

# HOSEA

"THE LOVE OF THE LORD FOR ADULTEROUS ISRAEL"

"YAHWEH'S LAWSUIT AGAINST HIS ADULTEROUS WIFE, ISRAEL, TO  
RECLAIM HER"

Then the LORD said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by her husband, yet an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the sons of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love raisin cakes." Hosea 3:1

Prepared by James T. Bartsch  
October, 2009  
Updated October, 2013

Published Online by [WordExplain.com](http://WordExplain.com)  
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- A1 HOSEA'S RECLAMATION OF HIS ADULTEROUS WIFE AS SYMBOLIZING YAHWEH'S RECLAMATION OF ISRAEL 1 - 3
  
- A2 YAHWEH'S LAWSUIT AGAINST HIS ADULTEROUS WIFE, ISRAEL, TO RECLAIM HER 4 - 14

MAJOR DIVISIONS OF HOSEA  
Based on THE ANALYSIS OF HOSEA  
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**Date of Writing:** about 710 B. C. Major Historical Event: 722 B. C. Assyria's invasion and deportation of the northern ten tribes (Israel).

**Hosea's Contemporaries:** Kings of Judah: Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah. King of Israel: Jeroboam II. Prophets: To Judah: Isaiah, Micah. To Israel: Amos

#### **A1 HOSEA'S RECLAMATION OF HIS ADULTEROUS WIFE AS SYMBOLIZING YAHWEH'S RECLAMATION OF ISRAEL 1 - 3**

B1 Hosea's Symbolic Family Life 1:1 - 2:1

B2 The Heart-Rending Pleading of Yahweh with Israel Based on the Symbolism of Hosea's Family 2:2-23

B3 Hosea Commanded to Love and Take Back His Prostitute Wife, Symbolizing God's Love for Israel 3

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B3 Yahweh's Lawsuit against Israel Concluded 11:12 - 14:9

**CONDENSED OUTLINE OF HOSEA**  
Based on THE ANALYSIS OF HOSEA  
Prepared by James T. Bartsch  
October, 2009  
Updated October, 2013

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- C2 Yahweh's Verdict against Israel: Guilty! 5:1-14
- C3 Yahweh's Poignant Hope for Restoration 5:15 - 6:3

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- C1 The Justification for the Sentence: The Transgressions of Israel 6:4 - 7:7
- C2 The Declaration of the Sentence: Yahweh's Judgmental Dispersion of Israel Among the Nations 7:8 - 11:7
- C3 The Compassion in the Sentence: God's Compassionate promise to restore Israelis from all directions back to the land of promise! 11:8-11

**B3 Yahweh's Lawsuit against Israel Concluded 11:12 - 14:9**

- C1 The Indictment Issued 11:12 - 12:11
- C2 The Sentence Decreed! 12:12 - 13:16
- C3 The Restoration Promised 14

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##### **B1 Hosea's Symbolic Family Life 1:1 - 2:1**

###### **C1 Introduction 1:1**

###### **C2 Hosea's Symbolic Marriage to a Wife of Prostitution at Yahweh's Command 1:2-3a**

D1 The command of Yahweh 1:2

D2 The obedience of Hosea 1:3a

###### **C3 Hosea's Symbolic Children 1:3b-9**

D1 Hosea and Gomer's symbolic first child: Jezreel (**Judgment in Jezreel!**) 1:3b-5

D2 Hosea and Gomer's symbolic second child: Lo-ruhamah (**No Compassion!**) 1:6-7

D3 Hosea and Gomer's symbolic third child: Lo-ammi (**Not My People!**) 1:8-9

###### **C4 The Ameliorating Prophecy of Ultimate Restoration 1:10-11**

D1 The multiplication of the Sons of Israel 1:10a

D2 The reinstatement of Israel as "the sons of the living God." 1:10b

D3 The reunification of Israel and Judah under one king in the day of Jezreel! 1:11

###### **C5 Yahweh's Commanding of Israelis to Pronounce Reconciliation with God (saying to one another ...) 2:1**

D1 "My people!"

D2 "Compassion!"

**B2 The Heart-Rending Pleading of Yahweh with Israel Based on the Symbolism of Hosea's Family 2:2-23****C1 Yahweh's Urging Israel to Litigate One Another for Their Spiritual Adultery (Idolatry) 2:2-5**

- D1 The command of legal confrontation: 2:2a
- D2 The reason for the command: Israel is not Yahweh's wife and He is not her husband! 2:2b
- D3 The challenge to Israel as Yahweh's wife 2:2c
- D4 The threat to Israel as Yahweh's wife if she does not forsake idolatry: Lest He desert her to die in the desert! Lest He withhold compassion from her children, born of spiritual prostitution! 2:3-4
- D5 The description of Israel's prostitute-like idolatry: The sin of the nation (signified as "mother") 2:5

**C2 Yahweh's Determination to Force His Nation/Wife Back to His Side 2:6-13**

- D1 Through impediments and obstacles 2:6
- D2 Through unfulfilled hopes in her idols 2:7
- D3 Through depriving her of the commodities from which she made offerings to Baal 2:8-9
- D4 By forcing her into material nakedness from which no idol can rescue her 2:10
- D5 By ending her celebrations 2:11
- D6 By destroying her vines and fig trees 2:12
- D7 By punishing her for adorning herself with earrings and jewelry for offering sacrifices to the Baals 2:13

**C3 Yahweh's Reclamation of Israel 2:14-23**

- D1 Yahweh's determination to woo and win Israel back to Himself 2:14-20
- D2 God's compassionate restoration of Israel in the land 2:21-23

