

Hosea Chapters One and Two: Old and New Testament Church History Depicted in One Family

Overview: This symbolization of the Old and New Testament church shows that although the 12 tribes of Israel and Judah were dispersed, that now in this last period of the church, God is to gather together the outcast of Judah and the remnant of Israel by a revival and reformation.

Prayer Thought: *Gospel Workers*, p. 310

Reading: We will take Hosea chapters one and two verse by verse.

Is this family story literal or allegorical?

Hosea 1:2

- Here we see that Hosea's wife and children were visionary. This analogy was used by God to portray His people, Judah and Israel in an idolatrous state. Thus the vision is an allegory.
- **Lev. 21:7, 14**—God would not literally have His prophet marry harlots.

Verses 3-4 (see chart on page 3)

- The first-born son of Hosea's visionary marriage was named Jezreel in order to foreshadow the vindication of the blood of Jezreel
- **1 Kings 18:3-4**—Jezebel slew the prophets of God, wrongly shed Jezreel's blood.
- **2 Kings 9:1-7** and **2 Kings 10:11**—Jehu was to do the avenging.
- The fall of Ahab's reign and kingdom predicted as the "breaking of the bow." This was fulfilled by Jehu when slew all that pertained to Ahab's house.

Verse 5

- **2 Kings 10:11**—shows the place where the breaking of the bow of Israel was to take place.

Verses 6-7

- The first child named Loruhamah meaning "not having mercy."
- **2 Kings 17:18, 19, 22, 23** and **2 Kings 18:11**—God had no mercy upon the House of Israel. This was fulfilled when the King of Assyria came and took them captive and scattered them.
- **2 Kings 19:1, 15-16, 19-20** and **35**—God continued to have mercy on the kingdom of Judah.
- He would save the two tribe kingdom but not by bow, sword, battle, horses or horsemen.

Verses 8-9

- The second child named Loammi meaning "not my people."
- **Matt. 23:37-38** and **Luke 23:18**—God's mercy was to depart from Judah because

of their continual course of backsliding.

Verses 10-11

- The descendants of Israel and Judah were to be multiplied as the sand of the sea, be reaccepted, and become the sons of the living God. The present identifiable Jews of today are not the ones that are seen in the fulfillment of this prophecy.
- After the scattering and rejection of Israel, the nation consequently lost their racial identity and were assimilated by the Gentile nations. Many of them became Christians and are unidentified as Jews in the world today.
- Many of the Jews scattered among the Gentiles return as Christians. Through Jesus Christ they are once more offered salvation.

Hosea 2:1-5

- The prefix "Lo" has been omitted from the names of Loruhamah and Loammi, thus rendering Ruhamah to mean "mercy" and Ammi to mean "my people".
- This change of status implies a division of church history and brings us to the New Testament period.
- Ammi and Ruhamah represent the laity (church members) both male and female.
- This is brought out from the fact that they are pluralized.
- The one speaking to them is Jezreel, their brother, but also the mouthpiece of God.
- The mother to whom the children are commanded to take the message represents that part of the church which is responsible for bringing converts, the ministry.
- Since it is the children (laity) *not* the mother (ministry) who deliver the message, it means a message of revival and reformation to the church.
- **8T 249-250** and **1 SM 128**—this description portrays a reformatory movement in the church as a result of mother playing the "harlot".
- The message to Ammi and Ruhamah must be a laymen's movement.

Verses 6-11

- Because of a departure from God, the early Christian church was to suffer adverse circumstances as a means of calling her back. This was the reason for the Dark Ages of religion from 538 to 1798 A.D. By permitting Rome to gain control of the church, the true Sabbath was lost and substituted by a false one.

Verses 12-14

- In fulfillment of these verses, the church fled into the wilderness (**Rev. 12:6**), into the lands of the Gentiles.

Verse 15

- The valley of Achor is the only door of hope for the church.
- **Joshua 7:24-26**—in the typical Valley of Achor Joshua stoned the sinners in Israel—Achan and his household.
- **5T 157, 211, 80; PK 725; 1T 190**—The significance of the valley in antitype is that God is to thoroughly purge His house, cutting off the sinners in her midst just as in the case of Achan. Then shall she return to her former position of purity.

Verses 16-17

- After the hypocrites and sinners are taken out of her, the church shall no longer call the Saviour, Baali (Lord), but shall call Him Ishi (husband). She will then truly become His wife, indicating a much closer relationship.

Verses 18-20

- **PK 299**—Peace and prosperity will be in all her borders.

Verses 21-23

- When these events take place the Lord will be in the midst of His people.
- There shall be no want of spiritual food, for the earth shall hear Jezreel—a symbol then of the church leadership—the messengers (the 144,000 included).
- This is the crowning event in the finishing of the Everlasting Gospel as He “will sow her unto me in the earth.” That means He will multiply her, bring in the great multitude (**Isa. 66:19, 20**).

Summary: God’s plan for ancient Israel will be fulfilled through their descendants today who become Christians, particularly Seventh-day Adventists, and who initiate a revival and reformation in the church which will at last restore peace and happiness to God’s family.

Further Reading: [Tract No. 4](#), *The Latest News for Mother*



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