Analysis of

HOSEA

"YAHWEH'S LAWSUIT AGAINST HIS ADULTEROUS WIFE, ISRAEL, TO RECLAIM HER, FOR HE LOVES HER"

Then the LORD said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by her husband, yet an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the sons of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love raisin cakes." Hosea 3:1

Analysis of HOSEA Prepared by James T. Bartsch November, 1999, updated October, 2019

Published Online by WordExplain.com Email Contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com

Scripture taken from the *NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE* ®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)

HOSEA

"YAHWEH'S LAWSUIT AGAINST HIS ADULTEROUS WIFE, ISRAEL, TO RECLAIM HER, FOR HE LOVES HER"

Then the LORD said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by her husband, yet an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the sons of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love raisin cakes." Hosea 3:1

A1 HOSEA'S RECLAMATION OF HIS ADULTEROUS WIFE AS SYMBOLIZING YAHWEH'S RECLAMATION OF ISRAEL 1-3

- B1 Hosea's Symbolic Family Life 1:1 2:1
 - C1 Introduction 1:1
 - C2 Hosea's Symbolic Marriage to a Wife of Prostitution at Yahweh's Command 1:2-3a
 - D1 The command of Yahweh 1:2
 - D2 The obedience of Hosea 1:3a
 - C3 Hosea's Symbolic Children 1:3b-9
 - D1 Hosea and Gomer's symbolic first child: Jezreel (Judgment in Jezreel!) 1:3b-5
 - E1 The birth of the son 1:3b
 - E2 The symbolism of his name, Jezreel 1:4-5
 - F1 Punishment of Jehu for bloodshed in **Jezreel** 14:4
 - F2 Defeat and extermination for the kingdom of Israel in the valley of **Jezreel** 14:5
 - D2 Hosea and Gomer's symbolic second child: Lo-ruhamah (No Compassion!) 1:6-7
 - E1 The birth of the daughter 1:6a
 - E2 The symbolism of her name, Lo-ruhamah 1:6b-7
 - F1 **No compassion** on the house of Israel 1:6b
 - F2 Compassion on and deliverance for the house of Judah 1:7

- D3 Hosea and Gomer's symbolic third child: Lo-ammi (Not My People!) 1:8-9
 - E1 The birth of the son 1:8
 - E2 The symbolism of his name, Lo-ammi 1:9
 - F1 Israel is **not My people**
 - F2 I (Yahweh) am not Israel's God
- C4 The Ameliorating Prophecy of Ultimate Restoration 1:10-11
 - D1 The multiplication of the Sons of Israel 1:10a
 - D2 The reinstatement of Israel as "the sons of the living God." 1:10b
 - D3 The reunification of Israel and Judah under one king in the day of Jezreel! 1:11
- Yahweh's Commanding of Israelis to Pronounce Reconciliation with God (saying to one another ...) 2:1
 - D1 "My people!"
 - D2 "Compassion!"
- B2 The Heart-Rending Pleading of Yahweh with Israel Based on the Symbolism of Hosea's Family 2:2-23
 - Yahweh's Urging Israel to Litigate One Another for Their Spiritual Adultery (Idolatry) 2:2-5
 - D1 The command of legal confrontation: 2:2a
 - D2 The reason for the command: Israel is not Yahweh's wife and He is not her husband! 2:2b
 - D3 The challenge to Israel as Yahweh's wife 2:2c
 - D4 The threat to Israel as Yahweh's wife if she does not forsake idolatry 2:3-4
 - E1 Lest He desert her to die in the desert! 2:3
 - E2 Lest He withhold compassion from her children, born of spiritual prostitution 2:4

- D5 The description of Israel's prostitute-like idolatry: The sin of the nation (signified as "mother") 2:5
 - E1 The identification of the sin
 - F1 Prostitution
 - F2 Shameful acts
 - E2 The determination of the nation to sin
 - E3 The economic motivation of the nation -- Food and commodities

