

**Hosea 8:1–10:15**

Before continuing our study of Hosea let's take a moment to summarize the book thus far, and discuss some valuable lessons from Hosea's life. Hosea is the author, and he wrote to the northern tribes of Israel. The name Hosea means salvation, and Hosea's message is that salvation is available to those who trust the Lord. The book of Hosea is actually a warning to the nation of Israel as it relates to future events. The nation of Israel was experiencing some difficult circumstances, and God sent the prophet Hosea to correctly interpret the reason for Israel's fallen condition. Israel no longer had a stable government, the line of kings changed rapidly through violence, and God held the priest responsible for not teaching the nation to both know and love the Lord. (Hosea 4:6)

To illustrate God's relationship with Israel, God caused Hosea to marry a prostitute named Gomer; however, Gomer continued her adulterous lifestyle and ultimately Hosea redeemed her from her depraved condition. The relationship between Hosea and Gomer is an analogy of the relationship between God and Israel. Israel is portrayed as a people who left their God and pursued other gods. But the God of Israel shows what forgiveness and restoration look like in an intimate relationship. The book of Hosea is a story of redemptive love, and highlights repentance, redemption, and restoration of humanity by a loving God.

**God's Redeeming Love**

The key to understanding the book of Hosea is to keep in mind that the book is based on God's love for a wayward people. God used Hosea and Gomer's relationship to symbolize the brokenness in God's relationship with Israel. **The theme for the book of Hosea is: God's Redeeming Love.** All of us like Gomer have strayed from God, but God's love for us continually reaches out to us to bring us back to Him.

**The symbolic language God used to describe Israel.**

- **An eagle:** The Assyrian army is described as an eagle. Why? (1-6)
- **Sowing and reaping:** How does this symbol relate to Israel? (7)
- **A worthless pot:** Why didn't God find pleasure in Israel? (8)
- **Wayward and wild donkey:** Explain the analogy. (9)
- **A hired lover** (prostitute):
- **Egyptian bondage:** (8:11–9:9)

**Questions and Answers**

**Hosea 8: Reaping the whirlwind.**

- A. How did God warn Israel of impending danger? V1
- B. Who or what was the good thing Israel had cast off, and which enemy would pursue them? V3
- C. What was Israel's sin? V4-6 (Explain calf worship.)
- D. What did Israel sow and reap? V7 (Explain reaping the whirlwind.)
- E. Why was Israel described as a vessel without pleasure? V8
- F. Who were the lovers Israel hired? V9-10
- G. How did Israel pervert God's law? V12
- H. Why does God not accept Israel's sacrifices and what are the results? V13 (Explain how Assyria would be the new Egypt.)
- I. What penalty was imposed for forgetting God? V14

**Hosea 9: The consequences of Disobedience.**

Israel suffered consequences as a result of their disobedience and what were their consequences. **Why was there:**

- a. No Rejoicing. (1)
- b. Crop failure. (2)
- c. Loss of the Promised Land. (3)
- d. Rejection of worship sacrifices. (4)
- e. Slavery. (6)
- f. Loss of children (12)
- g. Barrenness. (14)
- h. Wanderers. (17)

V7. What are "the days of visitation?"

V8. What was the duty of the watchman?

V9. What was the "days of Gibeah"? (Judges 19: 13-25)

V10. Grapes in the wilderness and first ripe figs represent God's blessing, but why did Israel become an abomination?

What happened at Baal-peor? (Numbers 25: 1-5)

## **Bible Study Chapters 8, 9 and 10**

## **The Book of Hosea**

### **Hosea 10: 1-15**

In this chapter the prophet continues to use symbolic language to describe the condition of the nation of Israel.

V1. The nation is described as an “empty vine” please explain the analogy.

V2. Relationally what causes a divided heart?

V4. What is hemlock, and how does it destroy the good?

V5. What caused God’s glory to depart?

V6. What does Assyria represent?

Vvs. 10-15. What is God’s purpose for chastisement? Is it remedial or retributive? Explain.