

# Let Us Return to the LORD

Lesson 15: Hosea 11 – 12

December 11, 2016

# Review

- Setting 1:1
- Judgment and redemption for the nation 1:2-2:25
  - Hosea, Gomer, and the children 1:2-9
  - Restoration 2:1-25
- Judgment and redemption for the people 3:1-14:8
  - The future return of the sons of Israel 3:1-5

# Review

- Judgment and redemption for the people 3:1-14:8
  - The LORD confronts His people 4:1-5:15
  - **Appeal to return to the LORD** 6:1-3
  - The people's evil deeds and their punishment 6:4-10:11
  - **Sow righteousness** 10:12
  - Compassion in judgment 10:13-12:5
  - **Call to return to God** 12:6
  - Israel turned from the LORD who rescued them from Egypt 12:7-13:16
  - **Call to return to the LORD** 14:1-3
  - **The restoration God will give** 14:4-8
- The ways of the LORD 14:9

# Key verses

- Theme: Hosea 2:14

Therefore, behold I will allure her,  
Bring her into the wilderness  
And speak kindly to her.

- Motivation: Hosea 4:16

Since Israel is stubborn  
Like a stubborn heifer,  
Can the LORD now pasture them  
Like a lamb in a large field?

# Words Only in Hosea

- Lo Ruhama, without compassion
- where
- Beth Arbel, house of God's ambush
- Jareb, let him contend
- Lo Ammi, not my people
- animosity
- to hire
- the wages (of a harlot)
- my Baal
- shame
- to depart, be cured
- Diblaim
- Gift
- This
- jewelry
- fowler, trapper
- scorn
- a dry measure
- Moph (Memphis) ancient capital of Egypt
- adultery
- immodesty, shamelessness
- sorrow, repentance
- iniquity
- be fruitful
- to dry up, shrivel
- destruction
- a trembling
- splinters
- swerver, revolter
- Shalman
- drought

# Key words

Count	Hosea %	Total Freq.	Bible %	% Difference	Hebrew	Part of speech	Definition
3	0.2520%	7	0.0017%	15008.4%	בֵּית אֹן	noun	Beth Aven
2	0.0840%	3	0.0007%	11651.0%	מָזוֹר	noun	a wound
6	0.2520%	11	0.0026%	9514.5%	זְנוּנִים	noun	harlotry
2	0.0840%	4	0.0010%	8713.3%	עַל	noun	height
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	אַהֲבִים	noun	love
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	בְּאֵרִי	noun	Beeri, my well
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	בְּכוֹרָה	noun	the first ripe fig
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	דְּרָדָר	noun	thistles
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	לְבָנָה	noun	poplar
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	נִיר	verb	to break up, freshly till
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	סְגוֹר	noun	an enclosure
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	עִים	noun	glow?
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	קִמוֹשׁ	noun	thistles
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	שׁוֹךְ	verb	to hedge or fence up
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	שׁוֹר	verb	to make princes, reign
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	שְׁקוּי	noun	a drink
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	שָׁרָה	verb	to persist, persevere
1	0.0420%	2	0.0005%	8713.3%	תָּלָא	verb	to hang
3	0.1260%	6	0.0014%	8713.3%	כְּחָשִׁי	noun	lying, leanness
2	0.0840%	5	0.0012%	6950.6%	תְּלֵם	noun	furrow

# Speakers

Hosea 4:1-3	Hosea	Hosea 9:14	Hosea
Hosea 4:4-14	God	Hosea 9:15-16	God
Hosea 4:15-19	Hosea	Hosea 9:17-10:8	Hosea
Hosea 5:1-3	God	Hosea 10:9-11	God
Hosea 5:4-7	Hosea	Hosea 10:12-15	Hosea
Hosea 5:8-15	God	Hosea 11:1-9	God
Hosea 6:1-3	Hosea	Hosea 11:10	Hosea
Hosea 6:4-7:2	God	Hosea 11:11-12	God
Hosea 7:3-10	Hosea	Hosea 12:1-8	Hosea
Hosea 7:11-15	God	Hosea 12:9-10	God
Hosea 7:16	Hosea	Hosea 12:11-13:3	Hosea
Hosea 8:1-6	God	Hosea 13:4-11	God
Hosea 8:7-9	Hosea	Hosea 13:12-13	Hosea
Hosea 8:10-12	God	Hosea 13:14	God
Hosea 8:13	Hosea	Hosea 13:15-14:3	Hosea
Hosea 8:14	God	Hosea 14:4-8	God
Hosea 9:1-9	Hosea	Hosea 14:9	Hosea
Hosea 9:10-13	God		

