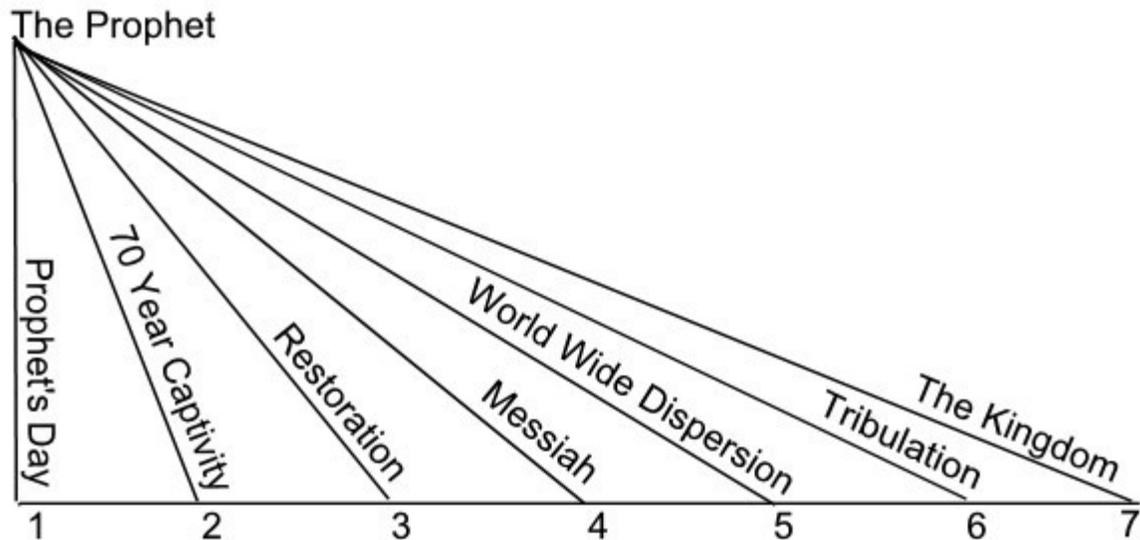
HOSEA

Commentary by Dr. Mark G. Cambron

Introduction to the Prophetic Books

Diagram of Prophecy in the Word of God

This simple diagram will illustrate perfectly how prophecy, AS A WHOLE, is divided into seven divisions:



(1) His Own Day; (2) The 70-Year Captivity; (3) The Restoration; (4) The coming of Messiah for the First Time; (5) World-wide Dispersion of the Jews; (6) The Tribulation; (7) The Kingdom.

(1) As for the prophet's day the Word abounds with references to it.

(2) Jer. 25:11.

(3) Jer. 29:10; Dan. 9:2

(4) The Old Testament is filled with Messianic prophecies

(5) Amos 9:9; Ezek. 36:24, 28; 37:14.

(6) Jer. 30:4-7; Dan. 12:1.

(7) Isaiah 2:11; 11:11; Amos 9:14, 15.

HOSEA

Hosea is translated Salvation. This, with the words for Joshua, is Jesus. Yes, in the Hebrew vocabulary the word Salvation is found to be Jesus. This is the First Book of the Minor Prophets. The Minor Prophets are described as such because of their brevity, and not because of their importance. The Word of God is the Word of God no matter who spoke or wrote it.

Hosea is called the Backslider Book. It was directed to Israel; the Ten Tribes.

I. The Domestic Preparation (1 - 3)

- A. The Symbolic Marriage (1)
- B. The Adulterous Wife (2)
- C. The Loving Husband (3)

II. The Divine Declaration (4 - 10)

- A. The Lord's Controversy (4 - 5)
- B. The Prophet's Challenge (6:1-3)
- C. The Lord's Complaint (6:4 - 10:15)

III. The National Consummation (11 - 14)

- A. The Meaning of that which is Past (11:1 - 13:8)
- B. The Promise of that which is Future (13:9 - 14:9)

The Minor Prophets

For some time we shall be studying the Minor Prophets, which does not carry the meaning that their words and prophecies are less important than the Major Prophets, but rather they are classed as Minor Prophets because of their length. The Major Prophets are major for God used them to write in a greater way, a longer way, than the Minor Prophecies. And we know the Minor Prophets are less in length and thus shorter in detail.

Our first book of study in the Minor Prophets is "Hosea." Hosea in the Hebrew means "Saviour, Safety," and from other forms such as Joshua, Yeshua; get it: Jesus!

HOSEA

After reading this wonderful book some one hundred times, things outstanding pop out before us which give us a deeper appreciation of the whole book.

Without question, the names called the Ten Tribe Israel are due to their apostasy and rejection of the prophecy which is directed to her.

All places in this book which means the Ten Tribe Israel, the word Israel is kept before the people and mentioned in this great book.

The Ten Tribe Israel is called "Mother" in Hosea 2:1, "My Wife" in 2:1, "My People" in 4:6, "a back sliding heifer" in 4:7, the one tribe when all ten are meant "Ephraim" in 4:17, "House of Israel," "Children of Israel," "an Oventin" 7:8, "a deceitful bow" in 7:16, the one word "Samaria" in 8:5, "a wild ass" as in 8:9, "Grapes in the wilderness" in 9:10, "first ripe in the fig trees" 9:10, "Empty Vine" in 10:1, "Jacob" as in 10:11, "a bird" in 11:11, and "a dove" in 11:11 also.

The ten tribe kingdom of Israel after the ten tribes of the tribes of Israel separated herself from the other two tribes of Judah and Benjamin, God calls her "a merchant" as in 12:7; a "morning cloud" in 13:3; "early dew" in 13:3; "chaff" 13:3; "smoke" in 13:3; "Asshur" as in 14:3.

Another interesting matter to learn as we study this fine book, and that is the study of the names of deity (God) in these short chapters.

There is the personal name of God found in the Book, it is Jehovah found spelled in the Scriptures as “LORD” — all letters capitalized.

Elohim, meaning God, found as God, small letters.

Baal, meaning my Lord.

Ishi, meaning my husband.

