

TREASURE  
JESUS



# SCANDALOUS LOVE

-THE STORY OF HOSEA-

Overview of Hosea



How does God love his people?

The book of Hosea provides a fascinating and living parable of this man who was called to be a prophet of God. Through Hosea's life we see a parallel of God's love, forbearance, forgiveness and mercy on display. And through Hosea's message, we are confronted with God's love as it is shown in both mercy and judgement.

This overview is intended to help you grow deeper in understanding of the book of Hosea, how it points us to a wonderful—yet scandalous—picture of God's love, and how we might better read and apply God's Word through our church community.

Luke Thomson

*Senior Minister*



# TRAVELLING THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT

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 \*The order of the prophets are approximate, as some of the books are not dated.



# HISTORICAL CONTEXT

## THE TIME OF HOSEA



### Hosea the prophet

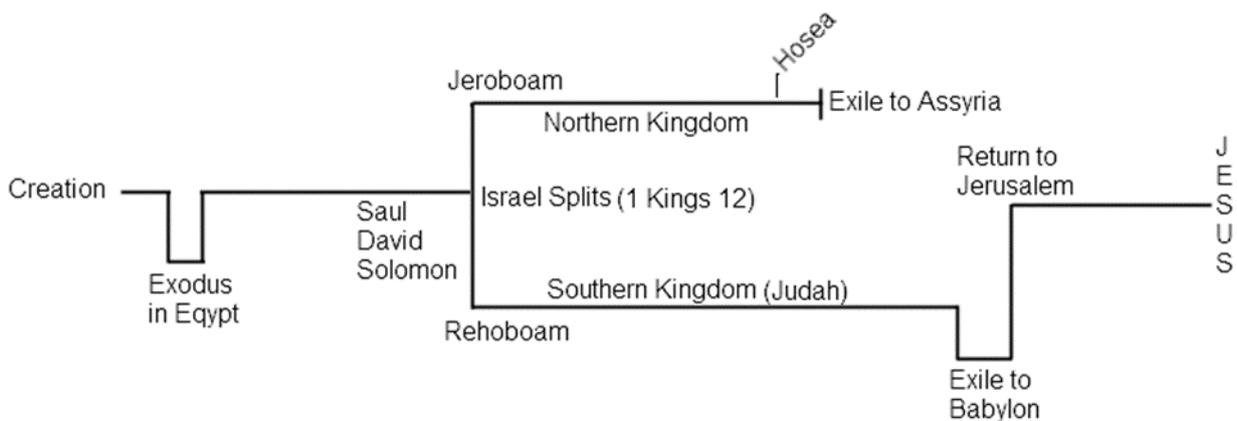
*“The word of the Lord that came to Hosea son of Beeri during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the reign of Jeroboam son of Jehoash king of Israel” Hosea 1:1*

Hosea’s ministry was around \_\_\_\_\_ BC to \_\_\_\_\_ BC.

Hosea’s life could be described as a living \_\_\_\_\_.



### Israel’s History



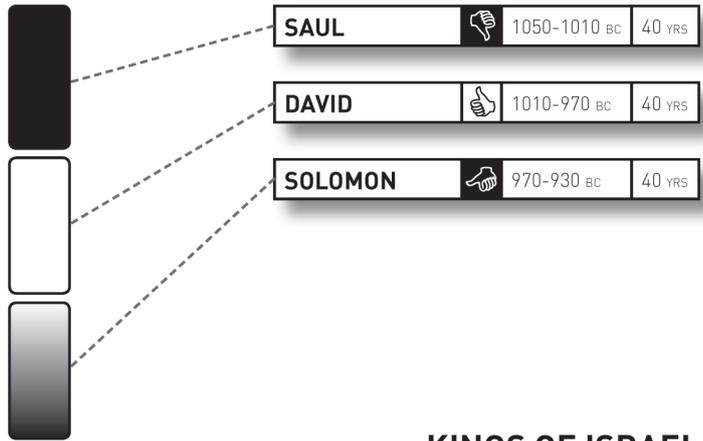
Prophets to the Northern Kingdom (Israel)	Prophets to the Southern Kingdom (Judah)	Prophets elsewhere
Amos Hosea	Joel Obadiah Micah Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi	Jonah Nahum



