



PRECEPT
UPON
PRECEPT®

English Standard Version

*A Love That
Will Not
Let Me Go*

A STUDY OF HOSEA

PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®
English Standard Version
KINGS AND PROPHETS SERIES
Course 8
A LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO
A STUDY OF HOSEA

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HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY; ARTHUR, DAVID; DE LACY, PETE

How to Study Your Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 1994/2010

The New Inductive Study Bible—English Standard Version

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2013

Hebrew Word Study Tools

RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

GAEBELIEN, FRANK E.

The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 7

Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishers, 1990

GARRET, D. A.

The New American Commentary

Nashville, Tennessee: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1997

KEIL, C. F.; DELITZSCH, F.

Commentary on the Old Testament

Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers Inc., 1996

WALVOORD, JOHN F., ZUCK, ROY B., EDS.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures

Wheaton, Illinois: Victor Books, 1983-c1985

RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

Logos Bible Software

Powerful search engines and up to 4,000 electronic Bible study resources (commentaries, lexicons, Bible dictionaries etc.) make it fast and easy to do simple and complex searches of multiple sources, then pull materials together for orderly presentation—excellent for word and topical studies based on English or original Hebrew and Greek. Available at www.logos.com.



BEFORE YOU BEGIN WE WANT YOU TO KNOW. . .

Beloved, thank you for joining us in the eighth of our ten-course study in the Kings and Prophets series, *A Love That Will Not Let Me Go*. How we pray that this study of Hosea will help you understand the wonder of God's covenant love to all His covenant people. Remember, the Old Testament was written for our instruction, hope, and encouragement (1 Corinthians 10:11; Romans 15:4).

If you're new to this series, it's important for you to know that the Old Testament books we're studying are a mix of history and concurrent prophecy. We designed this series to give you a full picture of events in Israel during a specific period of history.

While we want you to have the full picture of these times, we also want you to be able to separate out the writings of the prophets should you desire. So we divided this series into ten separate courses. This and the fact that the course does not demand an overwhelming commitment should encourage newcomers to join us without hesitation. We trust that you are about our Father's business recruiting others to study God's Word for themselves!

Remember, Beloved: God put sixty-six books into His Book. There is a purpose for each one and we need to study each and every one. To ignore the Word of God is to ignore God, which is the height of pride. The Bible is *the Word* of the Creator of the heavens and the earth.

God has spoken, and what He has spoken is absolute truth. He told us we're to live by every word which comes from His mouth (Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4). Therefore we must not neglect the Word of God or prefer the words of men (books authored by human beings) over the very words of God. The content of each book of the Bible is critical to our lives; otherwise, God would not have included it in His eternal Word.

You're doing what you ought to be doing and we're proud of you for disciplining yourself for the purpose of godliness, for adding to your faith, knowledge—the knowledge of the one and only true God, His ways, His history, His commandments, His ordinances and precepts for life.

It's our prayer that you will see how critically relevant Hosea is to our times and to your life so that you'll confidently know and understand that He loves you with a love that will not let you go. May this love cause you to keep His commandments and honor Him for Who He truly is.

How we look forward to your stories about how God uses these courses to teach you more of Who He is, to conform you more into His Son's image, and to prepare you to be the vessel of righteousness He desires to use for the furtherance of His kingdom. And how we would love to see you face-to-face at one of our training workshops, study courses, tours, or conferences!

Blessings untold,

Kay Arthur for all the Precept Staff



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FIRST-TIMERS

Welcome to Precept Upon Precept Inductive Bible studies. We're excited that you'll be studying with us! Inductive Bible study draws you into personal interaction with God through His Word so that your beliefs are based on a prayerful observation and understanding of the Scriptures—truth that will transform your life. Studying this way is summed up in the words of the psalmist: “for You Yourself have taught me” (Psalm 119:102). May the Lord bless you richly as you delve into the treasures of His Word.

The following will be helpful to you as you begin your studies:

OBSERVING THE TEXT

In the lessons that follow, you'll be asked to mark key words or phrases on a particular passage using Observation Worksheets.

- Key words or phrases unlock your understanding of the text. Marking them distinctively with colors or symbols helps you quickly locate the word or phrase, see how it's used and how often.
- It's advantageous to keep markings simple; colors and color combinations are easiest least cluttering.
- You'll find suggestions on the back cover of your Precept book; however, colors and symbols are your choice.
- When you have several words or phrases to mark, it's helpful to read the chapter more than once, marking a couple of words each time.
- It's also helpful to make a bookmark (e.g., an index card) and list all the key words, marking them the way you want to mark them in the text.