C2 Yahweh's Determination to Force His Nation/Wife Back to His Side 2:6-13

- D1 Through impediments and obstacles 2:6
 - El Hedging her way with thorns
 - E2 Building a wall
- D2 Through unfulfilled hopes in her idols 2:7
 - E1 Yahweh's prediction of frustration for Israel, His wife, in her pursuit of her lovers 2:7a
 - E2 Yahweh's hope that Israel will return to her first husband, Yahweh 2:7b
- D3 Through depriving her of the commodities from which she made offerings to Baal 2:8-9
 - E1 Israel's ignorance that God was the source of her prosperity 2:8
 - E2 God's resolve to take back Israel's commodities! 2:9
- D4 By forcing her into material nakedness from which no idol can rescue her 2:10
- D5 By ending her celebrations 2:11
- D6 By destroying her vines and fig trees 2:12
- D7 By punishing her for adorning herself with earrings and jewelry for offering sacrifices to the Baals 2:13

C3 Yahweh's Reclamation of Israel 2:14-23

- D1 Yahweh's determination to woo and win Israel back to Himself 2:14-20
 - E1 His luring her kindly into the desert 2:14
 - E2 His giving her the circumstances that will make her sing. 2:15
 - E3 She will call Him "My Husband," instead of "My Master" ("My Baal") 2:16-17
 - E4 His provision for her of peace with the animal kingdom and peace with other nations 2:18
 - E5 His successful betrothal of her to Him in righteousness and loval love 2:19-20
- D2 God's compassionate restoration of Israel in the land 2:21-23
 - E1 Yahweh's response to her prayers 2:21
 - E2 His provision of agricultural prosperity 2:22a
 - E3 His re-naming His people 2:22b-23
 - F1 Jezreel: He will sow them in the land 2:22b-23a
 - F2 Ruhamah: He will have compassion on them 2:23b
 - F3 Ammi: They will again be His people 2:23c

B3 Hosea Commanded to Love and Take Back His Prostitute Wife, Symbolizing God's Love for Israel 3

- Yahweh's Command to Hosea to Love Again His Prostitute Wife Even as Yahweh Loves the Idolatrous Sons of Israel 3:1
 - D1 The command to Hosea to love his adulterous wife
 - D2 As a symbol of Yahweh's love for adulterous Israel!
- C2 Hosea's Remedial Treatment of His Wife 3:2-3
 - D1 His purchase of her from the slave market 3:2
 - D2 His resolve to confine her in his own home for a long time as a non-prostitute but without conjugal rights 3:3

C3 Hosea's Prophecy of Yahweh's Similar Treatment of Israel 3:4-5

- D1 Israel's remaining for many days without any sort -- authentic or unauthentic -- of ruler, religious system, or religious official 3:4
- D2 The eventual emotional return of Israel to Yahweh and their Davidic king 3:5

A2 YAHWEH'S LAWSUIT AGAINST HIS ADULTEROUS WIFE, ISRAEL, TO RECLAIM HER 4 - 14

B1 Yahweh's Opening Hearing against Israel 4:1 - 6:3

C1 Yahweh's Formal Indictment of Israel 4

- D1 Yahweh's initial outlining of His charges 4:1-6
 - E1 Hosea's announcement of Yahweh's lawsuit 4:1a
 - E2 The charges filed against Israel 4:1b-2
 - F1 Good traits unobserved 4:1b
 - F2 Vices rampant
 - E3 The result of Israel's evil 4:3
 - E4 The inadvisability of Israel's bringing a counter-suit 4:4-6
 - F1 The prohibition against bringing a counter-suit 4:4a
 - F2 Israel's likeness to those who challenge the legal decisions of God's chosen leaders -- the priests! 4:4b
 - F3 The consequences of Israel's litigious behavior 4:5-
 - G1 Stumbling by people and prophet 4:5a
 - G2 Destruction because of lack of knowledge 4:5b-6a
 - G3 God's rejection of the nation as His priest 4:6b
 - G4 God's forgetting of their children 4:6c