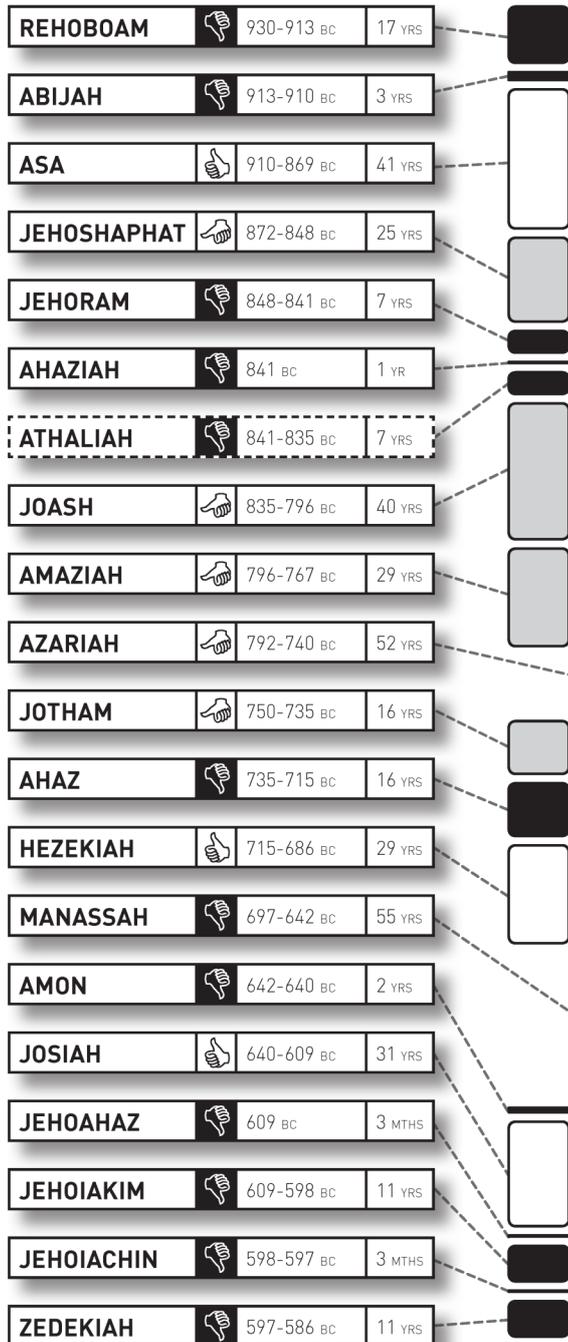
# THE KINGS OF JUDAH & ISRAEL

## FROM 1 & 2 KINGS

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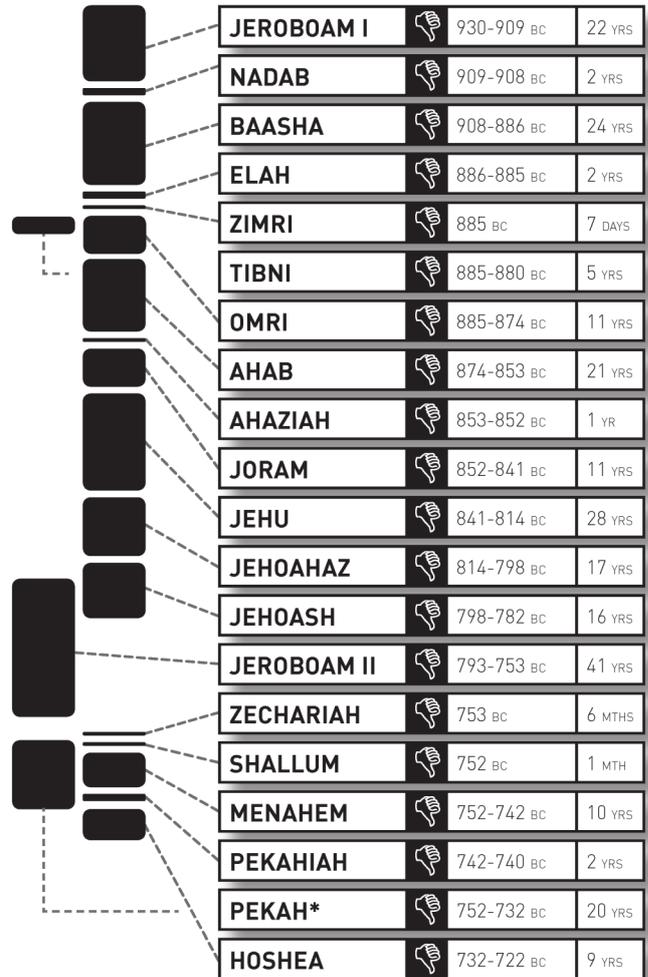