FILLING IN THE AT A GLANCE CHART

As you finish observing a chapter, you'll be asked to record its theme (main subject) on an **At a Glance** chart specifically designed for the book you're studying. This chart provides space to list each chapter's theme and places for recording other pertinent information on the book. When completed, this chart provides a synopsis of the book at a glance.

We have three sources that will show you how to do the above and more (all available at www.precept.org or by calling 800-763-8280):

How to Study Your Bible by Kay Arthur, David Arthur, and Pete DeLacy: Chapter 2, “Getting the Big Picture.”



The New Inductive Study Bible (NISB). See “How to Use the Inductive Study Approach” and “A System for Marking Key Words . . . Throughout Your Bible.”

Discover the Bible for Yourself by Kay Arthur, “Observation.”

WORD STUDIES

You’ll find out how to do word studies by reading the chapter, “It’s All Greek to Me,” in *How to Study Your Bible*.

There are many helpful computer programs. We highly recommend Logos Bible Software’s wide range of products.

We’re so thankful you’ve joined us. You’re about to join hundreds of thousands in an exciting adventure that will help you discover truth for yourself in a way you’ve never done before. Your life will be transformed and strengthened through the Word of God.

However, we want you to remember that it takes time and practice to make these study skills “second nature.” And it does not come without spiritual warfare. The only offensive weapon the child of God has is the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God. You need to sharpen this sword and not let anyone or anything discourage you. Precept is not difficult; it simply takes time and discipline, but that’s what discipleship is about!

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, call your Precept Leader for help. We are sure he/she will help you or connect you with another student who can. We also want to urge you to take our training workshops. They will teach you basic inductive study skills and give you an opportunity to practice them. There are also workshops to help prepare you to lead Precept should God so direct. You can find out more about the training workshops by going online to www.precept.org.

Blessings, Beloved. Welcome to the Precept family.

Remember, you too can say with the psalmist, “I do not turn aside from your rules, for you have taught me.”



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PRECEPT
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*A Love That Will Not
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Lesson 1, Hosea 1–3

LESSON ONE

A Love That Will Not Let Me Go

THIS LESSON INCORPORATES The following located in the Appendix:
Observation Worksheets of Hosea 1–3
“Hosea at a Glance”
Jezreel Valley map
“The Rulers and Prophets of Hosea’s Time”
Observation Worksheet of Ezekiel 16:1-43, 60-63
Cross-references

How much and how long will You love me, my God?

Surviving the trauma of fractured relationships, the frailty and fickleness of human love make the answer to this question a matter of the greatest security and peace. The study you’re about to embark on could not be more timely or needful.

DAY ONE


If you begin each day’s study with prayer, crying out to the God of heaven for insight, wisdom, and understanding of the pertinence of this book, then God will meet with you in a very profound and personal way. It’s His delight to answer the cry of your heart.

1. Remember the Bible is God’s book, His words—recorded word-for-word under the supervision of the Holy Spirit. So come to God in childlike trust, dear disciple, and listen accordingly. As you learn more and more of His Word, more and more you’ll come to know your God better and watch with amazement and delight as Scripture interprets Scripture and the Spirit teaches you how to live.

Let’s begin our study by reading your Observation Worksheets on Hosea 1–3. Using a pencil, underline every reference to *wife*, *husband*, *mother*. Then write down your first impression of what you think these three chapters are about.

2. Now let’s begin our observations of Hosea 1. Mark the following key words along with their synonyms and pronouns. (As we suggest in other courses, you might want to list these words on a card, mark them as you will mark them in the text, then use the card as a bookmark.)



