Hosea: Israel Exposed - God Revealed

- God’s promise for a great nation (Genesis 12:1-3)
- The history of the nation Israel – a failed nation
- The divided kingdom – Israel (Ephraim) & Judah
- Israel’s religion: Jeroboam’s 2 golden calves – Baal
- Hosea: God assesses Israel and reveals Himself
- A real life illustration and a message to the nation
- “I am God and not man” (Hosea 11:9)
A Shocking and Disastrous Marriage
Hosea 1-3

- Marry a prostitute and have children
- Gomer - Jezreel - Lo-ruhamah - Lo-ammi
- The nation Israel - the people of Israel
- Hosea 2: Reality v. Promise
- An unfinished story
The Message to Israel (4-14)

- The LORD speaks to the sons of Israel
  - The LORD’S case against Israel (4:1-6:3)
  - A lament: The evidence examined (6:4-11:7)
  - A lament: The Holy God’s judgment (11:8-13:16)
  - A remarkable outcome (14)

- A revelation of the character of the Holy God
The Evidence Examined (6:4-11:7)

- Disregard for the goodness of God – unbelief (6:4-7)
- Murder (6:8-11)
- Hearts burning with wickedness (7:1-7)
- Seeking favor of nations (world) and not God (7:8-16)
- Not seek help from God (8:1-10)
- Forget God and His Word (8:11-14)
- A godless joy (9:1-2)
- A futile system (9:3-6)
- A taste of punishment (9:7-9)
- An historical pattern (9:10-14)
- A nation cast away (9:5-17)
The Evidence Examined (10:1-15)

- A nation at ease in their sin (10:1-2)
- A nation who has rejected their king (10:3-4)
- A nation who has rejected the LORD (10:5-6)
- A nation destined for the wrath of the LORD (10:7-10)
- A nation in slavery to lies (10:11-15)
At Ease in Their Sin (10:1-2)

- Translation problem: luxuriant or empty
- Materially prosperous and morally degenerate
- God-given prosperity (2:8) used to promote idolatry
- A divided heart
- They must bear their guilt
- Altars and pillars removed
They Rejected Their King (10:3-4)

- We have no King!
- We do not revere the LORD
- The speak words with worthless oaths . . .
- Judgment like poisonous weeds (Isaiah 16:5)
They have Rejected God (10:5-6)

- No help in time of trouble
- No glory
- The “thing”
- Ashamed of their wisdom
Soon to be Terminated (10:7-10)

- Samaria cut off with her king – like a chip on water
- High places of Aven destroyed
- Thorns and thistles on the altars (see also 9:6)
- Suicidal despair – no faith and no fear of death
- The lesson of Gibeah
- The chastening of the LORD – a glimmer of hope
- The peoples gathered against them
- Double guilt - Jeremiah 2:12-13
  - Forsake the LORD
  - Create broken cisterns
Enslaved by Their Lies (10:11-15)

- Threshing replaced by plowing
- A call to repent – the kindness of God (Romans 2:4)
- You have eaten the fruit of lies
- The coming tumult
  - Destruction of fortresses
  - Brutality
  - King cut off at dawn
- Due to your Great wickedness
Eating the Fruit of Lies

- Total depravity and total inability
- Stage set for revelation of the glory of the Holy God
- A revelation beyond human expectations