

# SRMBC FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Online Only Via Facebook Live Wednesdays @ 6:30 pm



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## Bible Study Schedule Sept – Nov/Dec 2022

Date	Lesson Title	Scripture
9/14/2022	A Share in God's Pain	Hosea 1:1—2:13
9/21/2022	A Vision of the Possible	Hosea 2:14—3:5
9/28/2022	Back to the Present	Hosea 4
10/5/2022	Sins of the Leadership	Hosea 5
10/12/2022	A Temporary Repentance	Hosea 6:1-10
10/19/2022	No Place to Hide	Hosea 6:11—7:16
10/26/2022	Substitute Gods	Hosea 8:1—9:9
11/2/2022	Recalling Young Love	Hosea 9:10—10:15
11/9/2022	Mercy Overrules	Hosea 11:1-11
11/16/2022	Yet Justice Prevails	Hosea 11:12—12:14
11/23/2022	Thanksgiving Break	No Study
11/30/2022	The Sign of Love	Hosea 13
12/7/2022	God's Final Promise	Hosea 14

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## This Week's Lesson – September 28, 2022

### Major Messages From Minor Prophets

#### Hosea: God's Persistent Love

#### Lesson 3:

#### Back to the Present

#### Hosea 4



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## Major & Minor Prophets

NOTE: THE TWO CLASSIFICATIONS, MAJOR AND MINOR ARE BASED ON THE SIZE OF THE BOOKS AND NOT ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF HIS MESSAGE.

<p><b>FOUR</b></p>  <p><b>MAJOR PROPHETS</b></p> <p>ISAIAH JEREMIAH EZEKIEL DANIEL</p>	<p><b>TWELVE</b></p>  <p><b>MINOR PROPHETS</b></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>HOSEA</td> <td>NAHUM</td> </tr> <tr> <td>JOEL</td> <td>HABAKKUK</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AMOS</td> <td>ZEPHANIAH</td> </tr> <tr> <td>OBADIAH</td> <td>HAGGAI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>JONAH</td> <td>ZECHARIAH</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MICAH</td> <td>MALACHI</td> </tr> </table>	HOSEA	NAHUM	JOEL	HABAKKUK	AMOS	ZEPHANIAH	OBADIAH	HAGGAI	JONAH	ZECHARIAH	MICAH	MALACHI
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JONAH	ZECHARIAH												
MICAH	MALACHI												



Barnes Bible Charts

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The Writing Prophets - Part 2				
The Writing Prophets in the Old Testament are so-called because their writings are recorded in the Bible				
PROPHET	B.C. DATE	KINGDOM	KING	WORLD POWER
<b>OBADIAH</b>	840 - 830?	Edom		 <b>ASSYRIA</b> 883 - 609 B.C.
<b>JOEL</b>	830 - 820	Judah	Joash	
<b>JONAH</b>	785 - 775	Assyria	Shalmanezar IV	
<b>AMOS</b>	765 - 755	Israel	Jeroboam II	
<b>HOSEA</b>	755 - 715	Israel	Last kings beginning with Zachariah	
<b>ISAIAH</b>	739 - 690	Israel	Pekah, Hoshea	
		Judah	Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah	
<b>MICAH</b>	735 - 700	Israel	Pekah, Hoshea	
		Judah	Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah	
<b>NAHUM</b>	650 - 620	Assyria	Ashurbanipal	
<b>ZEPHANIAH</b>	635 - 625	Judah	Josiah	
<b>JEREMIAH</b>	627 - 575	Judah	Last kings beginning with Josiah Josiah	<b>BABYLON</b> 625 - 539 B.C.
<b>HABAKKUK</b>	620 - 610	Judah		
<b>DANIEL</b>	605 - 536	Babylon, Persia and all nations		
<b>EZEKIEL</b>	593 - 560	Judah	Zedekiah & Jews in Babylon	<b>PERSIA</b> 539 - 330 B.C.
<b>HAGGAI</b>	520 - 505	Jews (after the return)		
<b>ZECHARIAH</b>	520 - 490	Jews (after the return)		
<b>MALACHI</b>	435 - 415	Jews (after the return)		

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## Introduction to Hosea

**Author:** Hosea, the son of Beeri

**Date of Writing:** Between 755 and 725 B.C.

**Purpose of Writing:** To remind Israel (and us) that Our God's loving covenant with His people is unwavering.

**Practical Application:**

- Hosea shows us of God's unconditional love. But it is shows us how God feels when His Children sin.
- When we do sin, if we repent God, will bring us back and show His never-ending love to us (1 John 1:9).
- As we remember all God has done for us in Christ we will rejoice and obey the One who give us eternal life instead of the hell we deserve.