- a. *the Lord first spoke, the Lord said*
 - b. *whoredom, whoring, play the whore*
 - c. *I will*
 - d. *mercy* (If it's a negative phrase, put a slash through it like this \.)
 - e. *Israel* (the Northern Kingdom—capital, Samaria)
 - f. *Judah* (the Southern Kingdom—capital, Jerusalem)
 - g. *the land* given by God to Israel by covenant as an everlasting possession
 - h. *call his (her) name* _____ and include the name in the marking.
3. Read Hosea 1 again and:
- a. Mark references to time. Many of us do this with a green clock like this .
 - b. Double underline geographical references in green. Places are as important in the Word of God as time. You will find a map of the Jezreel Valley in the Appendix.
4. What do you learn from marking “days” in Hosea 1:1? *When* did the Word of the Lord come to Hosea? The answer will give you a clearer understanding of the timing of Hosea’s messages.
5. Let’s see when the kings mentioned in Hosea 1:1 ruled.
- a. Look at the chart “The Rulers and Prophets of Hosea’s Time,” in the Appendix. Locate the names of the kings mentioned in verse 1, then list them under the kingdoms they ruled over with the years of their reigns (as recorded on the chart). (If you’ve been doing our Kings and Prophets Series, this is all review for you. Remember, the more you review and repeat things out loud, the more you’ll remember them.)

THE KINGS OF HOSEA 1:1

Kings of Judah	Years ruled	Kings of Israel	Years ruled



- b. Now, using the same chart, what were the names of the kings of the Northern Kingdom (Israel) who ruled during the reigns of the Southern kings listed in Hosea 1:1?
- c. “The Rulers and Prophets of Hosea’s Time” chart shows that Hosea was a prophet to the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Note the names of the prophets to the Southern Kingdom during Hosea’s time.

6. Great start! You now have the historical setting of Hosea.

Thank you, Beloved, for joining “Preceptors” all over the world who are hungry to discover truth for themselves so they know that they know. What a testimony this bears to the Word of God! Your willingness to discipline your time shows you are serious about knowing Him by studying His Word. Your actions say, “Lord, I believe that I am to live by every word that comes from Your mouth.” That, Beloved, is huge!

DAY TWO

1. Today we are going to dig a little deeper into Hosea 1:1-9. One of the phrases you marked yesterday was *the Lord first spoke* and *the Lord said*. Look at each place you marked these synonymous phrases. How many times did the Lord speak to Hosea in this first chapter?
2. Now, asking the 5 Ws and H: who, what, when, where, why and how, list everything you learn about God’s messages to Hosea in the order they are spoken by God. Watch the *I wills* of God you marked.



3. Let's stop for a moment and think about God's command to Hosea to name his first son Jezreel, "God sows."
 - a. What were the two reasons given for naming his son Jezreel, and when would God sow?

 - b. Now look at *when* God put an end to the kingdom of Israel. Consult the chart "The Rulers and Prophets of Hosea's Time," and record the year the last part of the Northern Kingdom was taken into captivity. _____
 - c. Second Kings 15:27-29 describes the first captivity of the Northern Kingdom which occurred about 733 B.C. Read it to become familiar with the events. This displacement left Ephraim alone in the Northern Kingdom.
 - d. Now read 2 Kings 17:5-6, 18, 22-23. These verses sum up the Northern Kingdom's final captivity into Assyria. Second Kings 17:7-18 tells you *why* God did this.
 - e. Now put on your thinking caps! In light of all you observed, was the birth of Jezreel before or after the Assyrian captivity of Israel?

4. *Whoredom* is a key word used from Hosea 1 all the way into the ninth chapter. You'll want to learn everything you can from God's use of this word since it is used often in connection with His people. What do you learn from marking *whoredom* in Hosea 1?



5. Hosea 1:2 tells us the *why* of God's command to Hosea. God often had His prophets do something symbolic. Let's look up only two instances out of many. See what each was told to do and why. Be succinct.

a. Isaiah 20:1-4

b. Jeremiah 13:1-11 (Jeremiah and Ezekiel's prophecies focus on the Babylonian captivity of Judah but also stretch out to the millennial kingdom.)

6. Like the prophets of old there are times when we have opportunities to show people what God is all about, the way we live picturing truth about God. We do this when we walk in obedience in the midst of trial, suffering, and need. There are also times when God calls us to set aside one of the freedoms He gives us, in order to be a more effective witness, or to prevent us from being a stumbling block to the people we're seeking to reach for Christ.

In *our* times of egocentric philosophy ("*it's all about me*") creeping into the church, it's vital we understand that sometimes we have to sacrifice, even as Hosea, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and others did. Look up the following verses, note what they say, and then think about them. Is God saying anything to your heart? Any application to be made?

a. 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

b. Romans 14:13-21



c. Romans 15:1-3

Well, Beloved, this is enough for today. Since Hosea 1:10 is the beginning of Hosea 2 in the Hebrew Bible, we're going to wait until tomorrow to look at these verses, which fit better with the content of Hosea 2.