- D2 Yahweh's outlining of Israel's offenses and His punishments 4:7-
 - E1 Their offense -- The greater the population, the greater the sin 4:7a
 - E2 Their punishment -- God will turn their glory into shame 4:7b
 - E3 Their offense: The priests' desire that the nation sin so that they have more sin-offerings to eat 4:8
 - E4 Their punishment: Perpetual dissatisfaction 4:9-10
 - F1 The punishment to be shared equally by people and by priest 4:9
 - F2 The nature of their dissatisfaction 4:10
 - G1 Eating, but not having enough
 - G2 Engaging in promiscuity, but no population increase
 - F3 The reason for their punishment: Not paying attention to Yahweh
- D3 Israel's moral and spiritual debauchery; God's punishment 4:11-14
 - E1 A cataloguing of debauchery 4:11-13
 - F1 Profligate living depriving of discernment: 4:11
 - F2 Examples of mindless thinking 4:12a
 - G1 Consulting wooden idols
 - G2 Consulting a diviner's wand
 - F3 The characterization of debauched behavior 4:12b
 - G1 Moral harlotry
 - G2 Constituting spiritual harlotry against God
 - F4 The resultant debauched behavior 4:13
 - G1 Sacrificing on the mountain-tops
 - G2 Worshiping under the trees
 - G3 Fornication / prostitution by daughters
 - G4 Adultery by wives

- E2 God's withholding of judgment for debauchery 4:14
 - F1 His refusal to punish their daughters and brides for immorality
 - F2 The reason for His refusal
 - F3 The result of His refusal: The corruption of the whole society
- D4 A plea for Judah not to share Israel's indictment 4:15-19
 - E1 The plea to Judah 4:15
 - E2 The self-defeating stubbornness of Israel 4:16
 - E3 Israel's shameful spiritual and moral prostitution 4:17-19

C2 Yahweh's Verdict against Israel: Guilty! 5:1-14

- D1 The complicity of the nation and its leaders 5:1-7
 - E1 The complicity of the leaders 5:1-2
 - E2 The spiritual prostitution of the nation 5:3-4
 - E3 The testimony of God against Israel and Judah 5:5
 - E4 The worthlessness of the nation's sacrifices 5:6
 - E5 The coming judgment for their having borne illegitimate children 5:7
- D2 God's pronouncement of national Judgment upon both Israel and Judah 5:8-14
 - E1 The alarm of judgment sounded against Israel and Judah 5:8-12
 - F1 The command to sound the alarm 5:8
 - F2 The certainty of judgment 5:9
 - F3 The reasons for judgment 5:10-11
 - G1 Social injustice in Judah 5:10
 - G2 Obedience to man rather than God in Israel 5:11
 - F4 The results of judgment 5:12

- E2 Israel's ill-fated request for help from Assyria 5:13
- E3 God's promised tearing of Israel and Judah like a lion! 5:14

C3 Yahweh's Poignant Hope for Restoration 5:15 - 6:3

- D1 Yahweh's departure, awaiting Israel's desperate search for help 5:15
- D2 Hosea's Call to Return to the Lord 6:1-3
 - E1 His call to return 6:1a
 - E2 His assurance of Yahweh's healing and restoration 6:1b-2
 - E3 His call to know Yahweh! 6:3a
 - E4 His assurance of Yahweh's beneficial response! 6:3b

B2 Yahweh's Sentence against Israel (and Judah) 6:4 - 11:11

- C1 The Justification for the Sentence: The Transgressions of Israel 6:4 7:7
 - D1 Yahweh's exasperation with Israel and Judah for their disloyalty, treachery, murder, and harlotry 6:4-11
 - E1 The statement of His exasperation 6:4
 - E2 Their short-lived loyalty
 - E3 God's mortal judgment 6:5
 - E4 God's desire for loyalty, not sacrifice 6:6
 - E5 God's listing of their sin 6:7-11
 - F1 Their treacherous transgression 6:7
 - F2 The murderers of Gilead 6:8
 - F3 The murderous priests 6:9
 - F4 Israel's harlotry 6:10-11