El Elyon (7:16), in English “Most High”

Maker (8:14)

Holy One (11:9)

Saviour (13:14)

King (13:10)

Lord; small letters mean “master, owner”

There are many locations of points of interest in the places where the Ten Tribe Israel is located. Here are some that are mentioned in the thirteen chapters of Hosea:

1. Jezreel (1:4) Jehu slays men here by no commandment of Jehovah (the LORD)
2. Israel (1:4) Ten Tribe Kingdom
3. Judah (1:7) Separated kingdom from Israel.
4. Wilderness (2:14).
5. Egypt (2:15).
6. First Heaven (4:3) where the birds fly.
7. Gilgal (4:15) where Israel was circumcised the second time
8. Beth-aven (4:15) “Bethel” = house of God become house of nothingness. The calf placed here by Jereboam. Hence Jehovah was repudiated.
9. Mizpah (5:1) where Jacob and father-in-law set up stones to remind each that “I can’t keep my eye on you, but these stones, I hope, will keep its eye on you.”
10. Tabor (5:1) Mount and City
11. Gibeah (5:8) King Saul’s birthplace.
12. Rameh (5:8) Also Bethlehem is called Rachel, weeping for her children, which occurred at the time of the birth of Christ.
13. Benjamin (5:8) The temple site belongs to Benjamin.
14. Samaria (10:7) The capitol of the Ten Tribe Kingdom
15. Aven (10:8) The high places of Bethel.
16. Bethel (10:15) “House of God”; the place where Jacob slept and dreamed of the ladder (staircase) as he fled from Esau.
17. Beth arber (10:14) The house of Arbel.
18. Assyria (11:5) A mighty kingdom which captured the “Ten Tribe Kingdom of Israel” and took all the people to Assyria.
19. Admah (11:8) City destroyed with Sodom.
20. Zeboim (11:8) Another city destroyed with Sodom.

21. Gilead (12:10) A city of Israel (10 tribes) which is polluted with her own transgressions.

Sins of the Ten Tribe Kingdom Described

1. Great Whoredom - departing from the service of the LORD (1:2; 2:5; 8, 13)
2. Murder at Jezreel (1:4)
3. No truth, no mercy, nor knowledge of God.
4. Swearing, lying, killing, stealing, committing adultery (4:2)
5. Forsaking the Law (4:6).
6. Israel backslides (4:16).
7. Israel is joined to his idols - leave him alone (4:7).
8. A snare for Mizpah (5:7).
9. A net spread for Tabor (5:1)
10. A devourer of their judges (7:7).
11. Made their hearts like an oven (7:6)
12. Devoured their judges (7:7).
13. Mixed himself with the Gentiles (7:8).
14. Worshipped the calf (8:5, 6).
15. Forgotten his maker (8:14)
16. Uses deceitful balances.
17. Made molten images (13:2).

Jehovah's Judgment Against Ten Tribe Israel

1. Break the bow (1:5).
2. Avenge the blood of Jezreel (1:4).
3. I will have no mercy (1:6).
4. Take them away (1:6).
5. I will not be your God (1:19).
6. I will strip her naked (2:3, 4).
7. I will make her as a wilderness (2:3, 4).
8. I will set her as a dry land (2:3, 4).
9. I will slay her with thirst (2:3, 4).
10. I will not have mercy upon her children (2:3, 4).
11. I will take away my harvest (corn) (2:9, 12).
12. I will take away my wine (2:9, 12).
13. I will recover my wool and my flax (2:9, 12).
14. I will discover her lewdness (2:9, 12).
15. I will cause her mirth to cease (2:9, 12).

16. I will destroy her vines and fig trees (2:9, 12).
17. Israel shall abide many days without a king, prince, sacrifices, image, ephod, teraphim (3:4).
18. I will cause her fall in one day and the prophet fall at night (4:5).
19. I will destroy your mother (4:5).
20. I will change their glory into shame (4:9).
21. I will punish them for their ways (4:9, 10).
22. I will cause them to eat and have not enough (4:9, 10).
23. I will punish them for their ways (4:9, 10).
24. I will reward them for their doings (4:9, 10).
25. The judgment I will bring upon her (5:1).
26. Ephraim and Israel shall fall (5:5).
27. Israel shall seek Jehovah and not find him (5:6).
28. Ephraim shall be desolate (5:9).
29. I will be to Ephraim as a moth (5:13).
30. [I will be to Judah as rottenness (5:13)].
31. I will be to Israel as a lion (5:13).
32. I will be to Jacob as a young lion (5:14).
33. I will take away from Jacob and none shall rescue him (5:14).
34. He has torn, smitten (6:1).
35. I have hewed, I have slain (6:6).
36. I will spread my net (7:12).
37. I will bring them down (7:13).
38. I will chastise them (7:13).
39. He shall come as an eagle (8:1).
40. Jehovah accepted them not (8:13).
41. I will remember their iniquity (8:13).
42. I will visit their sins (8:13).
43. Their floor and winepress shall not feed them (9:2).
44. I will cause the new wine to fail (9:2).
45. Their days of visitation is come (9:17).
46. Their days of recompense have come also (9:19).
47. He will remember their iniquity (9:9).
48. He will visit their sins (9:9).
49. They shall bring their children, yet I will bereave them (9:12).
50. There shall not be a man left (9:12).

51. I have departed from them (9:12).
52. Ephraim shall bring forth children to the murderer (9:13).
53. I will drive them out of My house (9:15).
54. I will love them no more (9:15).
55. God will cast them away (9:17).
56. They shall be wanderers among the Gentiles (Deut. 28:64).
57. He shall break down their altars (10:2).
58. He shall spoil their images (10:2).
59. As far as Samaria her king is cut off (10:7).
60. The high places of Aven shall be destroyed (10:8).
61. Thistles shall come upon her altars (10:8).
62. I will chastise them (10:10).
63. The sword shall abide upon her cities (11:6).
64. He (Jehovah) shall leave her blood upon her (12:14).
65. His reproach shall his lord return unto him (12:14).
66. When Israel offended in Baal he died (13:1).
67. Shall be as the morning cloud (13:3).
68. Chaff that is driven with the whirlwind (13:3).
69. As smoke out of the chimney (13:3).
70. I will be as a lion (13:8).
71. As a bear bereaved of her whelps (13:8).
72. And rend the caul of their hearts (13:8).
73. I will devour them as a lion (13:8).
74. The wild beast shall tear them (13:8).
75. Sorrows of the travailing woman shall come upon them (13:13).
76. His spring shall become dry (13:13).
77. Samaria (the capitol of Israel) shall become desolate (13:13).

Forgiveness and Return of Israel to the Land

1. I will have mercy upon the house of Israel (1:1).
2. I will save them (1:7).
3. Israel shall be as the sand of the sea (1:10, 11).
4. You are the sons of God.
5. Judah and Israel be gathered together (1:10, 11).
6. They shall appoint them one head (1:10, 11).
7. They shall come out of the land.
8. I will give her vineyards (2:15).

9. She shall sing (2:15).
10. I will have mercy upon her (2:23).
11. Thou art My People.
12. He will heal up (oh yes, He is the Great Physician!) (6:1).
13. He will build us up (6:1).
14. He shall come to us as the rain (6:31).
15. I will return the capacity of my people (6:11).
16. I will make Ephraim to ride (13:10).
17. Judah shall plow.
18. Jacob shall break clods.
19. He will come and rain righteousness.
20. There is no Saviour but Me (13:4).
21. In me is thy help (13:9).
22. I will ransom them from the power of the grave (13:14).
23. I will redeem them from death (13:14).
24. I will heal them from backsliding (14:4, 5)
25. I will love them freely (14:4, 5).
26. I will be as the dew (14:4, 5).
27. They shall return (14:7).
28. They shall revive as the corn (14:7).
29. They shall grow as the vine (14:7).
30. They shall be like the wine of Lebanon (14:7).

