THE SCROLL OF HOSEA

HOSEA CHAPTER 2



HOSEAS' USE OF THE TENACH

- HOSEA'S MESSAGE, LIKE THOSE OF ISRAEL'S OTHER "WRITING PROPHETS" CANNOT BE UNDERSTOOD IN ISOLATION FROM THE TORAH AND THE BOOKS OF JOSHUA AND JUDGES, BOOKS TO WHICH HOSEA OFTEN ALLUDED. FOR EXAMPLE
- THE PROMISES TO ABRAHAM AWAIT THEIR FINAL FULFILLMENT (HOSEA 1:10 CF GEN 22:17)
- GOD'S DEALINGS WITH JACOB ARE APPLICABLE AND RELEVANT FOR HIS DESCENDANTS (GEN 25:25-26, 2811-16; 29:16-30; 32:24-27; HOSEA 12:1-4, 12)

HOSEAS' USE OF THE TENACH ISRAEL'S BONDAGE IN EGYPT WAS A TYPE OR

- ISRAEL'S BONDAGE IN EGYPT WAS A TYPE OR REPRESENTATION OF HER COMING BONDAGE TO THE ASSYRIANS (HOSE 8:13; 9:3,6)
- THE EXODUS WAS A SIGN OF GOD'S GREAT MERCY AND COMPASSION (HOSEA 11:1; 13:4-6) BUT ALSO AN EVENT THAT SOON WOULD BE REVERSED IN ISRAEL'S EXILE AND CAPTIVITY (HOSEA 1;:5-8; 11:1-5). THIS EVENT WOULD BE REPEATED IN THE NATION'S RESTORATION UNDER THE DAVIDIC KING (HOSEA 1:11; 2:15; 3:5; 11:11; 12:9)
- THE TEN COMMANDMENTS/TORAH WERE THE FUNDAMENTAL

RULES BY WHICH THE NATION WAS TO LIVE AND BY WHICH SHE WOULD BE JUDGED (EX. 20:1-17; HOSEA 4:1-2; 13:4)

HOSEAS' USE OF THE TENACH

- GOD'S COVENANT WITH ISRAEL (HOSEA 8:1-3, 12) WAS A SOURCE OF GREAT BLESSINGS (HOSEA 2:8,18-23; 13:4; 14:4-8) BUT WOULD ALSO BRING CURSES ON THOSE WHO BROKE IT (HOSEA 4:6; 8:1-10 CT. DEUT. 28)
- ISRAEL'S TENDENCY TOWARD APOSTASY WAS REFLECTED IN THE PEOPLE'S IDOLATRY DURING THEIR PERIOD OF DESERT WANDERING AND CONTINUING INTO HOSEA'S DAY (HOS. 9:10; 13:4-6)
- THE CITY OF GIBEAH WAS A NOTABLE EXAMPLE OF WICKEDNESS IN THE PAST (JDG. 19:12-30) AND IN HOSEAS' DAY AS WELL (HOS 10:9)

HOSEAS' USE OF THE TENACH

- SODOM, GOMORRAH, ADMAH AND ZEBOIIM (LOCATION UNCERTAIN) WERE NOTORIOUS EXAMPLES OF GOD'S JUDGMENT (DT. 29:33; HOSE 11:8)
- HOSEA'S ALLUSIONS TO GENESIS THROUGH JUDGES ARE HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT. FIRST, THEY HELP ESTABLISH THE FACT THAT THESE BOOKS HAD ALREADY BEEN WRITTEN BY THE TIME OF HOSEA, IN THE EIGHT CENTURY. SECOND, HOSEA'S CONSTRUAL OF THESE BOOKS HELPS US TO UNDERSTAND EARLY BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION, WHICH IN TURN GIVES US A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF HOW THE NEW TESTAMENT INTERPRETS THE TENACH.

BAAL AND THE FERTILITY

- HOSEA 2 THE WORSHIP OF THE CANAANITE STORM GOD BALL WAS AN OBJECT OF SINGULAR CONDEMNATION BY HOSEA AND OTHER PROPHETS. THE VEHEMENCE OF THE PROPHETIC CONDEMNATION OF THE CULT REFLECTS JUST HOW EXTENSIVE AND PERNICIOUS THE PROBLEM WAS. WE LEARN ABOUT BAAL FIRST THROUGH BIBLICAL TEXTS. EXAMPLES INCLUDE;
- NUMBERS 25 (THE NARRATIVE OF BAAL OF PEOR, SHOWING THE PRMOINCE OF SACRED PROSTITUTION WITH THE CULT)
- 1 KINGS 18 (THE CONTEST INVOLVING ELIJAH AND THE PROPHETS OF BAAL ON MOUNT CARMEL, ILLUSTRATING THE POPULARITY OF THE BAAL CULT AND ITS USE OF (SELF-LACERATION) FOR DEMONSTRATING DEVOTION TO BAAL. REF. LEV. 19:28 IN ANCIENT PAGAN RELIGIONS, TATTOOING WAS OFTEN THOUGHT TO PROTECT THE INDIVIDUAL SO MARKED FROM HARMFUL MAGIC. SOME TATTOOS ALSO INDICATED THAT A PERSON BELONGED TO A CERTAIN GOD OR CULT.