Our prayer for you and for us, Beloved, is that our lives will be living testimonies of the One whose name we bear. May the message of His "so great a salvation" be seen fleshed out in us.

DAY THREE

Are you ready to hang on to God's every word? To discover God's purpose in including Hosea's message in His book? To be spoken to, in truth, by the Spirit of God?

Good! Your heavenly Bridegroom, who sits right now at the right hand of the Father, asked the Father, when He was on earth, to sanctify you through His Word. Tell Him you want to be sanctified—to be holy as He is holy—cleansed by the washing of the water of His Word.

1. Begin your study by reading Hosea 1 and 2 straight through. Then since the Hebrew Bible starts Hosea 2 at 1:10, begin your observations at Hosea 1:10 and move all the way through Hosea 2.
 - a. Add *covenant* to your bookmark. Because covenant is an important theme in the Bible, it's always wise to mark this word wherever you come across it in your Bible.
 - b. When you mark references to time, mark *in that day* in a special way. You can still use a clock but give the phrase a special embellishment. As you will see, it truly deserves it!
2. Now look at what you've observed from Hosea 1:10 through chapter 2. Note what's being said in each of the following segments and summarize the content of each.
 - a. Hosea 1:10-2:1



b. Hosea 2:2-7

c. Hosea 2:8-13

d. Hosea 2:14-23

3. Quite possibly after observing Hosea 1 and 2 you've noticed a pattern in God's message through Hosea. First God deals with Israel's sin, then the consequences of the sin, and then their future. This is typical with other prophets.
4. Keeping this pattern in mind, read Hosea 1 and 2 again. Then think about what this tells you about God. God has said some hard things to Israel (called her a whore), but is He finished with her? If not, what does this tell you about God's dealings with *you*?



2. Now, summarize what you learn from this chapter about God and about Jerusalem (Israel). Be as brief as possible.

3. Do you see similarities between Ezekiel 16 and Hosea 1-2? If so, list them.

You've done well, faithful one. We'll call it a day. Tomorrow we'll see how this applies to us.

DAY
FIVE

We've come to our final chapter of study, Hosea 3. It's short but oh so sweet once you understand what God is saying. Ask Him to open your eyes so that you will see the wonder of His gracious love.

1. Observe Hosea 3.
 - a. Again, don't miss marking time. As a matter of fact, note the first word in verse 3.
 - b. Mark *even as*—a phrase that introduces important comparisons.
 - c. Mark *return*, *seek*, and *love* distinctively. Add these to your bookmark.
2. List the order of events in this chapter. Then, if there are parallel events with the sons of Israel, record them in the comparison column.

Hosea and Gomer

Comparison with Israel

Hosea and Gomer	Comparison with Israel



8. Let's dig a little deeper. What are you doing if you're acting immorally *in any way*? What does God call this? (When we say "acting immorally in any way," we're talking about God's definition of immorality (not society's)—no sexual activity outside of marriage. If you're not married, all sexual activity is out of bounds.¹)

9. If you've sinned against God, is all lost? Was all lost for Israel? What did you learn from marking the *I will's* of Hosea 2:14-23 and from observing Hosea 3?

How can these messages be applied to you and to others? Immense pain comes from adultery—both immediate and long-term consequences. What is God's heart toward those who are physically or spiritually unfaithful? Is there hope for reconciliation and redemption? What does it take?

10. Finally, Beloved, in light of what you observed, how much and how long will God love you? And what is your prayer?

Please feel free to consult your commentaries on Hosea.

¹ Kay Arthur has written a very comprehensive book on the subject, *The Truth About Sex*, published by Waterbrook Press. It has been translated into several languages already and is being used not only in churches but in secular schools and universities, among teens and adults. What makes *The Truth About Sex* so powerful is that you mark scriptures that are in the book text, so that you see for yourself exactly what God says. Consequently many lives are being impacted. People are saying, "I didn't know the Bible says this. Why didn't someone tell me sooner?"