Hosea's prophecies are directed to the "Ten Tribe Kingdom of Israel," and is called Israel from the time of the separation of the kingdom into two kingdoms: "Israel" ten tribes and "Judah" the two tribes (Judah and Benjamin) in the time of Rehoboam.

The Kingdom under Rehoboam had only two tribes: Judah and Benjamin, while Israel, under Jeroboam, had ten tribes.

The book of Hosea covers some 30 years.

Under Jeroboam II, Israel had been prosperous and successful, as she had never been since the days of David and Solomon. She had recovered much of the territory which those monarchs had held and restored the ancient boundaries which had marked out the promised inheritance. As it records in 2 Kings 14:25, 28, "He restored the coast of Israel from the entering of Hamath unto the sea of the plain...and warred, and recovered Damascus."

"But the curse of idolatry still remained, accompanied with other sins which defected from the LORD and the worship of strange gods always brought in their train. Impiety, luxury, profligacy, everywhere abounded, and when Jeroboam (the first king of the ten tribe Kingdom of Israel) died, and the strong hand which had checked the open turbulence and lawlessness of the people was removed, a scene of anarchy and confusion

ensued, which gave sure token of coming vengeance. His son Zechariah was assassinated after a reign of six months, by Shallum, who usurped the crown, and after wearing it one month was himself murdered by one of his generals, Menehem. This wicked and cruel tyrant occupied the throne thus gained by bloodshed for ten years. His reign is chiefly remarkable for the appearance of the Assyrians in the Holy Land under Pul, who assumed the name Tiglath -Peleser. To escape the attack of these stern invaders, Menehem became tributary to the Assyrians, and was confined in his kingdom at the price of a thousand talents of silver, which he exacted from the wealthiest of his subjects.” And on, and on!

Let us now consider the Holy Scriptures dictated by a holy God, for His unholy people.

Chapter 1

Hosea was a contemporary of Amos in Israel and of Isaiah and Micah in Judah.

Verse 1-7

“The word of Jehovah that come unto Hosea, the son of Beerī. We are not told how, as explained by the prophet, but Israel knew that a prophet had been sent when God raised up Hosea to speak or to write.

Some of the prophets had a normal “call” of God to either write or speak His message, others like Jeremiah who was told not to marry; and the prophet Ezekiel who was told that his precious wife would die that day and she did so.

Of all things he was told to marry a harlot — her name was Gomer. He married her, and she gave him a son. The Lord named him “Jezreel” and yet a little while “I will avenge the blood of Jezreel upon Jehu, and will cause to cease the kingdom of the house of Israel.”

It was not for the slaying of the sons of Ahab, for God had commanded it, nor was it for the slaying of the priests of Baal; that was an act accepted by God, but the avenging of the blood that Jehu slew, we find it was for those slain (2 Kings 10:13-14) by Jehu of the brethren of Ahaziah. Forty-two men were slain needlessly. Thus Jehovah wants that crime to be paid for, and gave the first son of Hosea as a reminder.

Hosea’s wife’s second child was a daughter. And God said “call her name Loruhamah,” meaning “unpitied” for this is what I shall call the Ten Tribe Kingdom of Israel. For I will no more have mercy upon the house of Israel. I will take them utterly away.” And he did so when He had the Assyrians take these ten tribes of Israel into captivity.

Verses 8 - 9

The next child shall be called “Lo-ammi,” not my people. And God emphasized that truth by stating, “I will not be your god” for you are not my people.

Verse 10-11

But there is coming a time of restitution — the number of Israel shall be as the sand of the sea. It is come that while it is said, “Ye are not my people,” it shall be said of Israel “You are the sons of the living God.”

Then Israel (ten tribes) and Judah (two tribes) shall be called and gathered together.

And they shall appoint them one head or leader. They shall come up out of the land: for “great shall be the day of Jezreel.”

The relationship between Hosea and his wife shall be the same as the relationship of Jehovah and his whorish wife, Israel.

You will notice that at the first conception and bearing by Gomer, the Scriptures state (v.3) “and bare him a son.” This was Hosea’s son. But the other conceptions and bearings, the children are not said to be Hosea’s children (i.e. v. 6 “And she conceived again and bear a daughter,” v. 8 “And she conceived and bear a son”).

The first child born is indeed Hosea’s; a picture of Israel’s marriage to Jehovah. Now the other two children are children by Gomer and her lovers in the practice of whoredom.

Chapter 2

Verse 1

Now let chapter two explain it. Notice, he speaks to Ammi and Ruhamah and says, now plead with your mother.

Verse 2-3

“She is not my wife, neither am I her husband.” When she had these last two children, Ammi and Ruhamah, she became pregnant by her whorish lovers, not by me.

Hosea’s words to his wife are the same words that God Almighty is speaking to the idolatrous wife of Jehovah.

Verse 4

“I will not have mercy upon Gomer’s children, for they are not mine.”

Just listen to the thoughts of Gomer.

Verse 5

“I will go after my lovers that give me my bread and my water, my wood and my flex, mine oil, and my drink.”

“I’ll make it so that she will not be able to find her lovers.”

“Oh, yes, she will follow after them, but will not be able to overtake them.”

So Gomer — yes, Israel, and say, just like the prodigal son “I will go and return to my first husband, for then it was better for me than now.”

Verse 8

“For she did not know,” (saith Jehovah,) “that I gave her corn, and wine, and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold, which they prepared for Baal.”

Verse 9

Israel: “I will return and take away my corn in the time thereof, and my wine in the season thereof, and recover my flax given to cover her nakedness.” The marriage over — “I found you in another man’s arms.” Jehovah’s anger is ferocious.

Verse 10

“Before her lovers I will disgrace her.” Israel had such wealth that couldn’t be

counted. The kingdoms of this world wondered when would he find her untrue. Why He's known it all the time. Nothing can be hid from Him. There's nothing left but full destruction for Israel. That's what she deserves.

Verses 11 - 13

This leads to the fact that all her happiness shall be taken away.

God is not man. He does not think as humans do. If such things happened to us what would we do? The marriage would be over — the furniture would be divided as well as the bank account.

But what a great God we have!

Verse 14

I will make love to my former wife.

Verse 15

All the possessions I took away, I return them to her.

Verse 16

You shall call me "Ishi" my husband and not "Baali" my lord.

Verse 17

"I will take the names of Baalim out of her mouth, and they shall remember their names.

As we are listening to these words, they do speak "love" don't they — I'll betroth — I will promise to marry you again — I will marry you again.

