

*Israel and the Church have different origins and have different roles, but we can draw parallels in God's judgment.

- *Hosea 2:1 "Say of your brothers, 'My people,' and of your sisters, 'My loved one.'
- 2 "Rebuke your mother, rebuke her, for she is not my wife, and I am not her husband. Let her remove the adulterous look from her face and the unfaithfulness from between her breasts.
- 3 Otherwise I will strip her naked and make her as bare as on the day she was born; I will make her like a desert turn her into a parched land, and slay her with thirst.
- 4 I will not show my love to her children, because they are the children of adultery.
- 5 Their mother has been unfaithful and has conceived them in disgrace. She said, 'I will go after my lovers, who give me my food and my water, my wool and my linen, my olive oil and my drink.'
- 6 Therefore I will block her path with thornbushes; I will wall her in so that she cannot find her way.
- 7 She will chase after her lovers but not catch them; she will look for them but not find them. Then she will say, 'I will go back to my husband as at first, for then I was better off than now.'
- 8 She has not acknowledged that I was the one who gave her the grain, the new wine, and oil, who lavished on her the silver and gold—which they used for Baal.

*The judgment of the adulteress people of God.

- 1. **The charges against God's people.** Unfaithfulness to God by both Israel and the Church.
 - A. V:1-2 We've embraced the world as if we need its attention and praise. Has it become our lover?
 - **B.** V:3-5 The Church (Bride of Christ) do we have children that God will not claim? Do we offer our religion, our ways, without insisting that you must be born again?
- 2. **The blocked path** is God walling off a direction for His people. This description is spot on for the 21st century Church and Israel.
 - A. V:6-7 Chasing after works develops a self-reliant spirit. James 2:26 (Faith without works is dead.)
 - B. V:8 Any gain from works is often lost when the work is complete.

*Hosea 2:9 "Therefore I will take away my grain when it ripens, and my new wine when it is ready. I will take back my wool and my linen, intended to cover her naked body.

- 10 So now I will expose her lewdness before the eyes of her lovers; no one will take her out of my hands.
- 11 I will stop all her celebrations: her yearly festivals, her New Moons, her Sabbath days—all her appointed festivals.
- 12 I will ruin her vines and her fig trees, which she said were her pay from her lovers; I will make them a thicket, and wild animals will devour them.
- 13 I will punish her for the days she burned incense to the Baals; she decked herself with rings and jewelry and went after her lovers, but me she forgot," declares the LORD.
- 14 "Therefore I am now going to allure her; I will lead her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her.

- 15 There I will give her back her vineyards and will make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. There she will respond as in the days of her youth, as in the day she came up out of Egypt.
- 16 "In that day," declares the LORD, "you will call me 'my husband'; you will no longer call me 'my master. '
- 17 I will remove the names of the Baal from her lips; no longer will their names be invoked.

*How God draws people back to Himself.

- V:9-13 God does not bless their efforts. If God doesn't remove His blessings from us during our time of sin the thistle and thorn would multiply. Hebrews 6:7-8 The land that drinks in the rain. The bareness of the Church and its lack of blessings says to the world; we don't have an intimate relationship with God.
- 2. V:14-15 God is luring His people from the wilderness. The valleys of trouble (Achor) are also their door of hope. They will call upon the name of the Lord again.
- 3. V:16-17 **Different destinies** for Israel and the Church.
 - A. The Church verses 16 & 17 represent the rapture and a wedding.
 - **B.** The Jewish people verses 16 & 17 represent the second coming and millennial reign.

*Hosea 2:18 In that day I will make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, the birds in the sky, and the creatures that move along the ground. Bow and sword and battle I will abolish from the land, so that all may lie down in safety.

- 19 I will betroth you to me forever; I will betroth you in righteousness and justice, in love and compassion.
- 20 I will betroth you in faithfulness, and you will acknowledge the LORD
- 21 "In that day I will respond," declares the LORD—"I will respond to the skies, and they will respond to the earth;
- 22 and the earth will respond to the grain, the new wine, and the olive oil, and they will respond to Jezreel.
- 23 I will plant her for myself in the land; I will show my love to the one I called 'Not my loved one.' I will say to those called 'Not my people, ' 'You are my people'; and they will say, 'You are my God. ' "

*When the day of 2 Thessalonians 2:3 is over, God will make a covenant bringing restoration!

- V:18 Is this the second coming, for Israel is most certainly could be! They will beat their swords into plows. (Isaiah 2:4, Joel 3:12, Micah 4:3)
- 2. V:19-23 The millennial reign is for a thousand years for Jews and Gentiles alike, both will experience and realize the valley of hope out their valley of troubles.