# **HOSEA 11 – 12**



# Key words

Count	Passage %	Hosea Freq.	Hosea %	Hosea % Dif	Hebrew	Part of speech	Definition
2	0.71%	2	0.08%	741.34%	אֵיךְ	adverb	how
2	0.71%	2	0.08%	741.34%	קְדוֹשׁ	adjective	sacred, holy
2	0.71%	2	0.08%	741.34%	שָׁאֵג	verb	to roar
2	0.71%	2	0.08%	741.34%	חָרַד	verb	to tremble, be terrified
2	0.71%	2	0.08%	741.34%	מְרִמָּה	noun	deceit, treachery
2	0.71%	2	0.08%	741.34%	אוֹן	noun	vigor, wealth
3	1.06%	4	0.17%	531.01%	שָׁמַר	verb	to keep, watch, preserve
2	0.71%	3	0.13%	460.90%	רוּם	verb	to be high or exalted
2	0.71%	3	0.13%	460.90%	יְחָד	noun	unitedness
2	0.71%	3	0.13%	460.90%	אֵל	noun	God
2	0.71%	3	0.13%	460.90%	יַעֲקֹב	noun	Jacob
2	0.71%	3	0.13%	460.90%	אָךְ	adverb	surely

# Key words

Count	Passage %	Hosea Freq.	Hosea %	Hosea % Dif	Total Freq.	Bible %	% Difference	Hebre w	Part of speech	Gloss
7	2.47%	37	1.55%	59.17%	180	0.04%	3523.23%	אֶפְרַיִם	noun	Ephraim, doubly fruitful
2	0.71%	2	0.08%	741.34%	12	0.00%	2837.80%	אֵוֶן	noun	vigor, wealth
2	0.71%	2	0.08%	741.34%	20	0.00%	1662.70%	שָׁאָג	verb	to roar
2	0.71%	16	0.67%	5.17%	215	0.05%	1211.70%	אָהַב	verb	to love
3	1.06%	9	0.38%	180.45%	151	0.04%	950.60%	אַשּׁוּר	noun	Asshur, Assyria
2	0.71%	2	0.08%	741.34%	39	0.01%	803.90%	חָרַד	verb	to tremble, be terrified
2	0.71%	2	0.08%	741.34%	39	0.01%	803.90%	מְרִמָּה	noun	deceit, treachery
2	0.71%	6	0.25%	180.45%	134	0.03%	689.20%	זָבַח	noun	sacrifice
2	0.71%	7	0.29%	140.38%	224	0.05%	450.80%	רָבָה	verb	to increase in number
4	1.41%	11	0.46%	205.94%	359	0.09%	440.10%	אֲנִי	pronoun	I

# Outline

- 11:1-4 God's tender love
- 11:5-7 The punishment due Israel
- 11:8-11 God's compassion
- 11:12-12:1-5 Israel is unlike Israel
  - 11:12-12:1 Ephraim's deceit
  - 12:2-5 Jacob's struggle with God
- 12:6 Call to return to God

# Outline

- 12:8-15 God's work through the prophets
  - 12:8-11 Self sufficiency and God's provision
    - 12:8-9 Ephraim's boast of wealth
    - 12:10-11 God's persistence
  - 12:12-14 Israel's humble beginning
    - 12:12 Israel's wickedness
    - 12:13-14 Shepherds God has used
  - 12:15 Unfaithfulness will be repaid

**God's tender love**  
**Hosea 11:1**

When Israel was a youth I loved him,  
And out of Egypt I called My son.

- Third appeal to history
  - 9:10: Exodus and Baal-peor
  - 10:9: Battle of Gibeah
- Israel referred to as son
  - Exodus 4:21-23
  - Isaiah 1:2, 4
- Cited in Matt. 2:15
  - Translates from Hebrew
  - The nature of prophecy

# Egypt and Assyria

Hosea 2:17	Egypt	
Hosea 5:13		Assyria
Hosea 7:11	Egypt	Assyria
Hosea 8:9		Assyria
Hosea 8:13	Egypt	
Hosea 9:3	Egypt	Assyria
Hosea 9:6	Egypt	
Hosea 10:6		Assyria
Hosea 11:1	Egypt	
Hosea 11:5	Egypt	Assyria
Hosea 11:11	Egypt	Assyria
Hosea 12:2	Egypt	Assyria
Hosea 12:10	Egypt	
Hosea 12:14	Egypt	
Hosea 13:4	Egypt	
Hosea 14:4		Assyria
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>

**God's tender love**  
**Hosea 11:2**

The more they called them,  
The more they went from them;

They kept sacrificing to the **Baals**  
And burning incense to **idols**.