### KINGS OF JUDAH



KINGDOM DIVIDES (922 BC)

### KINGS OF ISRAEL



ISRAEL ASSIMILATED BY ASSYRIA (722 BC)

#### KEY

- "Did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, as his father David had done."
- "Did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, but not as his father David had done." (i.e. completely rid the land of idolatry)
- "Did what was evil in the eyes of the LORD."

JUDAH EXILED BY BABYLON (586 BC)

\* Pekah's 20-year reign presumably includes a period of rule as rival to Menahem.

# BIBLICAL CONTEXT

## THE CONTEXT OF HOSEA

### 1. God's covenant relationship to his people

An expanding covenant

Noah (Genesis 6:18);

Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3; 15:17-21; 17);

Moses (Exodus 19:5-6);

Aaron and the priests (Exodus 28-29; Numbers 18, 25:10-13);

David (2 Samuel 7).

The New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Luke 22:20

Hebrews 7:22; 8:6-10:31; 12:18-24; 13:20

Marriage and the Covenant

### 2. The pattern of sin

### 3. Our inability to save ourselves

### 4. The true Hosea



# THEMES

## WHAT HOSEA IS ESPECIALLY INTERESTED IN

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of God's people
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ that God's people deserve
3. God's covenantal \_\_\_\_\_ for his people





# HOSEA

**1-3** INTRODUCE HOSEA'S MAIN THEMES:  
ISRAEL HAS REBELLED & GOD WILL BRING SEVERE CONSEQUENCES...  
*BUT* GOD'S LOVE & MERCY ARE MORE POWERFUL THAN ISRAEL'S SIN.

(Paraphrase in Hosea 11:9)

**12-14** MORE ACCUSATIONS & WARNINGS

**12-14** MORE ACCUSATIONS & WARNINGS

**AUTHOR'S CONCLUDING NOTE:**  
"AND IS LOVE & DISCREMINING TO UNDERSTAND THAT THESE THE LAWS OF THE LORD ARE RIGHT, BUT THE REBELLIOUS GAHIN IN THEM, BUT THE REBELLIOUS STUMBLE IN THEM" (17:1)

• HOSEA'S POETRY REVEALS DEEP TRUTHS ABOUT GOD'S CHARACTER & HUMAN NATURE.  
• GOD'S ULTIMATE PURPOSE IS TO

*Heal & Save*

**1-3** HOSEA'S MARRIAGE TO GOMER

**THE MARRIAGE**  
**THE ADULTERY**  
**THE RESTORATION**

PROPHETIC SYMBOL OF GOD'S RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL

**COVENANT AT THE SINAI**  
**IDOLATRY = ADULTERY**  
**REASON: GODS LOVE, COMPASSION, & FAITHFULNESS = 28:20**

**IMMINENT DEFEAT & EXILE...**  
**...BUT RESTORATION & HOPE**  
**MESSIANIC KING**  
**GODS BLESSING**

**4-11** ACCUSATIONS & WARNINGS FOR ISRAEL

**1-10** CAUSES & EFFECTS OF ISRAEL'S UNEARTHLYNESS  
**HYPOCRISY OF ISRAEL'S WORSHIP**  
**11** THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGE OF GOD IN THE LAND!  
**"KNOWLEDGE" HEREBY: STAFFS WHICH THIN *Intelligence* INCLUDES Relationship**  
**GOD WANTS HIS PEOPLE TO KNOW HIM & EXPERIENCE HIS LOVE.**  
**HOPE FOR THE FUTURE**  
**11** GOD IS EMOTIONALLY TORN.  
**12** "HOW CAN I GIVE YOU IF EPHRAIM? MY HEART CHINGS ALTHOUGH HE: ALL MY COMPASSION IS KNOWN."