- D2 Israel's evil prevents Yahweh from healing her! The memorable, smoldering evil of Israel: Thievery, adultery, drunkenness, angry subterfuge 7:1-7
 - E1 God's remembrance of Israel's evil while her rulers appreciate and participate in it! 7:1-3
 - F1 The prevalence of crime 7:1b
 - F2 Their ignorance of God's memory 7:2
 - F3 The corruption of the leaders 7:3
 - E2 God's comparison of Israel to a smoldering oven 7:4-7
 - F1 Their heat for adultery 7:4
 - F2 Their heat for drunkenness 7:5
 - F3 Their angry heat for plotting evil 7:6
 - F4 Their heat for revolt 7:7

C2 The Declaration of the Sentence: Yahweh's Judgmental Dispersion of Israel Among the Nations 7:8 - 11:7

- D1 Because of her foolish reliance upon the nations! 7:8 8:10
 - E1 Israel's foolish reliance upon foreign nations for deliverance 7:8-16
 - F1 Israel's "mixing himself with the nations" 7:8
 - F2 Israel's unwitting dissipation of strength 7:9
 - F3 Israel's refusal to return to Yahweh 7:10
 - F4 Israel's bird-like cries for help from Egypt and Assyria 7:11
 - F5 Yahweh's resolve to discipline Israel 7:12-13
 - G1 Bringing them down from the sky with a bird-net 7:12
 - G2 Pledging woe and destruction to them! 7:13

- F6 Yahweh's hurt at Israel's rejection of Him 7:14-15
 - G1 Their failure to cry to Him 7:14a
 - G2 Their preoccupation with commodities 7:14b
 - G3 Their devising evil against Him despite His provision of military might 7:15
- F7 Yaweh's promise of Israel's defeat, leading to derision in Egypt! 7:16
- E2 The onset of invasion as a punishment against Israel because of her evil and idolatry! 8:1-7
 - F1 Yahweh's prediction of the judgmental advance of the enemy even to the temple! 8:1
 - F2 Too little too late -- The sudden affirmation of Divine relationship by the terrified people! 8:2
 - F3 Yahweh's refusal to rescue Israel 8:3-7
 - G1 Because of her rejection of the good 8:3
 - G2 Because of her having anointed without consulting Him! 8:4a
 - G3 Because of her idolatry 8:4b-6
 - H1 Squandering her wealth on idols 8:4b
 - H2 Inviting God's anger because of her calf 8:5
 - H3 Defying logic in calling "God" the calf which a craftsman made! 8:6
 - G4 Sowing the wind, she reaps the whirlwind of famine and theft! 8:7
- E3 Judgment: Israel's dispersion among the nations 8:8-10
 - F1 The fact of her dispersion 8:8
 - F2 The reason for her dispersion 8:9
 - F3 The inevitability of her dispersion 8:10

- D2 Because of her multiplied altars which have only multiplied her sin! Returned bondage to Egypt [Assyria] is her punishment! 8:11-14
 - E1 Israel's multiple altars a multiplication of sin 8:11
 - E2 Israel's ignorance of God's Laws 8:12
 - E3 Yahweh's disdain for Israel's sacrifices 8:13a
 - E4 Yahweh's re-enslavement of Israel in "Egypt" for her sin 8:13b
 - E5 Yahweh's fiery destruction of Israel's fortified cities and palaces 8:14
- D3 Because of her spiritual prostitution! Israel's condemnation to Assyrian captivity because of her spiritual prostitution! 9:1-6
 - E1 Israel's spiritual prostitution -- Reliance upon Baal for help instead of God: 9:1a
 - E2 Israel's belief that Baal had provided good crops guaranteed crop failure 9:1b-2
 - E3 Israel's predicted dispersion to Assyria to eat unclean food 9:3
 - E4 Israel to be prevented from sacrificing to Yahweh! 9:4-5
 - E5 Israel to die in captivity, her treasures and fields languishing through neglect! 9:6
- D4 Because of her gross sins: Punishment and retribution are decreed upon Israel for her gross sins 9:7-9
 - E1 The greatness of Israel's sin 9:7
 - E2 Treachery and hostility are Israel's hallmark 9:8
 - E3 God unable to forget Israel's Gibeah-like depravity: 9:9

