

HOSEA STUDY
Lesson Two: “Defection and Transition”
Hosea 2:2-13

INTRODUCTION

In Hosea 2:2-13, Hosea moves away from the SHORE OF MERCY into the DEEP WATERS OF CONFRONTIVE JUDGMENT.

The good news is that this chapter will end with the ASSURANCE OF RESTORATION.

The first chapter of Hosea focused on the call to marry a wife of harlotry, and the message names given to Hosea’s children.

The beginning of this chapter focuses on the FAILURE OF THE MARRIAGE. The emphasis is on:

1. The DEFECTION of Israel as the bride/wife of God.
2. The tragic TRANSITION from Adoration to Apostasy and Abandonment of former loyalties.

DEFECTION (Hosea 2: 2-12)

1. THE SIN OF SYNCRETISM.
(Blending of loyalties to several gods)
 - Israel adopted the Canaanite way of life – Worshiped Baal.
 - Israel depended more on Baal than God.

2. IN HOSEA 2, GOD CONDEMNS DIVIDED LOYALTIES.

3. TODAY WE HAVE THE SAME PROBLEM WITH DIVIDED LOYALTIES AND DEFECTION FROM GOD.

4. TODAY WE BARTER FOR BLESSINGS FROM GOD WHILE MAINTAINING CONTROL OF OUR LIVES.
 - Our wills resist SURRENDER.
 - We refuse to be the THRONE for the reign of God.

5. GOD IS JEALOUS. HE WILL EXPOSE OUR ALLEGIANCES THAT STAND IN THE WAY OF OUR DEVOTION TO HIM.

6. GOD WILL NOT TOLERATE SPIRITUAL ADULTERY.
 - “Husband.” (v. 2) (Wounded Heart of God)
(The goal of the God/Husband is REPENT and RETURN.)
 - “She is not my wife, nor I her husband.” (v. 2)
(This was a short divorce formula. But divorce is not an option for God or Hosea.) The GOAL is RECONCILIATION.
 - “Let her put away her harlotries and adulteries.” (2)
(If not, there will be CONSEQUENCES. (v. 3)

7. THE WIFE'S MOTIVES FOR PURSUING HER LOVERS. (5)

8. WHAT WE MUST DO WITH GOD: SEEK and FIND. (7)

9. TWO ERRORS OF JUDGMENT OF THE WIFE/ISRAEL (8-9)

- She considered Baal, not God, to be the SOURCE of fertility and the staples of life. (8)
- She failed to recognize God's OWNERSHIP of everything. (9)

10. HOSEA INTRODUCES THE WORD "RETURN." (7)

11. THE JUDGMENT GOD BRINGS BECAUSE THE PEOPLE DIDN'T RETURN.

- Exposed to shame. (10)
- Rejects the joy in worshipping other gods. (11)
- Ends festivals by cutting off the harvest. (12)

12. THE REVELATION OF GOD AND HOSEA'S BROKEN HEART. (13)

TRANSITION (Hosea 2:13)

1. FROM ADORATION TO APOSTASY.

2. REVEALS THE ABANDONMENT OF FORMER LOYALTIES.

3. THE STAGES OF “FORGETFULNESS.” (“She Forgot Me.”)

- They forgot God as a result of losing the CONVICTION that He is the SOURCE and SUSTAINER of all.
- They forgot God in their WORSHIP of other gods.
- They forgot that God would VISIT them in judgment if they did not return.
- They forgot their need to keep a vivid AWARENESS of God through constant REPENTANCE and RENEWAL.

CONCLUSION

God is unwilling to DIVORCE His bride even when she commits SPIRITUAL ADULTERY and has other LOYALTIES.

But God will allow JUDGMENT to draw His bride back to Himself in REPENTANCE.