**GOD-LOVING FATHER**  
**ISRAEL = REBELLIOUS SON**  
**13** HOPE FOR THE FUTURE  
**14** GOD'S PROMISE

**12-13** HOSEA'S HISTORY LESSON

**JACOB'S LYING THEACHERY**  
**14** ISRAEL'S WILDERNESS REBELLION  
**15** ISRAEL'S CHOICE OF KING SAUL  
**16** REPENT!

**17** GOD'S PROMISE  
**18** IMAGE OF GOD BLESSING THE NATIONS THROUGH ABRAMHAM'S FAMILY  
**19** author's note \*

created by the Bible Project

# STRUCTURE

## HOW HOSEA FITS TOGETHER

Hosea has two distinct parts: chapters 1-3 and 4-14. Within that second section, we see large portions concerning the sin of Israel, with glimpses of hope pointing to a possible alternate future than the path Israel is presently on.

**1:1-3:5**

The narrative of Hosea's life and experience, with a prophetic word that helps us understand how he is a living parable that helps us to understand God's love for his people.

**4:1-10:15**

God charges Israel with many their man sins, highlight just how unfaithful they have been to God. This is followed by promises of judgement as a just response for their sin.

**11:1-11**

A glimpse into God's heart, and his desire to show mercy to his people despite their unfaithfulness.

**11:12-  
13:16**

Further charges of sin against Israel. God's anger is clearly expressed, and promises of judgement are repeated

**14:1-9**

A surprising, shocking and scandalous picture of God's promises to show undeserved love and mercy. It includes a call for genuine repentance, and a promise of forgiveness that remains on offer to god's people.



# STRUCTURE

## HOW HOSEA FITS TOGETHER

### Hosea as a living parable

1:1-2:1 God's call on Hosea

2:2-23 The connection between Hosea & Gomer, and God & Israel

3:1-5 God's response to Hosea

### Accounts of sin and judgement

4:1-14 God's charges of sin against Israel

4:15-19 A warning to Judah

5:1-15 God's judgement on Israel

6:1-3 Fleeting repentance

6:4-8:6 Further charges of sin against Israel

8:7-10:15 God's judgement on Israel

### Hope for the future

11:1-11 God's desire to show mercy

### Further accounts of sin and judgement

11:12-13:3 Further charges of sin against Israel

13:4-16 God's judgement on Israel

### Hope for the future

14:1-9 A call to repentance



# SERMON SERIES

## HOW WE ARE APPROACHING THIS SERIES

### Series Outline

Hosea 1:1-2:1	For the love of a prostitute
Hoseas 2:2-3:5	Loving the unlovable
Hosea 4:1-19	Knowing you are loved
Hosea 6:1-6, 8:1-14	Motivated by love
Hosea 14:1-9	Scandalous love

### New Testament References

The New Testament includes the following references or allusions to the book of Hosea:

Hosea 1:10—Romans 9:26-27	Hosea 10:8—Luke 23:30
Hosea 2:23—Romans 9:25	Hosea 10:8—Revelation 6:26
Hosea 2:23—1 Peter 2:10	Hosea 11:1—Matthew 2:15
Hosea 6:2—Luke 24:46	Hosea 13:14—1 Corinthians 15:55
Hosea 6:5—Ephesians 6:17	
Hosea 6:6—Matthew 9:13	
Hosea 6:6—Matthew 12:7	



# RESOURCES

## THINGS THAT MIGHT BE HELPFUL

### Online Commentaries & Resources

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/hosea-courses/>

There is a great introduction to Hosea here, including a deeper overview of the book. There is also some useful study material, particularly if you wish to follow along in your Community Group.

### Books

*Love Diving and Unfailing—The Gospel according to Hosea.* Michael P. V. Barrett. P&R, 2008.

An accessible read that not only unpacks Hosea, but helps us see how this book points us to Jesus.

### Videos

<https://thebibleproject.com/explore/hosea/>

*A great overview video to visually represent the themes and flow of the book.*



# PRAYER

## DEPENDING ON GOD IN THIS SEASON

- Pray for Luke as he prepares sermons to help people engage with God through this series.
- Pray for our church, that we would grow to Treasure Jesus in a richer way through this series.
- Pray that we would repent of our sin as we are confronted by the message of Hosea.
- Pray that we would be refreshed by the good news of God's love for us.





