

HOSEA STUDY
Lesson Thirteen: "The Loneliness of God"
Hosea 11

INTRODUCTION

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT THE LONELINESS OF GOD?
(Does God Get Lonely?)

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF LONELINESS.

1. The ABSENCE or PRESENCE of people or familiar surroundings.
2. The pain of UNRELATEDNESS. The realization of SEPARATION or ESTRANGEMENT. (Longing to love a person and having your love RESISTED or REJECTED.)

GOD GET'S LONELY OVER US.

HOSEA 11 GIVES US A GLIMPSE OF THE LONINESS OF GOD.

1. It gives us the vantage point of seeing Israel as God's CHILD and God as the PARENT.
2. God remembers with JOY and anguishes with GRIEF.

HOSEA 11 CAN BE OUTLINED IN THREE PARTS

1. The CHILD. (The Early Years) (1-4)
2. The GROWN CHILD. (The Later Years) 5-7)
3. The NOT-FORGOTTEN CHILD . (8-11)

THE CHILD (The Early Years) (Hosea 11:1-4)

1. VERSE 1 – VULNERABLE LOVE.
(Love Freely Given, With the Possibility Of It Being Rejected.)
2. VERSE 2 – OTHER LOVES OR LOYALTIES.
(Other Calls That Distract Us From God.)
3. VERSE 3 – THE FIRST STEPS. (Steps of Faith)
4. VERSE 4 - ATTENTION and PROVISION.

THE GROWN CHILD (The Later Years) (Hosea 11:5-7)

Verses 5-7 deal with the necessity of DISCIPLINE of the REBELLIOUS child.

1. VERSE 5 - RETURNING TO THE LORD or ENTERING INTO BONDAGE.
2. VERSE 6 – GOD'S SADNESS.
3. VERSE 7 – THE REAL REASON FOR PUNISHMENT.
4. EITHER WE ARE REPENTING AND RETURNING, OR WE ARE BACKSLIDING.
5. I THESSALONIANS 5:16-19.

THE NOT-FORGOTTEN CHILD. (Hosea 11:8-11)

This is what is so GREAT about Hosea 11: GOD DOES NOT GIVE UP ON US! Verses 8-11 reveal to us the FAITHFULNESS of God!

1. VERSE 8 – GOD WILL NOT GIVE UP.
2. VERSE 9 – GOD IS NOT VINDICTIVE. HIS PURPOSE IS RECONCILIATION.
3. VERSES 10-11 – GOD WANTS TO GIVE US A HOPE AND A FUTURE.

CONCLUSION

God envisions a time when His people live in an OBEDIENT, TRUSTING, And FAITHFUL RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM.

He is the Lord of the Future, the God of New Beginnings, Who loves to make All Things New and bring the Spirit of a New Start.

THE KEY TO THE FUTURE: “They will follow the Lord.” (Walk after the Lord.)
THE KEY TO THE PRESENT: “They must follow the Lord.” (Walk after God.)

But we will never WALK AFTER GOD until we “COME TREMBLING.” (11)

If we COME TREMBLING and begin to WALK FRESH AFTER GOD, then GOD’S LONELINESS WILL MOVE FROM:

1. ABSENCE to PRESENCE.
2. UNFAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS to FAMILIAR.
3. UNRELATEDNESS to RELATEDNESS.
4. SEPARATION to RECONCILIATION.

5. REJECTION to LOVE.