Verse 18-20

What a glorious reunion it will be in the second betrothal of Jehovah with His idolatrous wife.

With my arms taking you to my heart. I will make a covenant with the animals of the world — none shall remain flesh eating.

"I will marry you, Israel forever."

I will marry you in righteousness forever, and my fair judgment, and loving kindness and mercies shall I shower upon you.

I will marry you knowing of your faithfulness promise, you will keep.

Verse 21-22

In that day, the rain shall be returned to Israel — the clouds shall receive their share. No more parched land. "God sow" is God's answer.

Verse 23

More than that, I will sow a crop of Israelites and raise them for myself. It shall all result in those that I said were not my people. I shall say, "You are my people." The people shall say, "You are our God."

Chapter 3

We believe that this chapter deals with the same husband, Jehovah, and the whorish

wife, Israel as in chapter one. It is a carry over of the marvelous words found in chapter two of the restoration of Israel with her God and friend, Jehovah.

So, Hosea married again his wife who had gone after other lovers for a price. He bought her outright for about two dollars and eight bushels of barley. Before our second marriage is consummated, now, there must be a rest time, yes, for many days, when you shall realize that I, only am for you.

So it is with Jehovah and Israel for Israel shall abide many days without a king, and without a prince without a sacrifice, and without an image, and without an ephod, and without teraphim. And afterward shall the children of Israel return and seek Jehovah their God, and David their King, and shall fear Jehovah, and His goodness in the latter days.

It has been nearly 2000 years that Israel has been without a Sanctuary (Temple), 2000 years without a sacrifice, and without a king and 3000 years without David.

Chapter 4

Verses 1 - 2

Over and over Jehovah rebukes His people, spelling out simply their idolatry, their sinfulness; assuring there is forgiveness with Jehovah.

Verses 3 - 5

The land itself is polluted — so much so, that blood is now touching blood — everyone is guilty of idolatry, and the only forgiveness I can find is in their God.

No one dares to rebuke his friend by his side, because all are doing the same thing.

Verses 6 - 11

“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.” Israel cannot claim innocence, for the Word of God has been given, but people don’t want God’s word. Lack of knowledge? “They have forgotten what has been taught them. Forget Me,” saith Jehovah, “Then I forget your children.” No wonder that God tells them that they shall be without many things in the things ahead.

Verse 12-15

My people ask me nothing, but they ask knowledge of their stocks. Ephraim is feeding on the wind, and they have plenty to eat (wind), and it won’t make them fat.

They sacrifice upon the tops of the mountains, still they have no answer, yet their daughters shall commit whoredom, and their spouses shall commit adultery.

Oh, men! Think you are clear? Your daughters are prostitutes, but I shall not punish them, for your spouses commit, for they are separated with whores, and they sacrifice with harlots. No help there!

In the first place, Israel has grieved the Holy Spirit by their idolatry. Second, they are resisting the Holy Spirit. Third, they are quenching the Holy Spirit, and fourth, they are insulting the Holy Spirit.

Oh, Israel has works! Why they move to the mountains to show the true God that they can build up a sweat in worshipping that which is nothing.

Because of sinning against the Holy Spirit and leaving the powerful name of Jehovah out of their worship — causing their children who know not God, anyway, to commit whoredom, which leads your spouses to commit adultery.

Listen, I will not punish your daughters, nor your wives. They know nothing contrary. Everyone is doing it!

Oh, Israel — go ahead and play the harlot. I'm hoping, saith Jehovah, that Judah checks herself and separates herself from harlots.

Though Judah is parading around in her practice of harlotry, "O Judah, offend not, and come not to Gilgal." That was the place where Achan was found out to be the one who caused Israel to be defeated at Ai. "Go yet not to Bethaven." This is where one of the golden calves was placed in the Ten Tribe Kingdom by their king Jereboam, causing all Israel to sin.

Verse 16

Israel maketh no progress with Jehovah, though He shall feed as a lamb in a large place.

Verse 17-18

"Ephraim (another name for the ten tribe kingdom of Israel) is joined to his idols — let him alone." There are just some people who make themselves impossible to be saved. We believe salvation is all of the grace of God, through faith of the believer, but you have to say that there have been thousands times ten thousand Israelites who joined themselves to idols and died in such unbelief and have gone to hell.

Their drink has turned sour — no one wants it — what God has offered, they have refused — shame and death awaits the unbeliever. Their ruler knows idolatry is wrong. Nevertheless, they have embraced their idols and are perished.

Verse 19

What a condition Israel's in: "the winds" — the breath, the spirit "though they be ashamed, their sacrifices will mean nothing."

Chapter 5

Verse 1

God puts the blame for Israel's blindness, their unbelief, and their refusal of God's grace upon their leaders.

"Hear ye this, O Priests

Hearken, ye house of Israel

Give ear, O house of the king.

Judgment is in store for you.

Verses 2 - 3

The revoltors are profound, but I have been a rebuker of them all.

I know all about Ephraim

Nothing of Israel is hid from me.

Thus the terrible results:
Ephraim is full of harlotry.
Israel is defiled.

Verse 4

Their sinful deeds will not allow them to turn to their God. There is the aroma of passion in the midst of them. They have never known Jehovah, and He shall never know them.

Verse 5

The arrogance of Israel is proof enough of their past without faith and without God. Hence Israel (Ephraim) shall fall without any hope of repentance and faith — how hopeless it is for Judah also.

Verse 6

They look for something — they have their arrivals of sacrifice with their sheep; a good pretence in seeking the true God. But they won't find him for he hath withdrawn from them. All hope is gone for all eternity. Just think; these who were alive when these words were penned, are now lost, and lost forever.

Why is God warning thousands today that unless they repent and trust God's Son the Lord Jesus the Messiah, they shall likewise perish?

Verse 8

Oh, how Jehovah wants His people Israel and the House of Judah, and you, thousands of Gentiles don't let Israel's end be yours.

“Blow yet the cornet in Gibeah, and the trumpet in Ramah; cry aloud in Beth-aven, after thee, O Benjamin.” Benjamin, the things happening around you shall happen to you.

Verse 9

Ephraim shall answer the next roll call.

Verse 10

Now Judah shall not escape the wrath and judgment of God for they are doing the same thing like Ephraim is doing.

Verse 11

Ephraim (Israel) is broken, etc. He willingly forsook Jehovah. He never reached the high plain of knowing the Word of God.

Verse 12

“What will I do,” asked Jehovah. Look around and see what I have done to those who refused My grace. Israel, and a rottenness to Judah. I will cause Israel and Judah to die, decay, and stink before My face.

Verse 13

When Israel and Judah finally awaken to My ways, My laws, they turn their back upon Me to even sin worse — they turned to the Assyrian to describe a healer of sin, for none could Assyria subscribe.