BAAL AND THE FERTILITY

- AND SELF-LACERATION FOR THE DEAD (LEV 19:28) WAS DIRECTED AGAINST SPECIFIC IDOLATROUS PRACTICES, PARTICULARLY EROTIC RELIGIOUS RITES ASSOCIATED WITH THE DEAD. THE TENACH TREATS TATTOOING AND BODILY DISFIGUREMENT AS INHERENTLY PAGAN AND DEPRAVED. (CF DET. 14:1; 1 KING 18:28)
- HOSEA 2 (VS 8 INDICATES THAT THE PEOPLE ASSOCIATED BAAL WITH PROSPERITY AND VV 16-17 SUGGEST THAT MANY PEOPLE IDENTIFIED BAAL AND YAHWEH ALMOST AS ONE AND THE SAME.

BAAL AND THE FERTILITY

THE FACT THAT THE ISRAELITES IDENTIFIED BAAL WITH YAHWEH IS TELLING. ALTHOUGH BAAL WORSHIP, VIEWED FROM A DISTANCE WAS OBVIOUSLY HORRENDOUS THOSE WHO WERE INVOLVED IN IT WERE SO INFLUENCED BY THE DOMINANT CULTURE THAT THEY REMAINED CONVINCED THAT THEY WERE DEVOUT AND ORTHODOX FOLLOWERS OF YHWH, WHEN THEY WERE ALL THE WHILE WORSHIPING BAAL.

• (SEE ARTICLE ON THE SOCIALIST CHURCH)

HOSEA 1:10-11/JEWISH BIBLE 2:1-2

- HOS 1:10 (2:1) YET THE NUMBER OF THE SONS OF ISRAEL WILL BE LIKE THE SAND OF THE SEA, WHICH CANNOT BE MEASURED OR NUMBERED; AND IN THE PLACE WHERE IT IS SAID TO THEM, "YOU ARE NOT MY PEOPLE," IT WILL BE SAID TO THEM, "YOU ARE THE SONS OF THE LIVING GOD."
- HOS 1:11 (2:2) AND THE SONS OF JUDAH AND THE SONS OF ISRAEL WILL BE GATHERED TOGETHER, AND THEY WILL APPOINT FOR THEMSELVES ONE LEADER, AND THEY WILL GO UP FROM THE LAND, FOR GREAT WILL BE THE DAY OF JEZREEL.
- SEE PAGE 12-13 COMMENTARY IN VOL 1 TREI ASAR

HOSEA 1:10-11/JEWISH BIBLE

- NOTE: THEY SHALL FOLLOW THE LEADERSHIP OF THE MESSIAH, THE DESCENDANT OF KING DAVID AND ASEND FROM THE LAND WHERE THEY LIVE IN EXILE TO ERETZ ISRAEL. ALTERNATIVELY, THEIR HEAD WILL BE ELIJAH THE PROPHET WHO WILL LEAD THEM OUT OF EXILE AND PAVE THE WAY FOR THE KINGDOM OF THE MESSIAH. REV. 11; EZEK 40:3; 42:20; ZECH 2:1
- FIRST RETURN FROM BABYLON DURING TIME OF EZRA AND NEHEMIAH, SOME OF THE 10 TRIBES DID RETURN FROM THE NORTH BUT NOT ALL, SOME STAYED IN EXILE AND ASSIMILATED. NT EXAMPLE ANNA FROM TRIBE OF ASHER LUKE 2:36
- SECOND EXILE 70 AD; 2ND RETURN IN 1948 ISRAEL BECAME A NATION ONCE AGAIN.

HOSEA 2:3-4

- HOS 2:3 SAY YOU TO YOUR BROTHERS, 'AMMI' AND TO YOUR SISTERS, 'RUHAMAH'.
- HOS 2:4 CONTEND WITH YOUR MOTHER, CONTEND! FOR SHE IS NOT MY WIFE NOR I HER HUSBAND. LET HER PUT AWAY HER FORNICATIONS FROM HER FACE AND HER ADULTERIES FROM BETWEEN HER BREASTS.