HOSEA 1

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- THE** word of the LORD that came to Hosea, the son of Beeri, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.
- 2** When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, “Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD.”
 - 3** So he went and took Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.
 - 4** And the LORD said to him, “Call his name Jezreel, for in just a little while I will punish the house of Jehu for the blood of Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of the house of Israel.
 - 5** “And on that day I will break the bow of Israel in the Valley of Jezreel.”
 - 6** She conceived again and bore a daughter. And the LORD said to him, “Call her name No Mercy, for I will no more have mercy on the house of Israel, to forgive them at all.
 - 7** “But I will have mercy on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the LORD their God. I will not save them by bow or by sword or by war or by horses or by horsemen.”
 - 8** When she had weaned No Mercy, she conceived and bore a son.
 - 9** And the LORD said, “Call his name Not My People, for you are not my people, and I am not your God.”
 - 10** Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered. And in the place where it was said to them, “You are not my people,” it shall be said to them, “Children of the living God.”



- 11 And the children of Judah and the children of Israel shall be gathered together, and they shall appoint for themselves one head. And they shall go up from the land, for great shall be the day of Jezreel.



HOSEA 2

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

SAY to your brothers, “You are my people,” and to your sisters, “You have received mercy.”

- 2 “Plead with your mother, plead—
for she is not my wife,
and I am not her husband—
that she put away her whoring from her face,
and her adultery from between her breasts;
- 3 lest I strip her naked
and make her as in the day she was born,
and make her like a wilderness,
and make her like a parched land,
and kill her with thirst.
- 4 “Upon her children also I will have no mercy,
because they are children of whoredom.
- 5 “For their mother has played the whore;
she who conceived them has acted shamefully.
For she said, ‘I will go after my lovers,
who give me my bread and my water,
my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.’
- 6 “Therefore I will hedge up her way with thorns,
and I will build a wall against her,
so that she cannot find her paths.
- 7 “She shall pursue her lovers
but not overtake them,
and she shall seek them
but shall not find them.



Then she shall say,
‘I will go and return to my first husband,
for it was better for me then than now.’

8 “And she did not know
that it was I who gave her
the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and who lavished on her silver and gold,
which they used for Baal.

9 “Therefore I will take back
my grain in its time,
and my wine in its season,
and I will take away my wool and my flax,
which were to cover her nakedness.

10 “Now I will uncover her lewdness
in the sight of her lovers,
and no one shall rescue her out of my hand.

11 “And I will put an end to all her mirth,
her feasts, her new moons, her Sabbaths,
and all her appointed feasts.

12 “And I will lay waste her vines and her fig trees,
of which she said,
‘These are my wages,
which my lovers have given me.’

I will make them a forest,
and the beasts of the field shall devour them.

13 “And I will punish her for the feast days of the Baals
when she burned offerings to them
and adorned herself with her ring and jewelry,
and went after her lovers
and forgot me, declares the LORD.



- 14 “Therefore, behold, I will allure her,
and bring her into the wilderness,
and speak tenderly to her.
- 15 “And there I will give her her vineyards
and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope.
And there she shall answer as in the days of her youth,
as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.
- 16 “And in that day, declares the LORD, you will call me ‘My Husband,’
and no longer will you call me ‘My Baal.’
- 17 “For I will remove the names of the Baals from her mouth, and they
shall be remembered by name no more.
- 18 “And I will make for them a covenant on that day with the beasts of the
field, the birds of the heavens, and the creeping things of the ground.
And I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land, and I will
make you lie down in safety.
- 19 “And I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in
righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy.
- 20 “I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the LORD.
- 21 “And in that day I will answer, declares the LORD,
I will answer the heavens,
and they shall answer the earth,
22 and the earth shall answer the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and they shall answer Jezreel,
23 and I will sow her for myself in the land.
And I will have mercy on No Mercy,
and I will say to Not My People, ‘You are my people’;
and he shall say, ‘You are my God.’ ”



HOSEA 3

Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme _____

- AND the LORD said to me, “Go again, love a woman who is loved by another man and is an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the children of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love cakes of raisins.”
- 2 So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and a homer and a lethech of barley.
 - 3 And I said to her, “You must dwell as mine for many days. You shall not play the whore, or belong to another man; so will I also be to you.”
 - 4 For the children of Israel shall dwell many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or pillar, without ephod or household gods.
 - 5 Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God, and David their king, and they shall come in fear to the LORD and to his goodness in the latter days.



