

## How Deep Is Your Love? The Book of Hosea

Hosea means “salvation” which is what God wants for Israel. Hosea began his work as a prophet to the ten northern tribes of Israel during Jeroboam II’s reign. (790-739 BC). King Uzziah ruled Judah, southern Israel, at that time. Hosea served faithfully until around 715 BC. His ministry revealed the love God has for the Israelites and offers to us.

### Allow God’s love to reveal and heal the broken nature of our lives. Hosea 1

Hosea 1:2-3: *“When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, ‘Go, take to yourself a wife of harlotry and have children of harlotry; for the land commits flagrant harlotry, forsaking the LORD.’ So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.”*

- **The broken life:** 2 Chronicles 26, Hosea 13:6  
**Three children:**  
**Jezreel**= A scattering and disobedience to God’s commands. Hosea 1:4-5  
**Lo ruhamah**= “she is not loved” We do not experience God’s love. Hosea 1:6  
**Lo ammi** = “not my people” God seems absent from my life. Hosea 1:9

Sinful failures Hosea confronts: social injustice (12:7), violent crime (4:2; 6:9; 12:1), religious hypocrisy (6:6), political revolt (7:3–7), foreign alliances (7:11; 8:9), selfish arrogance (13:6), and spiritual ingratitude (7:15)

- **The healed life:** Israel will be restored as “sons of the living God.” Hosea 1:10-11

### Expect God’s love to discipline and entice us to return to Him. Hosea 2

- **God’s discipline:** Hosea 2:1-13
- **God’s enticement:** Hosea 2:14-23. Entice for *new dating* (2:14-17), *a new covenant* (2:18-20), *a new marriage* (2:19-20), and *a new blessing* (2:21-23)

Hosea 2:14 *“Therefore, behold, I will **allure** her, Bring her into the wilderness And speak kindly to her.”*  
**“allure”** = tender seductive speech. Judges 16:5

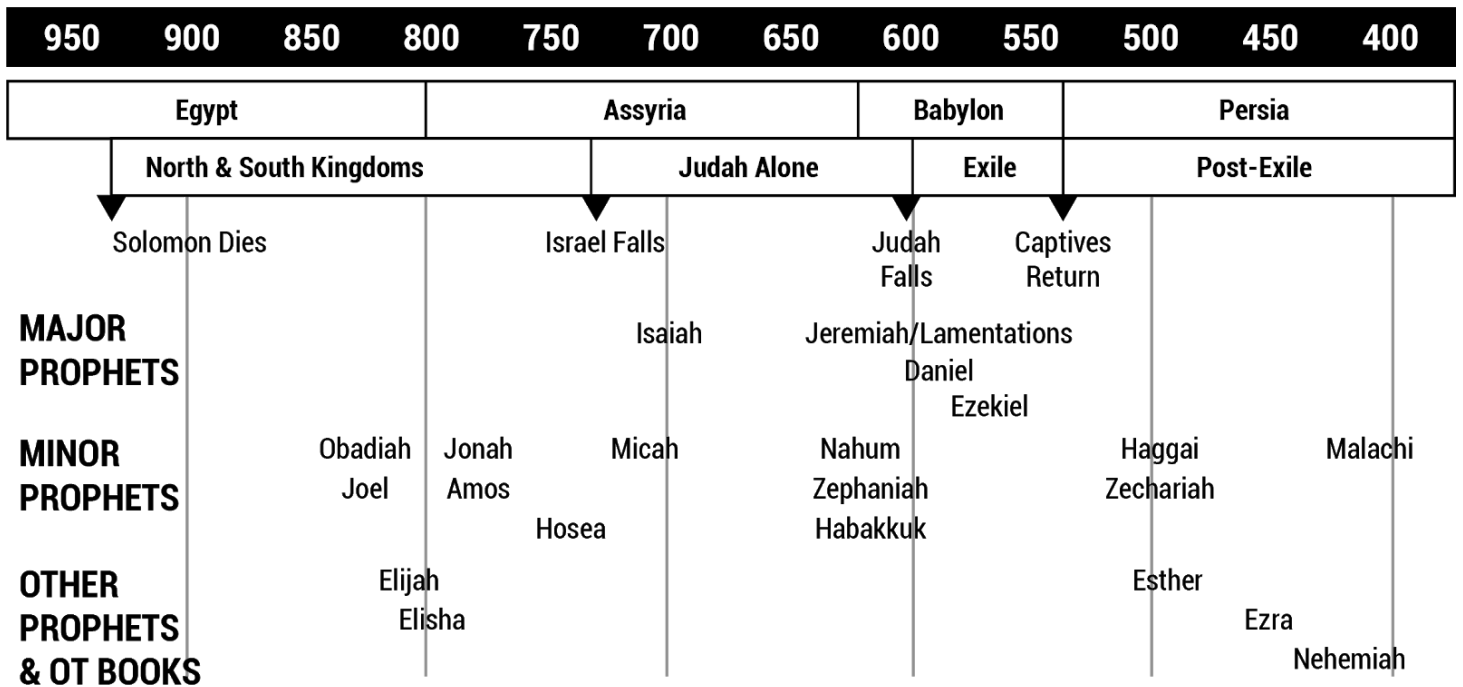
Hosea 2:19-20 *“I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and in justice In lovingkindness and in compassion, And I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness. Then you will know the LORD.”*

