

It was a time of civil war between the people God. A prosperous time for the nation while there was spiritual and moral decay in the land.

\*Hosea 1:1 The word of the LORD that came to <u>Hosea son of Beeri</u> during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the reign of Jeroboam son of Jehoash king of Israel:

2 When the LORD began to speak through Hosea, the LORD said to him, "Go, marry a promiscuous woman and have children with her, for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the LORD." 3 So he married Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

4 Then the LORD said to Hosea, "Call him Jezreel, because I will soon punish the house of Jehu for the massacre at Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of Israel. 5 In that day I will break Israel's bow in the Valley of Jezreel."

## \*Hosea is put in a place where he feels what God feels and it is painful.

- 1. Hosea means salvation and comes from the Hebrew root word that would be translated Joshua in the O.T. and Jesus in the N.T.
  - A. **Son of Beeri**, this puts Hose in the tribe of Issachar.
  - B. **The Tribe of Issachar.** They understood the times and knew what to do. They also felt the pain that the sins of the people brought to God.
- 2. **The Vivid Picture of apostasy.** Hosea is commanded to take a harlot as a wife and she will represent the adulteress ways of God's people.
  - **A. Gomer's son** should have brought the excitement of new life to the family. Yet, Jezreel will represent the end-of-life for Israel. Jezreel means <u>sown of God</u> either in a gathering or a scattering. The valley of Judgment is in the book of Kings it's called the valley of Jezreel.
  - **B.** Breaking the bow- The bow is the symbol of might and falsehood/deception.
- 3. **Marriage is used** once again to show the relationship between humanity and God. This happens throughout the scriptures over 3 dozen times from Genesis to Revelation.

\*Hosea 1:6 Gomer conceived again and gave birth to a daughter. Then the LORD said to Hosea, "Call her Lo-Ruhamah (which means "no mercy"), for I will no longer show love to Israel, that I should at all forgive them. 7 Yet I will show love to Judah; and I will save them—not by bow, sword or battle, or by horses and horsemen, but I, the LORD their God, will save them."

8 After she had weaned Lo-Ruhamah, Gomer had another son. 9 Then the LORD said, "Call him Lo-Ammi (which means "not my people"), for you are not my people, and I am not your God.

- 1. **Growing apostasy** becomes two-fold. Gomer's daughter would be known as a double-edged sword. She would have no mercy and God will show no mercy in His judgment of her. Exodus 34:6-7
  - A. **God promises** to save those that trust in Him.
  - B. This is a supernatural saving implying salvation.
- 2. **Not my people.** Gomer's next son would not identify with God and God would declare they are not my people. In the last days Jesus words to the foolish virgins I do not know you. Matt. 25:12
  - A. **God's words** in Hebrew to the northern kingdom is I am not the "I Am" to you.
  - B. When people separate themselves from God. God will allow their free will choice to let them feel the loss.
  - C. **This action** still applies in this present day to Israel and to the Gentiles who reject him.

\*Hosea 1:10 "Yet the Israelites will be like the sand on the seashore, which cannot be measured or counted. In the place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' they will be called 'children of the living God.' 11 The people of Judah and the people of Israel will come together; they will appoint one leader and will come up out of the land, for great will be the day of Jezreel.

## \*The God of mercy and grace is revealed in the book of Hosea.

- 1. **Israel and Christians** will never make it to heaven based on their performance. Salvation is by grace alone.
- 2. **The promise of God** to Israel as they trust in God, their number (population) will be as the sands on the seashore.
  - A. V:10 To the amillennialism God is not done with Israel. This is the proof there will be a millennial reign for a thousand years. Where the Jewish population will flourish. Genesis 22:17
  - **B.** Today's Israel is preparing for without even knowing it.
- 3. When the day of judgment is complete we will see a united Israel along with the Gentiles we will all be under one leader, Jesus.
- 4. **The History of Israel** is wrapped up in Gomer's three children.
  - A. **Jezreel** the scattering of the people of Israel.
  - B. **Lo-Ruhamah** the people who are without mercy.
  - C. **Lo-Ammi** they will not be God's people until the latter part of the Great Tribulation.