- D5 Because of her abortive harvest: Israel a vine devoted to destruction! 9:10 10:2
 - E1 The first-fruits of Israel have degenerated into children and wombs devoted to destruction! 9:10-17
 - F1 Israel -- disappointing firstfruits 9:10-14
 - G1 Yahweh's early pleasure in Israel 9:10a
 - G2 Israel's sexual immorality with Moabite and Midianite women (Num. 25) 9:10b
 - G3 The doom for Israel -- Reproductive disaster! 9:11-14
 - F2 Because of Israel's idolatry at Gilgal, He will drive them out among the nations! 9:15-17
 - G1 God's hatred of Israel's participation at Gilgal's fertility cult 9:15a
 - G2 God's determination to drive his "wife," Israel, from His house 9:15b
 - G3 God's determination to dry up Israel's productivity 9:16
 - G4 Hosea's prediction of international dispersion 9:17
 - E2 Israel as a degenerate, self-absorbed vine whose false worship is devoted to destruction! 10:1-2
 - F1 In Israel's prosperity, she built false centers of worship 10:1
 - F2 Yahweh's intention to destroy Israel's false centers of worship 10:2
- D6 Because of her dependence on her false worship and her king: Israel, swearing falsely, depending on her false worship and her king, shall be deprived of both in Assyria! 10:3-10
 - E1 Israel's predicted deprivation of a king because of her failure to fear Yahweh 10:3
 - E2 Israel's agricultural judgment for failure to keep her legal contracts 10:4
 - E3 Israel's fear and mourning over the Assyrian looting of her golden calves in Bethel 10:5-6a

- E4 Israel's shame over its abortive counsel in courting Assyrian favor 10:6b
- E5 Israel and its king to be cut off: 10:7
- E6 The judgment against Israel's centers of false worship 10:8
- E7 The judgment for the sin of Gibeah 10:9
- E8 Judgment by Gentile invasion 10:10
- D7 Because she has sown evil: Because Israel has sown evil, she will reap a judgment of injustice -- Moreover, she has trusted in her military might; therefore she shall be defeated in battle 10:11-15
 - E1 Israel and Judah to be disciplined with arduous labor -- hardship in exile 10:11
 - E2 The call to repent, sowing a crop of righteousness 10:12
 - E3 The tragic harvest of Israel's sowing a crop of evil 10:13-
 - F1 Injustice, because of her wickedness 10:13a
 - F2 The rise of a great tumult because of her reliance upon her own military might 10:13b-14a
 - F3 The destruction of Israel's fortresses 10:14b
 - F4 The demise of Israel's king 10:15
- D8 Because of her failure to return God's love: Because of Israel's failure to return God's love in Egypt, God will abandon her to Assyria! 11:1-7
 - E1 God's loving care for Israel, calling him out of Egypt, even though Israel was unaware and unreciprocal 11:1-4
 - F1 God's love for Israel in Egypt 11:1
 - F2 Israel's incessant worship of the Baals 11:2
 - F3 God's frustration at Israel's ignorance of His tender love and care 11:3-4

- E2 God will not return Israel to Egypt, but in judgment will lead him to Assyria: 11:5-7
 - F1 God's judgment -- consignment of Israel to Assyria 11:5
 - F2 God's process -- devastating invasion 11:6
 - F3 God's reason -- Israel's rejection of Him 11:7
- C3 The Compassion in the Sentence: God's Compassionate promise to restore Israelis from all directions back to the land of promise! 11:8-11
 - D1 God's undying, compassionate love for Israel! 11:8
 - D2 God's resolve not to destroy Israel in wrath 11:9
 - D3 Yahweh's future authoritative call for Israel to return to Him! 11:10a
 - D4 The God-fearing return of Yahweh's sons! 11:10b-11a
 - D5 Yahweh's settling them in homes in Israel! 11:11b

