

1. **Intro Story:** Wedding Day Stress
2. **Oracles of Hosea** - 753-715bc (no visions)
 1. **Timespan** - 6 kings within 25 years
 2. **Quote** - "Lack of Stability and Continuity in Governmental Policy":
 3. "The frequent turmoil in the administration of the Kingdom of Israel makes it remarkable that the state survived some two hundred years. Six of the twenty kings died by assassination and a seventh probably did. An eighth died by suicide during a rebellion. A ninth died in battle, and the last was taken prisoner at the fall of Samaria to the Assyrians. So only ten or half of them died a natural death while in power.
 4. Further, Baasha killed "all the house of Jeroboam" when he took power (1 Kings 15:29). Zimri massacred all Elah's relatives and friends (his official circle, 1 Kings 16:11), and Jehu exterminated the princes of Ahab's family (2 Kings 10:1-11) when he revolted and took the throne. These three revolutionaries liquidated nearly all who had been involved in the government and knew how to make it run. Certainly their actions must have severely affected the efficiency of the bureaucracy." - Vos, H. F. (1999). Nelson's new illustrated Bible manners & customs : How the people of the Bible really lived (226). Nashville, Tenn.: T. Nelson Publishers.
3. **Education** - "Present evidence indicates that "by the end of the eighth century Israelite society as a whole was literate." - IBID.
4. **Religious Life** - Thought of Baal and Elohim as one and the same - Archaeological Study Bible
 1. "Their worship involved child sacrifice and gross sensuality. Hosea was appalled by all this and reacted mightily against it.
 2. During this time no commandment of God seemed to be kept. Injustice and oppression were common. All levels of society, including rulers and priests, were involved. The situation was pervasive and desperate.

- The divine covenant with Israel was broken by the people.
3. Against this terrible background, Hosea made his appeal. His strong words and obvious anguish become real and understandable when we realize the situation he faced. Hosea's message was the last divine appeal to the northern kingdom of Israel. When the message was unheeded, the resulting catastrophe of 722 B.C. was clearly seen as God's judgment on His people. - ASB
 4. **Outline** - New American Standard Bible
 1. Unfaithful Wife and the Faithful Husband (1-3)
 2. Unfaithful Nation and the Faithful God (4-14)
 1. Israel's Unfaithfulness (4-6:3)
 2. Israel's Punishment (6:4-10:15)
 3. The Lord's Faithful Love (11-14)
 5. **Story** - Hosea's Symbolic Marriage - Hosea 3
 1. "The evils that had overspread the land and permeated all classes of society, had become incurable, and upon Israel was pronounced the dread sentence, "Ephraim is joined to idols: let him alone." Hosea 4:17." - EGW - RH 2/5/1914
 2. Children's Names meaningful - 1:8-9
 3. Temple Prostitution called out - Hosea
 4. Modern Film - "Amazing Love" The Story of Hosea
 6. Gospel Appeal of the Prophet -
 1. **Text:** "'Come, let us return to the LORD. For He has torn us, but He will heal us; He has wounded us, but He will bandage us. "He will revive us after two days; He will raise us up on the third day, That we may live before Him. "So let us know, let us press on to know the LORD. His going forth is as certain as the dawn; And He will come to us like the rain, Like the spring rain watering the earth.'" (Hosea 6:1-3 NAS95)
 7. **Text:** "Listen to the word of the LORD, O sons of Israel, For the LORD has a case against the inhabitants of the land, Because there is no faithfulness or kindness Or

knowledge of God in the land. There is swearing, deception, murder, stealing and adultery. They employ violence, so that bloodshed follows bloodshed.

Therefore the land mourns, And everyone who lives in it languishes Along with the beasts of the field and the birds of the sky, And also the fish of the sea disappear.” (Hosea 4:1–3 NAS95)

8. Gospel Metaphor of a purified bride - 24 Ways to Explain the Gospel -
 1. Jesus promises to cleanse us completely from our sins (Heb. 9:14).
 2. Jesus purifies his people (Titus 2:14).
 3. Jesus' blood purifies us from sin (1 John 1:9).
 4. Jesus did not call us to be impure (1 Thess. 4:7).
 5. We were slaves to impurity (Rom. 6:19).
9. Christ as the New Covenant Bride of His Church - John the baptists' proclamation - John 3:29
5. **Appeal** - Respond to God's Faithfulness as a Husband - Hosea 11:4; 12:5-6; 13:4-6, 14; 14:2, 4, 9
6. When we sin, we sever our relationship with God, breaking our commitment to Him. While all must answer to God for their sins, those who seek God's forgiveness are spared eternal judgment. - Chronological Life Application Study Bible