- B3 Hosea Commanded to Love and Take Back His Prostitute Wife, Symbolizing God's Love for Israel 3**
  - C1 Yahweh's Command to Hosea to Love Again His Prostitute Wife Even as Yahweh Loves the Idolatrous Sons of Israel 3:1**
    - D1 The command to Hosea to love his adulterous wife
    - D2 As a symbol of Yahweh's love for adulterous Israel!
  - C2 Hosea's Remedial Treatment of His Wife 3:2-3**
    - D1 His purchase of her from the slave market 3:2
    - D2 His resolve to confine her in his own home for a long time as a non-prostitute but without conjugal rights 3:3
  - C3 Hosea's Prophecy of Yahweh's Similar Treatment of Israel 3:4-5**
    - D1 Israel's remaining for many days without any sort -- authentic or unauthentic -- of ruler, religious system, or religious official 3:4
    - D2 The eventual emotional return of Israel to Yahweh and their Davidic king 3:5
- A2 YAHWEH'S LAWSUIT AGAINST HIS ADULTEROUS WIFE, ISRAEL, TO RECLAIM HER 4 - 14**
  - B1 Yahweh's Opening Hearing against Israel 4:1 - 6:3**
    - C1 Yahweh's Formal Indictment of Israel 4**
      - D1 Yahweh's initial outlining of His charges 4:1-6
      - D2 Yahweh's outlining of Israel's offenses and His punishments 4:7-10
      - D3 Israel's moral and spiritual debauchery; God's punishment 4:11-14
      - D4 A plea for Judah not to share Israel's indictment 4:15-19
    - C2 Yahweh's Verdict against Israel: Guilty! 5:1-14**
      - D1 The complicity of the nation and its leaders 5:1-7
      - D2 God's pronouncement of national Judgment upon both Israel and Judah 5:8-14
    - C3 Yahweh's Poignant Hope for Restoration 5:15 - 6:3**
      - D1 Yahweh's departure, awaiting Israel's desperate search for help 5:15
      - D2 Hosea's Call to Return to the Lord 6:1-3



**B2 Yahweh's Sentence against Israel (and Judah) 6:4 - 11:11****C1 The Justification for the Sentence: The Transgressions of Israel 6:4 - 7:7**

D1 Yahweh's exasperation with Israel and Judah for their disloyalty, treachery, murder, and harlotry 6:4-11

D2 Israel's evil prevents Yahweh from healing her! The memorable, smoldering evil of Israel: Thievery, adultery, drunkenness, angry subterfuge 7:1-7

**C2 The Declaration of the Sentence: Yahweh's Judgmental Dispersion of Israel Among the Nations 7:8 - 11:7**

D1 Because of her foolish reliance upon the nations! 7:8 - 8:10

D2 Because of her multiplied altars which have only multiplied her sin! Returned bondage to Egypt [Assyria] is her punishment! 8:11-14

D3 Because of her spiritual prostitution! Israel's condemnation to Assyrian captivity because of her spiritual prostitution! 9:1-6

D4 Because of her gross sins: Punishment and retribution are decreed upon Israel for her gross sins 9:7-9

D5 Because of her abortive harvest: Israel a vine devoted to destruction! 9:10 - 10:2

D6 Because of her dependence on her false worship and her king: Israel, swearing falsely, depending on her false worship and her king, shall be deprived of both in Assyria! 10:3-10

D7 Because she has sown evil: Because Israel has sown evil, she will reap a judgment of injustice -- Moreover, she has trusted in her military might; therefore she shall be defeated in battle 10:11-15

D8 Because of her failure to return God's love: Because of Israel's failure to return God's love in Egypt, God will abandon her to Assyria! 11:1-7

**C3 The Compassion in the Sentence: God's Compassionate promise to restore Israelis from all directions back to the land of promise! 11:8-11**

D1 God's undying, compassionate love for Israel! 11:8

D2 God's resolve not to destroy Israel in wrath 11:9

D3 Yahweh's future authoritative call for Israel to return to Him! 11:10a

D4 The God-fearing return of Yahweh's sons! 11:10b-11a

D5 Yahweh's settling them in homes in Israel! 11:11b

**B3 Yahweh's Lawsuit against Israel Concluded 11:12 - 14:9**

**C1 The Indictment Issued 11:12 - 12:11**

D1 Prologue -- Israel's deceit and Judah's unruliness 11:12

D2 The indictment delineated: Vain existence; deceit and violence; reliance upon Gentile nations for security 12:1

D3 The indictment stated: Yahweh's dispute with Judah and Israel (see also 4:1) 12:2

D4 The indictment expanded 12:3-11

**C2 The Sentence Decreed! 12:12 - 13:16**

D1 God's consignment of Israel back to reproach because of national guilt! 12:12-14

D2 Ephraim's former power will be diminished because of national idolatry! 13:1-3 (Hosea 13 NNAS)

D3 Yahweh's replacing his former care for Israel with fierce judgment! 13:4-8

D4 Israel's rejection of God's help to rely upon its human kings, who cannot save her from Divine judgment! 13:9-11

D5 Doom for unrepentant Ephraim cannot be avoided! 13:12-14

D6 Samaria's present prosperity will be tragically trashed! 13:15-16

**C3 The Restoration Promised 14**

D1 The prophet's call to repentance -- the call for Israel to return to Yahweh her God 14:1-3

D2 God's promise to heal Israel's apostasy and restore her blessings! 14:4-9

EXPANDED OUTLINE OF HOSEA  
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October, 2009  
Updated October, 2013

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