

Outline of Hosea

The book of Hosea is another one in the 8th century B.C., roughly contemporary with Micah and Isaiah (see king lists in 1:1 of each of these books). Since the Northern Kingdom's destruction in 722 B.C. is depicted as future, his prophecy was written before then, but certainly after 790, the start of Uzziah's reign. Probably Hosea wrote between 755 and 710 B.C. or thereabouts. He specifically prophesies against the Northern Kingdom.

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I. Call to Repentance	14:1-9

Notes

- Gomer and the marriage were literal, not just symbolic. Hosea's marriage and family were an illustration of the harlotry of Israel and God's judgment and deliverance.
- The use of Hosea 1:10 and 2:23 in Rom. 9:25-26 presents a little problem. Some take it that this passage shows that the Church fulfills Hosea and replaces Israel. This is incorrect. Rather Paul is using the passage in a principal fashion. Verse 24 shows that he is talking about not only the Jews, but the Gentiles also. God saves those who are not deserving of it and brings them into a relationship with Himself.
- Hosea 11:1 is used in Matt. 2:15. Some suggest that Hosea must have written with two meanings to include the prophecy about Christ. The problem with this view is that Hosea is clearly talking about a historical event regarding the nation, not a prophetic event involving Jesus. However, Jesus is a Jew who is God's Son (as Israel was also, Exodus 4:22-23) and who was in Egypt and left (as Israel did in the OT). Matthew reflects this analogy between the nation and its best Son in his quotation.
- Paul uses Hosea 13:14 in 1 Cor. 15:55 in his taunt against death, which has lost its power due to the death and resurrection of Christ. In Hosea, these are sandwiched between verses on judgment; but in Paul they are not judgment verses. It is best to understand that Hosea abruptly switched from a judgment context (v. 13) to a blessing context (v. 14) and then back again (end v. 14).
- Notice the pattern of judgment speeches and calls to repentance or statements of deliverance.