

# God Speaks to a People at Ease

## *Studies in Jonah, Amos, Hosea*

### **Mercy is Shown**

### **Lesson 8**

### **Hosea 1-3**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School*  
*October 23, 2016*

# Hosea

- ▶ A dysfunctional marriage
- ▶ The Word of the LORD to Hosea (1-3)
- ▶ The Word of the LORD to the sons of Israel (4-14)
- ▶ Rejection for vile sin
- ▶ Restoration for no apparent reason

# An Enigma

- ▶ Something mysterious, puzzling, hard to understand
- ▶ Rejection and Restoration
- ▶ Hosea 6:4-5 – “God’s dilemma”
- ▶ Hosea 11:8 (12) – wrath v. compassion
- ▶ Hosea 14:9 – wisdom and discernment needed
- ▶ The solution found in the ways and character of God

# Hosea – Outline

- ▶ Hosea's family (1-3) – a dysfunctional family
- ▶ Hosea's four messages (4-14)
  - Hosea 4:1-6:3 – The case against Israel
  - Hosea 6:4-11:7 – Lament #1
  - Hosea 11:8-13:16 – Lament #2
  - Hosea 14:1-8 – The solution
- ▶ Hosea 14:9 – Epilogue – a word to the wise

# People in Hosea

- ▶ Hosea – prophet, husband, father
- ▶ Gomer – prostitute, wife, mother
- ▶ Jezreel, Lo-ruhamah, Lo-ammi – children of Gomer
- ▶ The northern kingdom – Israel, Ephraim, Samaria
- ▶ The southern kingdom – Judah
- ▶ The combined kingdom – Israel, Jacob