- “they/I”
  - KJV “they called”
  - NIV “I called”
  - ESV “they were called”
  - NET “I summoned”
- Current apostasy started in the exodus
- More than one false god

**God's tender love**  
**Hosea 11:3**

Yet it is I who taught Ephraim to walk,  
I took them in My arms;

But they did not know that I healed  
them.

- God, not the idols
- “My arms” is emendation  
– “by the arms”
- Another picture in Ez. 16
- The waters of Marah



**God's tender love**  
**Hosea 11:4**

I led them with **ords** of a man,  
with **bonds** of love,

And I became to them as one who lifts  
the yoke from their jaws;

And I bent down and fed them.

- “ords of a man”
  - Man, in contrast to God
  - Human, i.e. gentle
  - Specific man, Moses
- Adjusting of the yoke
- “gently I fed them”

**The punishment due Israel  
Hosea 11:5**

They will not return to the land of  
**Egypt;**

But **Assyria**—he will be their king  
Because they refused to return to Me.

- Punishment will not be return to Egypt
- Their desired allies would rule over them
- Exile is justified

**The punishment due Israel**  
**Hosea 11:6**

The sword will whirl against their  
cities,

And will demolish their gate bars

And consume them because of their  
counsels.

- The sword is “in” the cities
- “gate bars” could mean “boasting”
- Judgment is justified

**The punishment due Israel  
Hosea 11:7**

So My people are bent on turning from  
Me.

Though they call them to the One on  
high,  
None at all exalts Him.

- “bent on turning”
  - KJV “bent to backsliding”
  - NIV “determined to turn”
  - ESV “bent on turning away”
  - NET “obsessed with turning away”
- “call him”
- “to the most high” or “to God on high”

## God's compassion Hosea 11:8

How can I **give you up**, O **Ephraim**?  
How can I surrender you, O **Israel**?

How can I **make you** like **Admah**?  
How can I treat you like **Zeboiim**?

My heart is turned over within Me,  
All My compassions are kindled.

- Indirect reference to Sodom and Gomorrah
- No complete destruction
- Did God change His mind?
- God's great love

**God's compassion**  
**Hosea 11:9**

I will not execute My fierce anger;  
I will not destroy Ephraim again.

For I am God and not man,  
the Holy One in your midst,

And I will not come in wrath.

- Sodom's end would not come to Ephraim
- Holiness brings destruction to sinners
- “wrath/city”
  - KJV “into the city”
  - NIV “in wrath”
  - ESV “in wrath”
  - NET “in wrath”

**God's compassion**  
**Hosea 11:10**

They will **walk** after the Lord,

He will **roar** like a lion;

Indeed He will **roar**

And His sons will **come trembling** from  
the west.

- Promise of restoration
- Lion picture from 5:14
- New exodus
- Reversal: coming towards a lion

**God's compassion**  
**Hosea 11:11**

They will come **trembling** like **birds**  
from **Egypt**

And like **doves** from the land of  
**Assyria**;

And I will settle them in their houses,  
declares the Lord.

- Birds come to the lion
- Return from exile
- The silly dove becomes smart
- God Himself will set them in houses



**Israel is unlike Israel**  
**Hosea 11:12**

**Ephraim** surrounds Me with **lies**  
And the house of **Israel** with **deceit**;

**Judah** is also unruly against **God**,  
Even against the **Holy One** who is  
faithful.

- Another stark contrast
- Lies/deceit
  - Apostasy
  - Idols
  - Deception
- “Judah...”
  - KJV “yet ruleth with God”
  - NIV “is unruly against God”
  - ESV “still walks with God”
  - NET “still roams about with God”

## Israel is unlike Israel Hosea 12:1

Ephraim feeds on **wind**,  
And pursues the **east wind** continually;  
He multiplies lies and violence.

Moreover, he makes a **covenant** with  
**Assyria**,  
And **oil** is carried to **Egypt**.