Verse 14

Unto Ephraim (Israel) I shall appear as a lion, and to the house of Judah. Their end shall be so pitiful — no one left to rescue them.

Verse 15

I will give up completely Israel and Judah. I will withdraw from them until they acknowledge their offence and seek my face; “In their affliction they will seek me early.” It has already been nearly 2000 years: “early”?

Chapter 6

(Read 5:15)

As we approach chapter six, we left the LORD Jehovah saying, “I’ll return to my place.” His place is in heaven. Seven hundred years ago, He, Jehovah, returned to this earth, being manifest in the flesh by His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. God returned to heaven in His Son Jesus about 30 A.D. God returned to earth in the person of His Holy Spirit ten days later.

God the Father and Son Jesus Christ are now bodily present in heaven, and with and by His omniscience are present in the Holy Ghost and have been so for nearly 2000 years. And when Israel seeks the face of God, they shall find Him in the face of Jesus.

How wonderful it is for the body of Christ to have another person just like Jesus to guide us into all truth and to bring to mind the things the Lord Jesus said while upon earth, and to show us things to come by God’s Holy Spirit the Holy Ghost.

Verse 1

Who is speaking to Israel today, and shall powerfully restore all things to them? The Holy Ghost, of course. Complete healing of body, soul, and spirit (man) is guaranteed!

Verse 2

After two days! A day is with the LORD as a thousand years. Certainly Israel’s blindness shall be removed in the 2000 years since Calvary.

The third day, the three thousand years “he will raise us up.” What an easy application to these scriptures can be made, yet God is not bound by years. There could be thousands of years before He will appear. But as things are, most everything is being fulfilled for the Messiah’s soon appearance.

Verse 3

When Israel repents of her sins, she returns to her Jehovah.

“And it shall come to pass, when all these things are come upon thee, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before thee, and thou shalt call them to mind among all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath driven thee, and shalt return unto the LORD thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I commanded thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul; that then the LORD thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the LORD thy God hath scattered thee. If any of thine be driven out unto the outmost parts of

heaven, from thence will the LORD thy God gather thee, and from thence will he fetch thee: And the LORD thy God will bring thee into the land which thy fathers possessed, and thou shalt possess it; and he will do thee good, and multiply thee above thy fathers.” (Deuteronomy 30:1-5)

The promise of the return of the Lord depends upon Israel’s return to Jehovah. Sooner or later, she will.

Verse 4

The former and latter rains are now falling upon the nation Israel, and salvation shall be as the former and latter rain.

Verses 5 - 6

What is left for God to do? The prophets by their prophecies have slain Israel time and again. Yea, My Word has pierced their hearts. History has argued the points of my mercy, and that is what I want more than sacrifice — I want to pour out my mercy, if Israel only would return to Me!

Verses 7 - 11

They have broken the covenant — the Old Testament. Here Jehovah points to the whoredom of Ephraim, Israel is defiled. Ephraim is of course Israel — the “Ten Tribe Kingdom” — their sins is open, known, and judged.

But Judah, the two tribe kingdom, is not without faults, but here joy is promised in a salvation as an harvest for Judah when the captivity is restored.

Yes, the Holy Ghost in Hosea begs both Israel and Judah to return to Jehovah.

Chapter 7

Verse 1

There came a time when revival was close. Jehovah states that He was about to heal the Ten Tribe Kingdom, Israel, but wickedness was found in her capital — Samaria. They commit falsehood — the thief came in; sin is meant without limitation.

Verse 2

Israel forgets that I am full of all knowledge. I possess omniscience, in other words, being all knowing is one of My attributes.

Verse 3

They sport themselves before kings and think they should have a feather in their cap, for they have “arrived” socially. The King has invited them to his suppers. But they are together in their lust to practice the most.

Verses 4 - 11

From her on through the rest of the chapter God sums it all up in verse 8 — “Ephraim is a cake not turned” — in other words, Israel (ten tribes) is just half baked. Not all together in knowledge.

As a man, Israel has poured out his manhood and wasted it upon strangers. He thinks He’s strong — that he holds his youth as a twenty year old — but gray hairs are not seen among the black ones. White headed Israel shall be, and the process of old age

cannot be held back. His time of sport, Israel does not want to be without. They care not for God!

Ephraim, also is a silly dove. How can a dove be silly. We know that it is the custom of doves to have only one mate. If the mate dies, he remains unattached. But Israel has become as a silly dove — the dove does not remain true to its mate — it seeks another mate, and finds it. Israel is alone for a very short time. She seeks another mate — she is a silly dove — and as she has turned her attentions from Jehovah to another mate which is Egypt and Assyria.

Verse 12

When Israel shall flee “I will spread my net upon them; I will bring them down as the fowls of the heaven” and among are the silly doves. Just put to flight is not the punishment God wants. God wants Israel to suffer in their flight. I know where they are, and they shall know my punishment.

Verse 13

“Yes, they have fled from God. They don’t know anything about God. “Though I have redeemed them, yet they have spoken lies against me.”

Verse 14

Here’s salvation for Israel, but they want it not, because it is of Me, saith Jehovah! They have not cried unto Me with their heart. They shall want nothing of Me. But they howl upon their beds; they assemble for bread and wine. They rebel against Me.

Verse 15

Though I have bound them to Me, they shrug Me off.

Verse 16

They return but not to Me, said Jehovah. Not to Me the Most High God “El Elyon”. They are like a deceitful bow — a “faulty bow” — a bow that no archer can rely on. No arrow can find its target. So it is with Israel, she is unreliable, unfit, useless!

Israel’s princes had led Israel to believe that God’s word was unreliable, but they found Egypt a derision as they sought their help.

Chapter 8

Verses 1 - 4

Sound an alarm! The enemy approaches — it is Assyria who has become that enemy of Israel (Ten Tribe Kingdom). Most every enemy of Assyria quaked in their hearts at the possibility of war against such a heartless enemy. She was the cruelest nation that ever lived. It wasn’t anything to take a heart of a living person, nor was it thought to be cruel to skin a person alive. Today’s descendants of Assyria are the Iraqis. America fought against her the battle which was called “Storm.” Very few of the people became the target of America’s war machine — only the Iraqi army, which suffered tremendous losses.

In the case of the ten tribe kingdom of Israel against Assyria, the strangest things occurred. The Assyrians changed their cruel dealing with oppressed nations. Assyria never showed that cruelty toward Israel — made many Israelites very wealthy. Israel sat

down to make themselves at home, accumulating exceeding great riches. And when Israel in Assyria was offered the release to return to Israel, only very few people responded becoming some of the 50,000 of the twelve tribe Nation of Israel to return to Palestine.

The ten tribe Israel didn't want to return. They had it too good under the Assyrians. This was the time when all Israel could have returned to the Promised Land with the blessings of Assyria and Babylon. There are several thousand Jews living in Assyria today (1994).