B3 Yahweh's Lawsuit against Israel Concluded 11:12 - 14:9

- C1 The Indictment Issued 11:12 12:11
 - D1 Prologue -- Israel's deceit and Judah's unruliness 11:12
 - D2 The indictment delineated: Vain existence; deceit and violence; reliance upon Gentile nations for security 12:1
 - D3 The indictment stated: Yahweh's dispute with Judah and Israel (see also 4:1) 12:2
 - D4 The indictment expanded 12:3-11
 - E1 Jacob's pre-natal fraternal jousting 12:3
 - E2 Jacob's adult wrestling with God 12:4-5
 - E3 The prophet's call to return 12:6
 - E4 Deceit in business 12:7-8
 - E5 Judgment coming: Reduction of standard of living! 12:9

- E6 Israel's persistence in ungodly worship notwithstanding God's speech through prophets 12:10-11
 - F1 God's speech through prophets 12:10
 - F2 Israel's persistence in ungodly worship 12:11

C2 The Sentence Decreed! 12:12 - 13:16

- D1 God's consignment of Israel back to reproach because of national guilt! 12:12-14
 - E1 Jacob's humble, reproachful beginnings 12:12
 - E2 Yahweh's calling of Israel from Egypt through Moses 12:13
 - E3 Yahweh's angry consignment of Israel back to reproach 12:14
- D2 Ephraim's former power will be diminished because of national idolatry! 13:1-3 (Hosea 13 NNAS)
 - E1 Ephraim's former exalted position in Israel 13:1a
 - E2 Ephraim's lead in idolatry 13:1b-2
 - E3 Israel's transitory success is doomed 13:3
- D3 Yahweh's replacing his former care for Israel with fierce judgment! 13:4-8
 - E1 Yahweh's long-standing status as Israel's compassionate God 13:4-5
 - E2 Israel's proud forgetting of Yahweh 13:6
 - E3 Yahweh's determination to attack Israel as would a ravenous predator 13:7-8
- D4 Israel's rejection of God's help to rely upon its human kings, who cannot save her from Divine judgment! 13:9-11
 - E1 The self-destructiveness of Israel's rejection of Yahweh 13:9
 - E2 The inability of Israel's king to save her 13:10
 - E3 Yahweh's sovereign displeasure with Israel's king 13:11

- D5 Doom for unrepentant Ephraim cannot be avoided! 13:12-14
 - E1 The complete documentation of Israel's sin 13:12
 - E2 The folly of Israel's delay of repentance 13:13
 - E3 Death and Sheol are Israel's unavoidable destiny 13:14
- D6 Samaria's present prosperity will be tragically trashed! 13:15-16
 - E1 Invasion from the east -- Yahweh's drying up of Israel's prosperity 13:15
 - E2 Samaria's guilt in rebelling against God 13:16a
 - E3 The predicted slaughter of even pregnant women and little children 13:16b

C3 The Restoration Promised 14

- D1 The prophet's call to repentance -- the call for Israel to return to Yahweh her God 14:1-3
 - E1 The prophet's call for Israel to return to Yahweh 14:1
 - E2 The prophet's recommended prayer 14:2-3
 - F1 Asking for removal of sin 14:2b
 - F2 Enabling praise
 - F3 Confessing the bankruptcy of relying on Assyria 14:3
 - F4 Confessing the bankruptcy of relying on military might
 - F5 Vowing to abort all idolatry
 - F6 Affirming trust in Yahweh's sovereign compassion
- D2 God's promise to heal Israel's apostasy and restore her blessings! 14:4-9
 - E1 God's promise to heal and restore 14:4-7
 - F1 His altered demeanor toward Israel: Anger to love 14:4
 - F2 His renewed blessing of Israel 14:5-7
 - E2 God's plea with Ephraim that He, not idols, is the source of her blessings 14:8

- E3 Hosea's closing challenge to the wise to walk in the ways of Yahweh 14:9
 - F1 His exhortation to understand
 - F2 His assertion of the rightness of Yahweh's ways
 - F3 His conviction that the righteous will walk in Yahweh's ways
 - F4 His conviction that the wicked will not

Analysis of HOSEA
Prepared by James T. Bartsch
November, 1999, updated October, 2019

Published Online by WordExplain.com Email Contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com

Scripture taken from the *NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE* ®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by the Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)