**The Prophet  
Hosea**



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## The Prophet Hosea & His Wife Gomer

- Gomer was the unfaithful wife of Hosea the prophet.
- God gave Hosea an unusual command: **“Go, marry a promiscuous woman...for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the Lord”** (vs. 1:2).
- After bearing 3 children, Gomer left Hosea to live with another man. But God Commanded Hosea to buy her back ( 3:1)
- The Lord used their relationship to show how God remains faithful even when His people don't (2:19–20, 14: 4 – 7).



Hosea & Gomer



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# Read Hosea 4

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1. What generalizations can you make about Israelite society in Hosea's time?

- **Disobedient Society:** Despite knowing God and His Word they reject and disobey Him (vv.1, 6).
- **Dangerous Society:** After they rejected God, the people turned to immorality and violence (v.2).
- **Desolate Society:** Because of their sins, the land, environment, and the economy all dried up (v.3).
- **Disgraceful Society:** Starting with the priests, the people engaged in shameful and sinful behaviors (vv. 4, 6 – 18)



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1. What generalizations can you make about Israelite society in Hosea's time?

- **Doomed Society:** Without genuine repentance, God's judgement would be sure to come (vv. 5, 19)

*“Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god. They will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from God their Savior” Psalm 24:3 – 5 (NIV).*



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2. How close is Hosea's description to the state of our own society?

- **Similar People/Priests:** People (sometimes even in the Church) are increasingly immoral.
- **Similar Problems:** We continue to reject and disobey God's Word; our society is more dangerous.
- **Similar Prospects:** Today we are seeing the drying up of our economy, environment, relationships.
- **Similar Prescription For Healing:** Returning To God through faith in Jesus Christ is the cure for this and every society.



*if my people, ... will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, will forgive their sin and will heal their land. II Chron 7:14 (NIV)*

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3. Although many sins are mentioned in this passage, which one does God repeatedly condemn (see especially vv. 10-14)?

**Points To Ponder:**

- As we read vv. 10-14, the word prostitution keeps hitting us between the eyes.
- The references to prostitution seem to be directly tied to their false idol worship.
- The Israelite women engaged in religious prostitution in or near temples devoted to Canaanite fertility gods.



*"You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them... Ex. 20:3 – 4 (NIV)*

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#### 4. What light does this shed on God's command to Hosea in 1:2?

- **Illuminating Light:** Gomer's sinful life vividly illustrates how the Israelites sold themselves away from the Lord.
- **Enlightening Light:** Selling old themselves to Baal, they took the reverence to God and threw it away on an idol.
- **Revealing Light:** God shows His people that there is nothing that anyone can do that cannot be seen by Him.

*God is light; in him there is no darkness at all... if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.*  
 1 John 5:5 – 7 (NIV)



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#### 5. Why does God choose to show mercy to the “daughters” and “daughters-in-law” (v. 14)?

##### **Points To Ponder:**

- These Canaanite shrines Moses had previously commanded Israel to destroy (cf. Deut. 12:2–3).
- Here many young women (daughters) of Israel took part in sexual rites with male cult prostitutes.
- The women would not be singled out for divine punishment because the men went to the shrines as well (Hosea 4:14).
- The men set a bad example so the Lord cried out, “A people without understanding (cf. v. 11) will come to ruin!”



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6. How does Hosea 4 answer, “It doesn’t matter what you worship as long as you have something to believe in”?

- **It Matters Because Of The Effects:** Any Worship other the God of the Bible will lead to immorality (Rom. 1:18 - 32).
- **It Matters Because Of God’s Authority:** God has commands that only He is to be worshipped and obeyed Matt. 4:8 – 10).
- **Matters Because Of Eternity:** Those who come to God via repentance and faith will have eternal life – the rest eternal punishment. (Rev. 20:11 – 15).

*“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven” (Matt 7: 21(NKJV)*



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7. What does verse 16 tell you about the heart of God?

- **God’s Heart of Righteousness:** God could not reward Israel while they were set on idolatry.
- **God’s Heart For Relationship:** God did not want His people to attribute their prosperity to Baal
- **God’s Heart of Restoration:** Despite their idolatry, God still wanted to “pasture them like lambs in a meadow.”

*“The Lord is...patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.” II Pet 3:9 (NIV)*



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8. Where do you need to change in order to stand out as a worshiper of the Lord?

- **Love That Stands Out:** Being willing to pray and care for all people, regardless of who they are or how they treat us.
- **Language That Stands Out:** Our speech will be encouraging, truthful, that brings hope and leads people to faith in Jesus
- **Lifestyle The Stands Out:** Living a life of integrity, humility, and gratitude as expression of worship to God.

*“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” Matt 5:16 (KJV)*



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### *Keys For Living*

- While it may seem like God is not aware people living in sin, the truth is He everything whether it's done in light or in darkness.
- Idolatry is great sin because of the dishonor it brings the holiness of God and the damage it brings to God's people.
- Since we have been purchased for God through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, we are obligated to live lives that are distinct from the world.



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