Verse 5 - 6

Jehovah's jealousy is still smarting over the worship that the ten lower tribe kingdom made of the two golden calves that Jereboam set up; one in the North (Dan), and one in the South (Bethel).

Verses 7 - 12

Israel has sown the wind and shall reap the whirlwind. Their idolatry was small at the first and the chastisement of their Jehovah was small, but reaping time shall be the scattering of Israel greatly. They shall be despised throughout the world.

Verse 13

They were observing the peace offering, where the offerer could eat with God (represented by the priest), but God did not accept this offering (known as the "fellowship offering") for they were eating in a strange place, therefore God refused to eat of it.

Verse 14

They shall return to Egypt, and today there are many Jews living in Egypt.

Verse 15

Israel has forgotten his Maker and buildeth temples. Judah has forgotten his maker and instead of looking toward Jehovah for his protection, she is building fenced cities.

God shall mete out his judgment and destroy all. (Didn't He?)

Chapter 9

Verses 1 - 4

O, Israel, rejoice no more for joy as do other people, for you have deserted your God, the true God, Jehovah; for you have sacrificed to other gods upon every threshing floor.

Didn't I remind you when you first became a nation that your devotion to Me determines the success of your harvest?

You shall be rooted out of the land of Jehovah and carried off to Egypt and Assyria, and there live off the unclean food. Far from home you shall be, and you won't be allowed to pour out wine for sacrifices to Jehovah, for no sacrifice you offer will be accepted by Him. It is polluted just as the bread of the bread of mourners, for all who eat of such are defiled.

Verses 5 - 6

What will you do on holy days — on days of feasting to Jehovah when you shall be

carried off to Assyria as slaves? Who will inherit your possession left behind? O Egypt will! She will gather your dead; Memphis will bury them. And thorns and thistles will grow up among the ruins.

Verse 7

The time of Israel's punishment has come; the day of recompense is almost here and soon Israel will know it all too well. "The prophets are crazy." "The inspired men are mad." Yes, so they mock, for the nation is weighed with sin, shows only hatred for those who love God.

Verses 8 - 9

I appointed the prophets to be of a guard to my people, but the people stood in their way at every turn, and openly announced their hatred and of all places, in the Temple of Jehovah. The things my people do are as what they did in Gibeah long ago. Jehovah does not forget. He will certainly punish them.

Verses 10 - 12

Jehovah speaks to Israel again. "How well I remember those first delightful days when I led you through the wilderness! (Even then you were there in the wilderness as punishment for your failing to go into the Promised Land from Kadesh Barnea.) How refreshing was your love! How satisfying; like the early figs of summer in the first season!

But they came to Baal-peor and there gave themselves to shame, and soon you were foul as they.

The glory of Israel flies away like a bird, for your children will die at birth, and if your children grow, I will take them from you. It is a sad thing when I desert all of you!

In my vision I have seen the doom of your sons. I will take them away from you, for the fathers are forced to lead their sons to slaughter.

What shall I ask, O Jehovah, for your people? I will ask for wombs that never become pregnant, for breasts that cannot nourish.

All of Israel's wickedness began at Gilgal, there I began to hate them. I will drive them from my land because of their idolatry. I will love them no more. (But God must remember His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.) Their leaders are rebels. Ephraim is doomed. Their roots are dried up. She shall not bear any more fruit, and if she does, I will slay her children before her. God will cast them off for they refused to listen and obey. They shall be wandering among the nations (the wandering Jews).

Chapter 10

Verses 1 - 2

Here is another name Jehovah gives to the "Ten Tribe Nation of Israel." Before, we noticed the term "a foolish dove," "Ephraim," "Samaria," and here their God Jehovah calls them "An Empty Vine."

Oh yes, the empty vine brought forth fruit — wild grapes, which turned out to be "the increase of altars which produced an increase in idols, which turn out the increase of more Israelites worshipping the idols beside the two calves at Dan and Bethel, which

cause Gehenna to increase its space for a large increase of Jewish souls going to hell at the Great White Throne. (Just multiply that number by 10,000 as to the number of Gentiles who will follow them to hell also.)

Verse 3

They took our king from us, big business! We didn't need him anyway.

Verse 4

They talk about the covenants of God, and do not know them, so they make contracts themselves that are not of God and they fade away as soon as they learn them, for what they have proposed are poison vines in the furrows left by the plowmen.

Verse 5

The citizens of Samaria don't even know how to play politics — the glory of the calves has gone — so interest can be stimulated. No one is interested.

Verse 6

All Israel (ten tribe kingdom) will be carried into Assyria to be presented as a gift to the king along with Israel's idols — these we Israelites exchanged for Jehovah who never lost a battle. Yes, we trusted them and look at us now.

Verse 7

Yes as the foam of the sea is here for a second, but cut off the next. So shall Samaria (Israel, Ephraim, ten tribe kingdom) and her king be cut off and destroyed.

Verse 8

Aven is connected with the golden calves at Bethel, later Bethel-aven the idolatry of Israel with Israel shall be destroyed that her people shall be so embarrassed by their sinful plight and coming destruction that they cry to the mountains "Cover us; and to the hills, Fall on us."

The time is coming when the Gentiles, lost and condemned at the end of the Great Tribulation.

"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; 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: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" (Revelation 6:15-17)

Verse 9

"Israel, you have sinned and no stopping you, from the days of Gibeah — the time that Benjamin fought against the twelve nation Israel and nearly destroyed Benjamin, but then Elohim (God) took Israel's side and would have eradicated Benjamin as a tribe of Israel. God was on Israel's side then and kept Benjamin from being exterminated and the army of Israel, too, but God is not on your side now.

Verse 10

I desired to punish them — for Israel needed correction — but Israel has denounced

Me, Jehovah, as their God.

Verse 11

Ephraim is as a taught heifer, yes, the heifer was taught and enjoyed the experience of treading out the corn at threshing time for the heifer who tread out threshing the wheat could by law eat as much of the grain as it desired.

But Israel, you are not going to have any wheat to sow much less to thresh it. (Now all through this you can see the great Jehovah's concern for Israel, for one of these days there will be great sowing and great harvest, and a great threshing. I will make Israel to rise, Judah shall plow, and Jacob shall break his clods.)

Verse 12

Oh, Israel, please turn to Me, please. Right now you can sow yourselves in righteousness, you can reap in mercy; just now, break up your fallow ground — ground that once was plowed, sown, and reaped. You knew at one time the joys of Jehovah. Break up that hard, hard ground (your heart) sow God's word which tells you to repent, confess your sins, and if a revival is to be had by the people of God turn from your sinning.

We know that repentance is a change of mind and not a turning from, but you need to repent, change your mind, confess to God your sins, believe Him (Christ's death and resurrection). After salvation has come, walk the other way. God says "My people need to repent AND turn yourselves from all your transgression" (Ezekiel 18:30)

Shouldn't a saved person by the power of the Holy Spirit live a godly life, a pure life, a life of righteousness? As Romans 6:4 says, certainly we should.