ACEE PACE 14-15 TRELACAR

HOSEA 2:5-6

- HOS 2:5 OR ELSE I WILL STRIP HER NAKED AND EXPOSE HER AS ON THE DAY SHE WAS BORN. THEN I WILL MAKE HER LIKE A WILDERNESS. YES, I WILL MAKE HER LIKE DESERT LAND, AND I WILL LET HER DIE OF THIRST.
- HOS 2:6 I WILL HAVE NO COMPASSION FOR HER CHILDREN, FOR THEY ARE CHILDREN OF PROSTITUTION.
- SEE PAGE 16-17 TREI ASAR

HOSEA 2:7-8

- HOS 2:7 FOR THEIR MOTHER HAS PRACTICED PROSTITUTION. SHE WHO CONCEIVED THEM HAS BEEN SHAMEFUL. FOR SHE SAID, 'LET ME GO AFTER MY LOVERS, WHO ARE GIVING ME MY BREAD AND MY WATER, MY WOOL AND MY FLAX, MY OIL AND MY DRINK.'
- HOS 2:8 THEREFORE SEE, I WILL HEDGE HER IN WITH THORNS, AND I WILL BUILD A WALL AROUND HER SO SHE CANNOT FIND HER PATHS.
- SEE PAGE 17 -18 TREI ASAR

HOSEA 2:9

- HOS 2:9 THEN SHE WILL CHASE AFTER HER LOVERS, BUT SHE WILL NOT OVERTAKE THEM. SHE WILL SEEK THEM, BUT NOT FIND. THEN SHE WILL SAY: 'LET ME GO AND RETURN TO MY FIRST HUSBAND, FOR WAS IT BETTER FOR ME THEN, THAN NOW.'
- •THE PRODIGAL RETURNS LUKE 15:11-32
- SEE PAGE 19 TREI ASAR

HOSEA 2:10

- HOS 2:10 BUT SHE DID NOT REALIZE THAT I MYSELF GAVE HER THE GRAIN, THE WINE AND THE FRESH OIL. I LAVISHED ON HER SILVER, ALSO GOLD-WHICH THEY MADE INTO BAAL.
- SEE PAGE 20 TRIE ASAR

HOSEA 2:11-13

- HOS 2:11 THEREFORE I WILL RETURN AND TAKE BACK MY GRAIN IN ITS SEASON, AND MY NEW WINE AT ITS APPOINTED TIME, AND I WILL SNATCH AWAY MY WOOL AND MY LINEN FOR COVERING HER NAKEDNESS.
- HOS 2:12 SO NOW I WILL UNCOVER HER LEWDNESS TO THE EYES OF HER LOVERS, AND NO ONE WILL RESCUE HER FROM MY HAND.
- HOS 2:13 I WILL ALSO PUT AN END TO ALL HER REJOICING-HER FEASTS, HER NEW MOON, HER SHABBAT, AND ALL HER MOADIM.
- NOTE: ISRAEL ATTRIBUTED HER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE TO THE FALSE GODS SHE WORSHIPED RATHER THAN YHVH (ARCHEOLOGICAL STUDY BIBLE, ZONDERVAN)
- SEE PAGE 21 TREI ASAR

HOSEA 2:14-15 HOS 2:14 I WILL ALSO DEVASTATE HER VINES AND HER FIG TREES, OF WHICH SHE SAID: 'THESE ARE MY PAYMENT THAT MY LOVERS HAVE GIVEN TO ME.' BUT I WILL TURN THEM INTO A THICKET AND BEASTS OF THE FIELD WILL DEVOUR THEM.

- HOS 2:15 THEN I WILL PUNISH HER FOR THE DAYS OF THE BAALIM TO WHOM SHE WOULD BURN INCENSE-ADORNING HERSELF WITH HER RINGS AND JEWELRY, GOING AFTER HER LOVERS-BUT ME SHE FORGOT." IT IS A DECLARATION OF ADONAL.
- SEE PAGE 22-23 TREI ASAR