HOSEA AT A GLANCE

Book Theme:

	Message Themes	Chapter Themes
Author:		1
		2
Date:		3
		4
Purpose:		5
		6
Key Words:		7
		8
		9
		10
		11
		12
		13
		14



EZEKIEL 16:1-43, 60-63

AGAIN the word of the LORD came to me:

- 2 “Son of man, make known to Jerusalem her abominations,
- 3 and say, Thus says the Lord GOD to Jerusalem: Your origin and your birth are of the land of the Canaanites; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite.
- 4 “And as for your birth, on the day you were born your cord was not cut, nor were you washed with water to cleanse you, nor rubbed with salt, nor wrapped in swaddling cloths.
- 5 “No eye pitied you, to do any of these things to you out of compassion for you, but you were cast out on the open field, for you were abhorred, on the day that you were born.
- 6 “And when I passed by you and saw you wallowing in your blood, I said to you in your blood, ‘Live!’ I said to you in your blood, ‘Live!’
- 7 “I made you flourish like a plant of the field. And you grew up and became tall and arrived at full adornment. Your breasts were formed, and your hair had grown; yet you were naked and bare.
- 8 “When I passed by you again and saw you, behold, you were at the age for love, and I spread the corner of my garment over you and covered your nakedness; I made my vow to you and entered into a covenant with you, declares the Lord GOD, and you became mine.
- 9 “Then I bathed you with water and washed off your blood from you and anointed you with oil.
- 10 “I clothed you also with embroidered cloth and shod you with fine leather. I wrapped you in fine linen and covered you with silk.
- 11 “And I adorned you with ornaments and put bracelets on your wrists and a chain on your neck.
- 12 “And I put a ring on your nose and earrings in your ears and a beautiful crown on your head.
- 13 “Thus you were adorned with gold and silver, and your clothing was of fine linen and silk and embroidered cloth. You ate fine flour and honey and oil. You grew exceedingly beautiful and advanced to royalty.



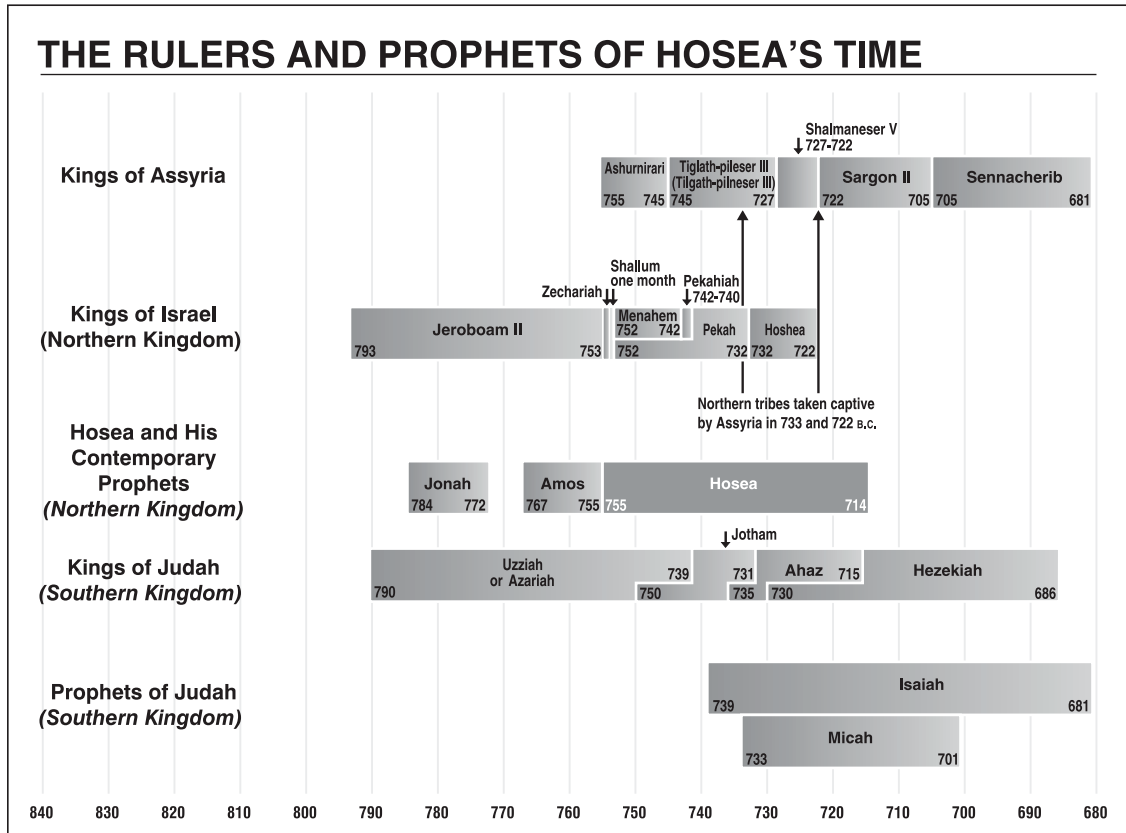
- 14 “And your renown went forth among the nations because of your beauty, for it was perfect through the splendor that I had bestowed on you, declares the Lord GOD.
- 15 “But you trusted in your beauty and played the whore because of your renown and lavished your whorings on any passerby; your beauty became his.
- 16 “You took some of your garments and made for yourself colorful shrines, and on them played the whore. The like has never been, nor ever shall be.
- 17 “You also took your beautiful jewels of my gold and of my silver, which I had given you, and made for yourself images of men, and with them played the whore.
- 18 “And you took your embroidered garments to cover them, and set my oil and my incense before them.
- 19 “Also my bread that I gave you—I fed you with fine flour and oil and honey—you set before them for a pleasing aroma; and so it was, declares the Lord GOD.
- 20 “And you took your sons and your daughters, whom you had borne to me, and these you sacrificed to them to be devoured. Were your whorings so small a matter
- 21 that you slaughtered my children and delivered them up as an offering by fire to them?
- 22 “And in all your abominations and your whorings you did not remember the days of your youth, when you were naked and bare, wallowing in your blood.
- 23 “And after all your wickedness (woe, woe to you! declares the Lord GOD),
- 24 you built yourself a vaulted chamber and made yourself a lofty place in every square.
- 25 “At the head of every street you built your lofty place and made your beauty an abomination, offering yourself to any passerby and multiplying your whoring.

