

**God Speaks to a People at Ease**  
***Studies in Jonah, Amos, Hosea***

**Faithfulness Like a Morning Cloud**  
**Lesson 11**  
**Hosea 6:4-7:16**

***Trinity Bible Church Sunday School***  
***November 13, 2016***

# Hosea – the Love of God

- ▶ “Lovingkindness” (HESED) – 2:19; 4:1; 6:4, 6; 10:12; 12:6
- ▶ “Love” – 3:1; 9:15; 11:1, 4; 14:4
- ▶ An un-lovable nation – an un-solvable problem
- ▶ Structure:
  - The marriage of Hosea to Gomer and the births of 3 children
  - A series of four messages, or possibly one long message (4-14)
- ▶ Two messages
  - The LORD speaks to Hosea (1-3)
  - The LORD speaks to the sons of Israel (4-14)
- ▶ Outline
  - Prose – the marriage and family of Hosea (1)
  - Poetry – a message for the children of Israel (2)
  - Prose – Hosea told to love Gomer and retrieve her from prostitution (3)
  - Poetry – a message for Israel but also Judah and all people (4-14)

# The Family of Hosea

- ▶ Gomer: Flagrant harlotry – forsaking the LORD
- ▶ Jezreel: wrath – termination of the nation Israel
- ▶ Lo-ruhamah: no compassion or forgiveness
- ▶ Lo-ammi: not my people; I am not your God
- ▶ The interpretation (3:4-5)
  - Israel rejected by God
  - Restoration in the last days
  - Israel will return and seek the LORD
- ▶ The application
  - The nation Israel
  - Individuals – Jews and Gentiles
- ▶ The place of Israel in the plan of God (Gen 12:1-3: Rom 9-11)

# Faithfulness Like a Morning Cloud

## Hosea 6:4-7:16

- ▶ A charge has been made (4:1-5:15)
- ▶ A call to return (6:1-3)
- ▶ Current lesson:
  - The Divine “dilemma” (6:4-6)
    - “What shall I do?”
    - “What do I want?”
  - The root problem (6:7) – a faithless people
  - Faithless Israel (6:8-7:16)

# What shall I do? (6:4)

- ▶ Message to Ephraim and Judah
- ▶ No faithfulness, lovingkindness or knowledge of God
- ▶ Return must occur
- ▶ A superficial return – “like a morning cloud”

# What does God want? (6:5-6)

- ▶ Faithfulness, lovingkindness and knowledge of God
- ▶ Not sacrifice or burnt offerings
  - Isaiah 1:12-17; Amos 5:21-24; Micah 6:6-8
  - Psalm 119:88
- ▶ God seeks what is only found in Him

# Like Adam . . . (6:7)

- ▶ Adam – town or man or Adam
- ▶ Transgressed the covenant
  - “Pass over” or “go beyond”
  - Proverbs 8:29; Numbers 22:18; 24:13
- ▶ Covenant or a covenant
  - Covenant of works
  - Mosaic Covenant – the Law of Moses
  - Everlasting Covenant (Hebrews 13:20-21; Ephesians 1:3-4)
- ▶ Like Adam . . . Ephraim (and Judah)
  - Mosaic Covenant – the Law
  - Everlasting Covenant – the blessing of God

# Like Adam . . . (6:7)

- ▶ “There they have dealt treacherously against Me.”
- ▶ Treacherously = faithlessly
  - Not faithful or true to the covenant (blessing from God)
  - No faith in the God of the covenant
- ▶ Adam and Israel acted faithlessly against God.
- ▶ Romans 1:18-25 – dealt faithlessly against God
- ▶ Hebrews 11:6 – He is and He rewards those who seek Him
- ▶ Hosea 5:15 – “. . . they will earnestly seek Me.”
- ▶ Adam and Israel acted against God – go beyond and faithlessly



# The Consequences (6:8-7:16)

- ▶ Bloodshed (6:8-11 – see 4:2)
  - Gilead – city of evil
  - Band of priests
  - Warning to Judah
- ▶ Deal falsely (7:1-7)
  - In the presence of God – but denied
  - Hearts like an oven
  - Violence against rulers and kings
  - “None of them calls on Me”

# The Consequences (6:8-7:16)

- ▶ Mixes with the peoples (nations) (7:8-12)
- ▶ Cake not turned
- ▶ Weakness not recognized
- ▶ Not return to the LORD their God or seek Him
- ▶ Silly dove – seek Egypt and Assyria

# The Consequences (6:8-7:16)

## ▶ Woe to them (7:13-16)

- Acting “against Me” – “transgressed . . . acted faithlessly”
- “They turn, but not upward”
- A defective bow
- Princes fall by the sword
- Insolent tongues
- Derision in the land of Egypt

# Faithfulness like a morning cloud

- ▶ Transgress – “Go beyond” God
- ▶ Act treacherously against God – faithlessly
- ▶ The burning fire of sin within the heart
- ▶ But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)
- ▶ I will return again to My place till they acknowledge their offense. Then they will seek My face; in their affliction they will earnestly seek Me.” Hosea 5:15 (NKJV)