**What do these verses teach you about God’s “alluring words” of love?** 2 Corinthians 11:2; John 3:16; Zephaniah 3:17; 1 John 4:19; 1 John 3:1; Jeremiah 31:3; Ephesians 2:4-5; Romans 8:35-39

### Trust God’s love to redeem us from our brokenness, and enjoy His love & presence. Hosea 3

Hosea 3:1-3 *“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...So I bought her for myself for fifteen shekels of silver...Then I said to her, ‘You shall stay (dwell) with me for many days. You shall not play the harlot, nor shall you have a man; so I will also be toward you.’ ”*

**What do these verses teach you about God’s redeeming love?** Romans 5:8; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Galatians 4:5; Revelation 5:9; Isaiah 61:10



## Next Steps:

**JOIN A LIFEGROUP:** LifeGroups are ongoing small group communities that gather together throughout the week to CONNECT in a smaller setting, GROW together in our faith, and REACH out together to our community. To get involved or for more information, contact Connections + LifeGroups Pastor, Robert Carter, at [rcarter@calvarylife.org](mailto:rcarter@calvarylife.org), or indicate "LifeGroups" on The Card (located in the chair rack in the seat in front of you). [calvarylife.org/lifegroups](http://calvarylife.org/lifegroups)

## In Response:

**COMMUNION:** Communion is a "meal" for believers in Jesus Christ to help us give thanks and remember His death on the cross for the forgiveness of sins. The matzah bread represents the body of Christ given for us. The cup of juice represents the blood of Christ that was shed to pay the price for our sins. We are called to examine ourselves before taking communion (Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-34). We typically pass communion elements the first Sunday of the month. Most other weeks, communion is available at tables around the room after the sermon.

**GIVING:** The offering is received during each Sunday service. This is a way to express a wholehearted trust in God and worship Him through giving. It is also an act of obedience to God that helps free us from money having mastery over us. Tithing is a biblical command of 10% as a baseline of giving, but the New Testament calls us as followers of Jesus to give even more. Our prayer is that you plan ahead to give purposefully and joyfully to God, helping to further ministry locally and globally in Jesus' name. Discover ways to give on the front of the bulletin or [calvarylife.org/give](http://calvarylife.org/give)

**PRAYER POINTS:** These locations at the front right and left of the Worship Center will have people available to pray with you during the time of singing after the sermon and after the service as well. These people are excited to pray with you about anything in your life, including praying to tell Jesus that you believe in Him as God and trust Him for salvation. They will also pray for any health needs, stresses, worries, family members, temptations or anything else.

**PRAYER ROOM:** The Prayer Room is located at the front right of the Worship Center Auditorium through the doorway behind the Prayer Point. This is a quiet space that you can go to at anytime during the service to be able to pray and reflect on what God is doing in your heart.