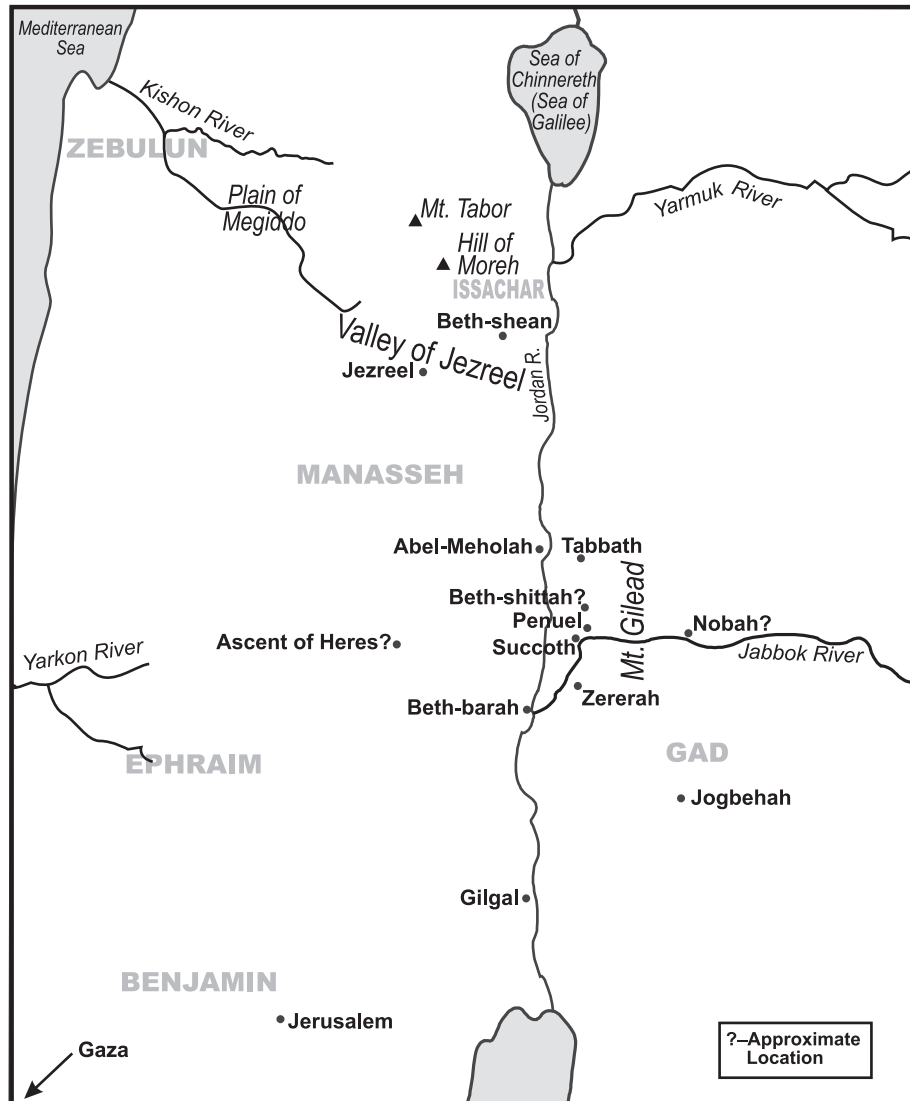


- 26 “You also played the whore with the Egyptians, your lustful neighbors, multiplying your whoring, to provoke me to anger.
- 27 “Behold, therefore, I stretched out my hand against you and diminished your allotted portion and delivered you to the greed of your enemies, the daughters of the Philistines, who were ashamed of your lewd behavior.
- 28 “You played the whore also with the Assyrians, because you were not satisfied; yes, you played the whore with them, and still you were not satisfied.
- 29 “You multiplied your whoring also with the trading land of Chaldea, and even with this you were not satisfied.
- 30 “How sick is your heart, declares the Lord GOD, because you did all these things, the deeds of a brazen prostitute,
- 31 building your vaulted chamber at the head of every street, and making your lofty place in every square. Yet you were not like a prostitute, because you scorned payment.
- 32 “Adulterous wife, who receives strangers instead of her husband!
- 33 “Men give gifts to all prostitutes, but you gave your gifts to all your lovers, bribing them to come to you from every side with your whorings.
- 34 “So you were different from other women in your whorings. No one solicited you to play the whore, and you gave payment, while no payment was given to you; therefore you were different.
- 35 “Therefore, O prostitute, hear the word of the LORD:
- 36 Thus says the Lord GOD, Because your lust was poured out and your nakedness uncovered in your whorings with your lovers, and with all your abominable idols, and because of the blood of your children that you gave to them,
- 37 therefore, behold, I will gather all your lovers with whom you took pleasure, all those you loved and all those you hated. I will gather them against you from every side and will uncover your nakedness to them, that they may see all your nakedness.



- 38 “And I will judge you as women who commit adultery and shed blood are judged, and bring upon you the blood of wrath and jealousy.
