

Tuesday Evening Bible Study
Series #8: The Minor Prophets
Session #5: Hosea 11:12 – End
Tuesday, January 31, 2017

Outline

- A. The Prophecies of Hosea (4:1 – 14:9)
 - 1. The futility of foreign alliances (11:12 – 12:1)
 - 2. Rebellion and restoration (12:2 – 14:8)
 - Another major division in the Book of Hosea
 - a. A divine lawsuit against Israel (12:2 – 13:16)
 - 1. Falsehood & deceit (12:2-14)
 - 2. Sin and death (13:1-16)
 - b. Final plea for repentance and a vision of restoration (14:1-8)
 - 3. Postscript in the style of wisdom literature. (14:9)

Notes

The futility of foreign alliances (11:12 – 12:1)

- Treaty with Assyria, King Hoshea's vacillation between Assyria and Egypt – see 2 Kings 15:19-20 & 17:3-4
- Samaria was renowned for its olive oil, and exported it as a valuable commodity.

Falsehood and deceit (Chapter 12)

- Here begins a series of indictments against Israel for political and religious failures featuring her ancestor Jacob.
 - The name Jacob means 'he supplants' (Remember Jacob & Esau? Gen. 25:19-26)
 - Jacob strove with the angel and was re-named Israel (Gen. 25:28)
 - Jacob's dream (Gen. 28:10-22)
- Also notice that in this section, Hosea addresses both Israel and Judah. By the time of the writing of Hosea, the kingdoms had been separate for nearly 200 years, but they were still one people with connected destinies. Israel (north) would eventually fall to the Assyrians and Judah (south) would eventually fall to the Babylonians, the cause of both being the same: each forgot God.
- 12:6 – Hosea exhorts Israel to live a life different from Jacob's.
- 12:7 – 'trader' in Hebrew translates to Canaan. (a *double entendre*)
- 12:10-13 – A contrast between God's word through the prophets, Israel's care through sacrifices at Gilead and Gilgal (Baal), and Jacob's flight to gain a wife and wealth.

Sin and death (Chapter 13)

- 13:1 – Israel violated the covenant by violating the commandment of having no other gods.
- 13:2 – "cast image" = bull at Gilgal
- 13:4-5 – References to the Exodus

- 13:14 – Sheol = the abode of the dead. *Mot* ‘death’ was also the name of the Canaanite deity of the underworld.

Restoration (14:1-8)

- Hosea makes a final plea for the repentance of Israel and her restoration.
- Hosea suggests what Israel might say to God to be restored.

Conclusion (14:9)

- Written in the style of wisdom literature
 - 14:9a – see Psalm 107:43 & Jeremiah 9:12
 - 14:9b – see Proverbs 10:29

Resources

Notes from The New Oxford Annotated Bible (NRSV), 2010

Notes from HarperCollins Study Bible (NRSV), 1989

James M. Boice, *The Minor Prophets*, Volume 1 (Grand Rapids, MI: BakerBooks, 1983)