"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (Rom. 6:4)

"Turning," of course, is not repentance. After repentance (changing of the mind), then faith or trust the Lord Jesus Christ, one is saved. Then comes the new life to live.

"I Beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Rom. 12:1, 2)

Here's the way unto revival of God's people who have been saved but living a backsliding life:

Verse 12

"Breaking up the fallow ground" — it was producing at one time, and it can again. "Confess your sins" that breaking of the old things, hard things which have kept you from serving the Lord Jesus — confess it to God.

Verse 13

No righteousness here. You have plowed all right. You have reaped all right, but your harvest is no good — no righteous seed (God's word)! No harvest of God. It is the

results of sin! You are lost!

Verse 14

Here God speaks of their great defeat when Assyria took Israel, the ten tribe kingdom, into captivity applying the punishment ushered out upon Israel at that time, that God can do it again, and when in 2000 years has Israel had any peace. That peace shall be horror unless Israel repents and returns to her Elohim.

Verse 15

In fact doom for Israel at the time of this writing (about 740 B.C.) is about to be measured out!

The Church of the Lord Jesus Messiah has enjoyed such rich possession here upon this earth (though most of her promises are heavenly and spiritual) for nearly 2000 years of Israel's apostasy.

But there is warning for us in the last day found in the prophecy of the church.

“And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.” (Rev. 3:14-19, 21)

Chapter 11

Verse 1

We can hardly appreciate the pleading of God Almighty for Israel to return to Him. Why not? After 2000 years of unbelief, there is nothing left for God to do but send the Tribulation upon them. The Tribulation with its antichrist and untold suffering is the only thing left for God to do. And this terrible judgment will cause Israel to seek his God and Maker.

There's a blueprint for Israel to read and understand of the affairs of government, and unrest of the nations toward each other. No trust left, and no understanding of the loss to come. The “My Son,” is Israel (ten tribe kingdom) especially. “I loved him and called my son out of Egypt.”

We read in 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.”** that the Holy Spirit reveals that not only Israel was the one called out

of Egypt, but was speaking of Jesus the son of God when He was called out of Egypt with His mother and foster father, Joseph, after Herod had died. Yes, we can see that some prophecies have two meanings, given only by the Holy Ghost — the near and later fulfillments.

Verse 2

Now we see that the following Scriptures were speaking of Israel after leaving Egypt became greater idolaters than they were in Egypt.

Verse 3

I bore Egypt in my arms and cared for him as he suffered sickness, but I healed him, yet Israel never gave it a thought that it was I who healed him every time.

Verse 4

My help to Israel can be described of the relief shown by oxen when the yoke is removed, and I provided for him.

Verse 5

No, not to Egypt again, but this time to Assyria because Israel refused to return.

Verse 6

The sword — death — shall hover over the cities as a plague because they refuse to return to me.

Verse 7

Israel backslides away from me, and it seems to be an art received from the fathers.

Verses 9 - 10

How can I, as your God, forsake you? How can I turn thee to destruction as Admah and Zeboim? (Cities who perished with Sodom and Gomorrah). God's grace and mercy is unlimited — for how can I return to destroy Ephraim. It is because I am not man, but I am God. (This makes the Christian gentile quake in God's presence as he realized the greatness of God's love, and the depth of His mercy — and that God of Israel is the God of the Christian gentile.)

Verse 11

But one of these days, Israel as a bird out of Egypt, and as a dove out of Assyria, I will gather them and set them in their own house. (He hasn't done so in over 2000 years.)

The ten tribe kingdom of Israel covered me with lies and deceit, but Judah hasn't gone that far yet. But Judah ruleth with God and is faithful with the saints.

Chapter 12

Verse 1

"Ephraim feedeth upon wind" — he then shall have plenty to eat — plenty of nothing!

Someone has pointed out that at this time Israel tries to enlist the help of Egypt against Assyria, while Israel has made already a covenant with Assyria.

Verse 2

Judah remains so far honest toward the nations and rebukes Israel for her inconsistencies.

Verse 3

Israel, take note of your father Jacob — “while in the womb” Jacob took hold of the heel of Esau. More than that, and by his strength he had power with God.

Verse 4

He had power over the angel and prevailed. He wept and made supplication unto him in Bethel. And who is this Angel of Jehovah? None other than the Messiah before He was born, in other words, He was God manifest in the flesh.

Oh, when all Israel was in the loins of Jacob, he knew of the strength, the love, and the powers of God, but now his seed has turned his back upon that same God.

Verse 5

He had power with God, but now Israel has no strength even to fight with his enemies. The plea, a begging of this spiritual giant, this God fearing prophet whose heart is so burdened for his people. He knows Elohim so intimately and by His revelation he knows of the terrible judgment that cannot be avoided unless there is repentance of Israel and turning from idolatry.

Verses 6 - 8

Israel, even in Assyria, is a very rich merchant, but he has thought nothing of using unjust balances, deceitful weights. “I am rich,” and I got by with my stealing. There was none who could prove that the riches were gained by any sin, until Jehovah steps in.

Verse 9

“I am Jehovah, thy God — whether you want to recognize Me or not.” From the land of Egypt will yet make thee to dwell in tabernacles as in the solemn feasts. I will not let you go — you must repent, and I will make it so rough you will repent!

Verse 10

Israel, you have been warned by the prophets and I, Jehovah, have multiplied visions there can be no excuses for your continued rebellion.

Verse 11

Is there iniquity still in Gilead? Enough bullocks have been slain for their sins and trespasses.

Verse 12

I was with your father Jacob as he fled to Syria, suffering doubts and fears because of the great hatred which his brother Esau generated. Yes, I was there and gave assurance to him of My presence with him.

Even his fears were multiplied as he worked fourteen years for Rachel. The first seven years were given for Leah his first wife. I was there to comfort him when Leah was substituted for Rachel. (How come Jacob was fooled at first by this great deception? Have you even been to an oriental wedding? That would answer your question.)

Verse 13

The greatest of all Old Testament prophets was sent to deliver Israel out of Egypt — none other than Moses! And for the forty year punishment caused by the rebellion at Kadesh Barnea for not continuing their journey into the promise land, Israel was led and preserved by that same prophet, Moses!

Verse 14

Ephraim, who is Israel, this portion of Scripture is speaking of Israel the ten tribe kingdom. Jehovah will continue His judgment upon her for idolatry. A god which is no God keeps God from forgiving Israel. He will leave her in her sin until Jehovah returns in flaming fire.

Chapter 13

Verse 1

As we close this precious book of Hosea, we find that the Omnipotent God is stretched out to Israel, still in living favor and righteous redemption, but here in the beginning of chapter 13, we are forced to remember what Israel was, and what she has become.