- 39 “And I will give you into their hands, and they shall throw down your vaulted chamber and break down your lofty places. They shall strip you of your clothes and take your beautiful jewels and leave you naked and bare.
- 40 “They shall bring up a crowd against you, and they shall stone you and cut you to pieces with their swords.
- 41 “And they shall burn your houses and execute judgments upon you in the sight of many women. I will make you stop playing the whore, and you shall also give payment no more.
- 42 “So will I satisfy my wrath on you, and my jealousy shall depart from you. I will be calm and will no more be angry.
- 43 “Because you have not remembered the days of your youth, but have enraged me with all these things, therefore, behold, I have returned your deeds upon your head, declares the Lord GOD. Have you not committed lewdness in addition to all your abominations?
- 60 yet I will remember my covenant with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish for you an everlasting covenant.
- 61 “Then you will remember your ways and be ashamed when you take your sisters, both your elder and your younger, and I give them to you as daughters, but not on account of the covenant with you.
- 62 “I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall know that I am the LORD,
- 63 that you may remember and be confounded, and never open your mouth again because of your shame, when I atone for you for all that you have done, declares the Lord GOD.”





Jezreel is the name of northern **and** southern cities in Israel. Locate the northern city on the map since this is the one you need to focus on. Look also for the valley of Jezreel. This valley is also called the valley of Armageddon (Har-Magedon) named for the mountains (Har) or city of Megiddo. It is lush, beautiful and green—breathtaking when you look at it from the top of the Tel of Megiddo, one of Solomon’s chariot cities. When Napoleon saw it, he said it was the greatest battlefield he’d seen. It’s awesome to stand there and realize this is where all the nations will someday gather themselves to go to war against Israel and against her God.

