

# God Speaks to a People at Ease

*Studies in Jonah, Amos, Hosea*

**The LORD Brings a Charge**

**Lesson 9**

**Hosea 4**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School*

*October 30, 2016*

# Historical Background to Hosea

- ▶ Northern Kingdom – rebelled against the throne of David
- ▶ Jeroboam I – established idols at Dan and Bethel (Beth-Aven)
- ▶ Ahab/Jezebel – turned the nation to Baal worship
- ▶ Jehu – destroyed the family of Ahab and Baal worship at Jezreel
- ▶ Jehu re-established Jeroboam's religion
- ▶ Jeroboam II – great-great grandson of Jehu – time of "ease"
- ▶ Israel, Ephraim, Samaria – destroyed in 722 BC

# Hosea's Living Message

- ▶ Marriage to Gomer – scandalous and dysfunctional
- ▶ A sermon in real life
  - Gomer: Adulterous Israel has forsaken the LORD
  - Jezreel: punishment for bloodshed of Jezreel; termination of the house of Israel in the valley of Jezreel
  - Lo-ruhamah – no compassion (salvation) for Israel; Judah spared
  - Lo-ammi – not God's people; not the people's God

# An Interim Message

- ▶ One nation under God in the day of Jezreel (1:10-11)
- ▶ God's judgment for Gomer (2:1-13)
- ▶ God's blessing for Gomer (2:14-23)
- ▶ Gomer drops out of the story (4:1-14:9)

# God Speaks to the Sons of Israel (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 resolution of the enigma
- ▶ Hosea 14:9 – Epilogue
  - The need for wisdom and discernment
  - The ways of the LORD are right
  - The proof of faith

# Who is Gomer?

- ▶ Not a figure of any nation – USA, Canada, . . .
- ▶ Not the Church (the Body of Christ)
- ▶ The nation Israel (1:2, 10-11; 3:1, 4-5)
- ▶ Gomer/Israel will be restored
  - No appeal made to Gomer
  - National promises only made to the nation Israel
  - Restored when all in Israel believe (Romans 11:26-27)
  - Restored in the Day of Jezreel
- ▶ Application of Hosea is to individuals, not nations
- ▶ Hosea's message (4-14) is to the “sons of Israel”

# The LORD Brings a Charge (Hosea 4)

- ▶ The charge made (4:1-3)
- ▶ The evidence presented (4:4-14)
- ▶ The warning to Judah (4:15-19)

# The LORD Brings a Charge (Hosea 4)

- ▶ Inhabitants of the land – flagrant harlotry (1:2; 4:1-3)
- ▶ No faithfulness (truth)
- ▶ No kindness (lovingkindness) – Hebrew: HESED
- ▶ No knowledge of God
- ▶ No righteousness
- ▶ The land mourns



# God Recovers Gomer (Hosea 2:19-20)

- ▶ “In righteousness and in justice”
- ▶ “In lovingkindness and in compassion”
- ▶ “In faithfulness (truth)”
- ▶ “Then you will know the LORD”
- ▶ The natural man (Romans 3:10-18; 1 Corinthians 2:14)
- ▶ No fear of God (Proverbs 1:7)
- ▶ No Divine attributes (2 Peter 1:1-4)

# Hosea's Gospel

- ▶ John 3:16
- ▶ Faith – know, agree, trust
- ▶ Hosea: Knowing God and seeking God
- ▶ The Gospel
  - Jeremiah 31:34 – New Covenant brings knowledge of God
  - Knowledge of God = salvation (John 17:3)
- ▶ How to get faith?
  - Psalm 119:130; 19:7-11 – Word brings light/knowledge
  - John 17:17 – Sanctify by the Word

# What do I need to know about God?

## ▶ His Character

- Jeremiah 9:23-24
- Ephesians 3:19
- Philippians 3:10
- Colossians 3:10

## ▶ His Ways

- Micah 6:5
- Deuteronomy 8:2
- Psalm 103:7
- Romans 11:33
- Psalm 118, 136

## ▶ A Believer's blessed duty

# The Evidence (4:4-14)

- ▶ No restraint (4:4-6)
- ▶ Increasing sin (4:7-10)
- ▶ Worsening of spiritual darkness (4:11-14)

# A Warning to Judah (4:15-19)

- ▶ House of evil – not Bethel but Beth Aven (House of evil) (4:15)
- ▶ False religion in name of true – blasphemy (4:15)
- ▶ Stubborn – no submission to the LORD (4:15-16)
- ▶ Ephraim is joined to idols (4:17-18)
- ▶ Carried away by the wind (4:19)

# THE LORD BRINGS A CHARGE

- ▶ The Gospel from God's perspective
  - Intractable evil – prevents salvation
  - Lovingkindness, truth, righteousness – bring salvation
- ▶ The effect of the Gospel
  - Know the LORD
  - Seek the LORD

“But grow in grace  
and in the knowledge  
of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.  
To Him be the glory,  
both now and to the day of eternity.  
Amen”

2 Peter 3:18