- Futility of their ways
  - Shepherding the wind
- They are not seeking God's help

## Israel is unlike Israel Hosea 12:2

The Lord also has a dispute with  
**Judah**,

And will **punish Jacob** according to his  
**ways**;

He will **repay** him according to his  
**deeds**.

- Judah is also included
- “Dispute” is the same as “case” (4:1)
- Jacob used as a substitute for Israel (cf. Micah 1:5)
- Punishment comes for actions

**Israel is unlike Israel**  
**Hosea 12:3**

In the **womb** he took his **brother** by  
the heel,

And in his **maturity** he contended with  
**God**.

- Jacob
  - To grasp the heel
  - Figuratively: to deceive
- Contend is only here and in  
Genesis 32:28
  - “God and with men”
- “Maturity” could be “by his  
strength”

**Israel is unlike Israel**  
**Hosea 12:4**

Yes, he wrestled with the angel and  
prevailed;

He wept and sought His favor.

He found Him at Bethel

And there He spoke with us,

- Genesis mentions a man
  - Peniel – face of God
- Word play with “wrestled with”
- Wept
  - Meeting Esau
  - When thigh dislocated
- Bethel
  - On the way to Haran
  - After leaving Shechem

**Israel is unlike Israel**  
**Hosea 12:5**

Even the **Lord**, the God of hosts,  
The **Lord** is His name.

- The LORD made His name known in the exodus
- “His name”
  - His memorial
  - What He is to be remembered by

**Call to return to God**  
**Hosea 12:6**

Therefore, return to your God,  
Observe kindness and justice,  
And wait for your God continually.

- KJV “turn thou to thy God”
- NIV “you must return to your God”
- ESV “by the help of your God, return”
- “Kindness” – mercy, hesed

**Israel's departure from the  
LORD who rescued them  
from Egypt  
Hosea 12:7**

A merchant, in whose hands are false  
balances,  
He loves to oppress.

- “Merchant” – Canaan
- False balances are for the purpose of oppression



**Israel's departure from the  
LORD who rescued them  
from Egypt  
Hosea 12:8**

And Ephraim said, "Surely I have  
become **rich**,  
I have found **wealth** for myself;

In all my labors they will find in me  
No iniquity, which would be sin."

- Two interpretations
  - Arrogance
  - Hypocritically
- Not seeking true riches

**Israel's departure from the  
LORD who rescued them  
from Egypt  
Hosea 12:9**

But I have been the Lord your God  
since the land of Egypt;  
I will make you live in tents again,  
As in the days of the appointed  
festival.

- The people were forgetful
- An undoing of the exodus
- The Feast of Tabernacles  
was to remind them of the  
exodus

Israel's departure from the  
LORD who rescued them  
from Egypt  
Hosea 12:10

I have also spoken to the **prophets**,  
And I gave numerous **visions**,  
And through the **prophets** I gave  
**parables**.

- God and the prophet
- Various ways were used to speak to the people

Israel's departure from the  
LORD who rescued them  
from Egypt  
Hosea 12:11

Is there iniquity in Gilead?  
Surely they are worthless.

In Gilgal they **sacrifice** bulls,  
Yes, their **altars** are like the stone  
heaps  
Beside the furrows of the field.

- Gilead was possibly near Mizpah
- Gilgal is near Jericho
- “Iniquity” is Aven

Israel's departure from the  
LORD who rescued them  
from Egypt  
Hosea 12:12

Now **Jacob** fled to the land of Aram,  
And **Israel** worked for a wife,  
And for a wife he **kept sheep**.

- “field of Aram”
- Jacob was virtually a slave
- “kept” is the same as  
“observe” in 12:6
- “Sheep” is not in the text

Israel's departure from the  
LORD who rescued them  
from Egypt  
Hosea 12:13

But by a **prophet** the Lord **brought**  
Israel from Egypt,  
And by a **prophet** he was **kept**.

- Prophets had been provided since Egypt
- Moses had also been a shepherd
- “Kept” was also used of Jacob

Israel's departure from the  
LORD who rescued them  
from Egypt  
Hosea 12:14

Ephraim has provoked to bitter anger;  
So his Lord will leave his **bloodguilt** on  
him

And bring back his **reproach** to him.

- Blood and oppression have been previously noted
- The sin will remain and be punished

# Summary

- God has great compassion
- The nation is unlike Israel
- Return to God
- The LORD has been active among His people since the exodus
- Unfaithfulness will be repaid