God loves the humble person and the humble nation. At one time, Ephraim, Israel, was a perfect people, giving God glory for His provisions, but alas, time came and he exalted himself — offended God — in the worship of Baal he spiritually died.

[This book is full of the term Ephraim which is the ten tribe Kingdom of Israel — and so used throughout this book. We know of the twelve tribes that Joseph was declared to be the tribe which would be given a double portion in the land when Israel would capture and possess it. Joseph had two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, thus each became a tribe of Israel, and as time progressed the ten upper tribes were called by one name, and that was Ephraim, by God.]

Verse 2

They continued to sin, especially the sin of idolatry. They excelled in their molten gods of silver. But the calf gods that Ephraim made and placed at Dan and Bethel were made of gold, thus the twelve tribes of Israel were commanded to kiss the calves of gold, for “this is the god which brought you out of Egypt.”

Verse 3

These false gods of idols shall pass away even for Ephraim shall be as the disappearing clouds of the morning, and as the chaff that is driven from the threshing floor by the whirlwind, and as smoke which comes out the chimney.

Verse 4

God speaks and says, “Stop this crazy thing you’re doing, for you know no god but Me. I am the one who brought you out of Egypt.” And knowing God as our Father, we know they shall stop worshipping these false gods. And she did! Ever since the return from the Babylonian captivity, Israel has stopped worshipping false gods. There is no God but Me, Jehovah.

Verse 5

Back to the Scriptures. I knew you when you were in the wilderness where there

was no rain, yet I gave thee water and the stream from that rock followed you for the 40 year wanderings.

Verse 6

Oh, Israel lived through the 40 year experience, all right, capturing the land from the enemies of Jehovah. **“But God shall wound the head of his enemies, and the hairy scalp of such an one as goeth on still in his trespasses” (Psalm 68:21).** After that came deplorable acts of false worship of false gods.

Israel came to know the provisions of such a glorious God as Jehovah. After a full stomach, Ephraim forgot God.

Verse 7

You, Israel, merit such punishment as I devise. I will be as a lion to destroy you and/or as a leopard sneaking along to jump its prey — even worse, as a bear bereaved of her whelps — no mercy shown.

Verse 8

I will rend their hearts and devour them as a lion. I will send all the rest of the world’s animals to slay you.

Here is a breath of fresh air performed by the presence of the Almighty God.

Verse 9

You have destroyed yourselves. But IN ME IS THINE HELP!

Listen, Israel, “I will be your king!” Hear this O Ephraim — the glory of God is coming. Oh yes, you asked for a King, and I gave him to you! In mine anger I gave him, but took him away in my wrath. The king, of course, was Saul.

God is telling His people that there is coming the salvation for all of Israel and Judah! Right here, God is saying that mercy and salvation is coming to all twelve tribes.

As we read in Isaiah 46:8-13

“Remember this, and shew yourselves men; bring it again to mind, O ye transgressors. Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass: I have purposed it, I will also do it. Harken unto me, ye stouthearted, that are far from righteousness: I bring near my righteousness: it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry; and I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory.”

We shout Hallelujah! Praise Jehovah!

Israel is being prepared for that great day.

Israel has stopped worshipping idols. The main sin of Israel and Judah is unbelief. But that will be taken away in the Tribulation, and Israel shall be saved completely.

“And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out

**of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:
for this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.”
(Romans 11:26, 27)**

Verse 12

Today Ephraim’s sin seems to be hidden and bound in cloth, but Ephraim, you will have to confess that sin one of these days. You must repent. You must believe the Word of Jehovah!

Verse 13

And Ephraim shall. God is going to make them.

Verse 14

I will ransom him from the power of the grave. I will redeem him from death,

“And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.” (Zechariah 12:10)

“O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory.” (I Cor. 15:55)

Chapter 14

Verse 1

All Israel Shall Be Saved!

God has said it, and He has such power that He can make it come to pass. Listen to Israel’s God as He pleads with His people. At this time of Hosea’s writing, and at the time of our writing this book on Hosea’s book, Israel is still without hope and without God. God is pleading for her love and faith. Just listen to the Saviour.

See “return.” They once knew Him — now to return which necessitates God’s return to them.

Verse 2

Just turn to Jehovah. Right now, the teachers of Israel for many years have taught that it is sin to call upon the name of Jehovah. Yet Jehovah has said in Joel 2:32 “For whoever calleth upon the name of Jehovah shall be delivered (saved).” How can Israel call upon Him if they don’t mention His name?

How beautiful are these words “Say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously.” No more the calves at Dan and Bethel will we rely upon, but the calves of our lips shall we accept Jehovah as our Saviour.

Verse 3

“Asshur,” another name for Assyria, cannot save us. Our trust shall not be in this nation, neither will our faith rest upon her horses.

1994, the year it is, and we find that Iraq is the nation which occupies the land of Assyria and Babylon, certainly Israel even today will not trust this nation. She will trust

her God, Jehovah, though.

“No more idols for us,” Israel shall say. And oh, the loving mercy of Israel’s God, “For in Thee the fatherless findeth mercy.”

Verse 4

“No more backsliding for you, Israel,” because God has determined it. Listen to the Prophet Hosea describe His Jehovah and Saviour. All the fruit bearing trees and bushes shall modify the Messiah who is God’s Son.

Verse 5

As the dew will I be to Israel.

He shall grow as the lily; his roots shall be in Lebanon.

Verse 6

His branches shall reach out to Israel. And His beauty shall be hearty as the olive tree, and his perfume as Lebanon.

Verse 7

Oh, look at what the beauty of Israel shall be. They that dwell under its branches shall return. They shall revive as the seed of corn and grow as the vine.

Verse 8

Ephraim shall come to himself as the Prodigal Son — “what more shall I do with idols?”

“I heard him,” saith Jehovah.

“I will be to him as a green fir tree — from Me is thy fruit found.”

Verse 9

It is coming to pass as Jehovah hath vowed.

To you who are reading this book: you may not be Jewish, but a Gentile, yet you are living under the conviction of the sin by the Holy Spirit, and you want to be saved. Just listen to me and heed what I suggest you do.

You have come to the place where you know you are a sinner? (Answer should be yes)

And that you can’t save yourself? (Answer yes)

That salvation is wholly of God? (Answer is yes)

Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that He died for your sins? (Answer yes)

And you also believe that God raised His Son from the dead? (Answer is yes)

And now you want to trust Him as your Saviour? (Answer is yes)

All right, repeat after me:

“Lord Jesus, I believe You are the Son of God.

I believe You died on the cross for me and paid for my sins on the cross.

And Lord Jesus, I believe You were raised from the dead.

So I trust you to save me.
Save me for Jesus' sake.
Thank you Lord Jesus for saving me. Amen.”