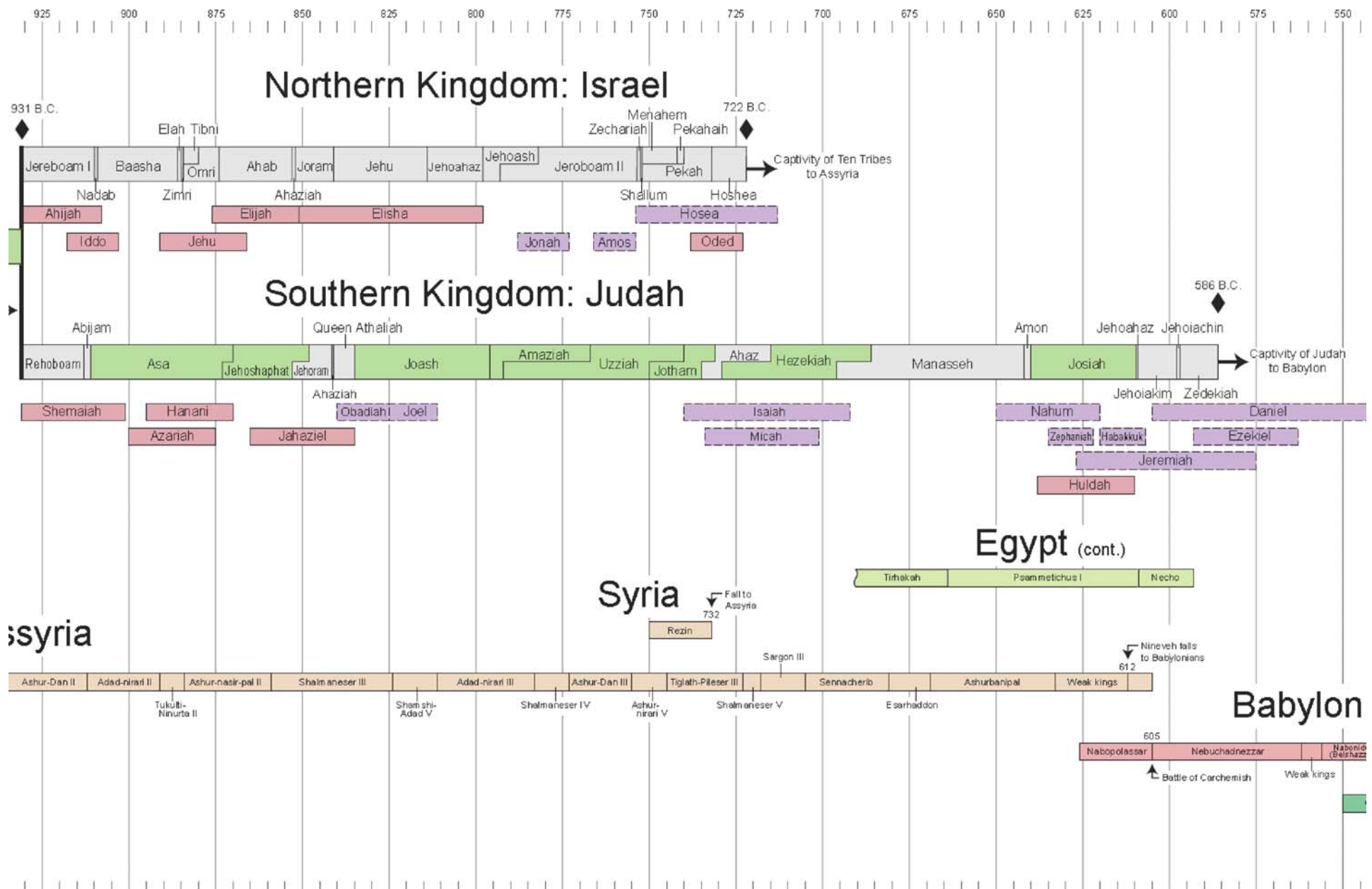


# Biblical Context

- ▶ Genesis 12:1-3 – promise of a Great Nation
- ▶ Romans 9:25-26 (Hosea 1:10) – Gentile salvation
- ▶ 1 Peter 2:10 (Hosea 1:10; 2:23) – a holy nation
- ▶ History or metaphor?

# Lesson 1: Mercy is Shown

- ▶ Hosea's marriage to a prostitute (1)
- ▶ God's message to Hosea's family (2)
  - Condemnation (2:1-13)
  - Mercy (2:14-23)
- ▶ Hosea's wife restored (3)





# The Prophet's First Duty (1:2)

- ▶ Marry a prostitute
- ▶ Have children by the prostitute
- ▶ Interpretation: “the land commits flagrant prostitution, forsaking the LORD.”
- ▶ Isaiah 8:18, Ezekiel 16, 23 and Proverbs

# Jezreel (1:3-5)

- ▶ Interpretation:
  - Punishment for house of Jehu for bloodshed of Jehu
  - Termination of the kingdom of the house of Israel
- ▶ Jezreel
  - Terminated Jezebel and Baal worship (2 Kings 9-10)
  - Re-established religion of Jeroboam I
  - They are Jezreelites and not Israelites
- ▶ Fall of Israel to Assyria in 722 BC
- ▶ Battle of Armageddon (Revelation 16:13-16)







## Lo-ruhamah (1:6-7)

- ▶ Gomer conceived and bore a daughter . . .
- ▶ No more compassion; no more forgiveness to Israel
- ▶ Compassion – love to one in need
- ▶ Isaiah 54:6-8 – due to the loving-kindness of God
- ▶ Compassion for Judah
- ▶ Deliverance by the direct power of God (2 Kings 19:35)

# Lo-ammi (1:8-11)

- ▶ Gomer conceived and bore a son . . .
- ▶ You are not my people and I am not your God
- ▶ Restoration promised – the enigma of Hosea
  - Genesis 12:2; 15:5-6; 22:17; 32:12 – “sand of the sea”
  - “You are the sons of the living God”
  - Judah and Israel united in one nation under one king
  - Go up from the land – to Jerusalem?
  - The great Day of Jezreel



# Condemnation of Gomer (2:1-13)

- ▶ Ammi, Ruhamah – brothers, sisters
- ▶ Contend – find fault with or denounce “your mother”
- ▶ Wrath (2:3-13)
  - “She is not my wife and I am not her husband”
  - “I will make her like a wilderness”
  - “I will have no compassion on her children”
  - “I will hedge up her way with thorns”
  - “I will go back to my first husband”
  - “I will take back My grain . . .” (2:9-13)
  - “. . . she forgot Me”

# Restoration of Gomer (2:14-23)

- ▶ A surprise turn of events: “allure . . . speak kindly . . .”
- ▶ Valley of Achor will become door of hope
- ▶ Restoration of relationship – Ishi, not Baali
- ▶ The “New Covenant”
- ▶ The character of God:
  - righteousness, justice
  - loving-kindness, compassion, faithfulness (truth)
- ▶ In that day . . . Jezreel (God sows)
- ▶ “You are My people.” “You are my God.”

# Gomer Restored (3:1-5)

- ▶ The sovereign command of God
- ▶ Hosea purchased Gomer – end of prostitution
- ▶ Interpretation:
  - Sons of Israel – many days without king or prince . . .
  - Sons of Israel – will return
  - Sons of Israel – will seek the LORD their God
  - Sons of Israel – will seek David their king
  - Sons of Israel – will tremble before God and His goodness
- ▶ In the last days

# Mercy is Shown

- ▶ Story of Hosea and Gomer – an unfinished story
- ▶ Hope is in the character of God
  - Righteousness, justice
  - Loving-kindness, compassion
  - Truth
- ▶ The glory of God – Isaiah 48:8-11