DEUT. 28:62-69

- DEU 28:62 "YOU WILL BE LEFT FEW IN NUMBER, INSTEAD OF BEING LIKE THE STARS OF THE SKY IN NUMBER-BECAUSE YOU DID NOT LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF ADONAI YOUR GOD.
- DEU 28:63 NOW JUST AS ADONAI REJOICED OVER YOU TO DO YOU GOOD AND TO MULTIPLY YOU, SO ADONAI WILL REJOICE OVER YOU TO RUIN AND DESTROY YOU; AND YOU WILL BE UPROOTED FROM THE LAND THAT YOU ARE GOING IN TO POSSESS.
- DEU 28:64 "ADONAI WILL SCATTER YOU AMONG ALL PEOPLES FROM THE ONE END OF THE EARTH TO THE OTHER, AND THERE YOU WILL SERVE OTHER GODS-WOOD AND STONE-THAT YOU AND YOUR FATHERS HAVE NOT KNOWN.
- DEU 28:65 AMONG THESE NATIONS YOU WILL FIND NO REST, AND THERE WILL BE NO REST FOR THE SOLE OF YOUR FOOT. BUT THERE ADONAI WILL GIVE YOU A TREMBLING HEART AND FAILING EYES, AND A DESPAIRING SPIRIT.
- DEU 28:66 "YOUR LIFE WILL HANG IN THE BALANCE BEFORE YOU; YOU WILL BE AFRAID NIGHT AND DAY, AND YOU WILL HAVE NO ASSURANCE OF YOUR LIFE.
- DEU 28:67 IN THE MORNING YOU WILL SAY, 'IF ONLY IT WERE EVENING!' AND AT EVENING YOU WILL SAY, 'IF ONLY IT WERE MORNING!"-FROM THE FEAR OF YOUR HEART THAT YOU WILL FEAR AND THE SIGHT OF YOUR EYES THAT YOU WILL SEE.
- DEU 28:68 ADONAI WILL BRING YOU BACK TO EGYPT IN SHIPS, BY THE WAY THAT I SAID TO YOU, 'YOU WILL NOT SEE IT AGAIN.' THERE YOU WILL SELL YOURSELVES TO YOUR ENEMIES AS SLAVES AND MAIDS, BUT THERE WILL BE NO BUYER."

HOSEA CHAPTER 2 PART 2



- DENUNCIATIONS AND PROMISES. CONDEMNATIONS AND JUDGMENTS ARE INTERSPERSED WITH ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FUTURE RESTORATION AND HOPE (E.G., MIC. 2:12–13). READERS ARE MADE AWARE OF SEEDS AND PROMISES OF HOPE AND CONTEMPLATE THEIR EVENTUAL BLOOMING EVEN AS THEY READ THE MOST DIFFICULT TEXTS ABOUT THEIR PAST SINFUL DEEDS. THESE DEEDS ARE "THEIR" DEEDS, BECAUSE THEY IDENTIFY—AT LEAST IN PART—WITH THE ISRAEL OF THE BOOK. 1: A REVERSAL OF THE NAME AND FATE GIVEN IN 1:9. THE LANGUAGE HERE AND THAT PRESENT IN THE PROMISES TO THE PATRIARCHS (GEN. 22:17; 32:13) ECHO EACH OTHER. 2–3: THE MOTIF OF A FUTURE REUNIFICATION OF (NORTHERN) ISRAEL AND JUDAH APPEARS ELSEWHERE IN PROPHETIC LITERATURE (CF. EZEK. 37:15–28), THOUGH IT WAS NEVER FULFILLED. JEZREEL (SEE 1:4 N.), A PLACE OF BLOODY DEEDS AND DIVINE PUNISHMENT, HERE BECOMES A PLACE OF FUTURE REDEMPTION. SIMILARLY, THE NAMES OF THE OTHER TWO CHILDREN WILL HAVE THEIR MEANING REVERSED, TURNING SEPARATION FROM THE LORD INTO FUTURE CLOSENESS TO HIM
- BERLIN, A., BRETTLER, M. Z., & FISHBANE, M. (EDS.). (2004). THE JEWISH STUDY BIBLE (PP. 1145–1146). NEW YORK: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS.

- 4: REBUKE, OR "REMONSTRATE." THE WORD CARRIES A LEGAL CONNOTATION OF ARGUING AGAINST SOMEONE IN A COURT OF LAW, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME IT MEANS "REPROVE" IN THE HOPE OF CORRECTING THE BEHAVIOR OF SOMEONE (CF. RADAK AND TARGUM). THIS "SOMEONE" IS METAPHORICALLY BOTH THE COMMUNITY OF ISRAEL AND THE LAND. FOR SHE IS NOT MY WIFE MAY BE THE LEGAL LANGUAGE USED IN A DECLARATION OF DIVORCE. 5: AS IN EZEK. CH 16, THE PUNISHMENT FOR THE REPORTED SEXUAL PROMISCUITY IS SEXUAL SHAMING. THE IMAGE OF THE WOMAN THEN BECOMES THE IMAGE OF THE LAND, PUNISHED BY DRYING UP, LOSING ITS FERTILITY. 6: THE LAND/WOMAN WILL LOSE HER CHILDREN, THE POPULATION OF THE LAND. DISOWN (HEB "WILL NOT PITY") IS ANOTHER PLAY ON THE NAME LO-RUHAMAH.
- BERLIN, A., BRETTLER, M. Z., & FISHBANE, M. (EDS.). (2004). THE JEWISH STUDY BIBLE (P. 1146). NEW YORK: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS.

- 7: LOVERS, MALE PROVIDERS WHOM SHE LOVED; A REFERENCE TO RULERS OF OTHER NATIONS AND PARTICULARLY TO THEIR GODS. 8: HEB READS, "YOUR ROADS ..." (SEE TRANSLATORS' NOTE E). THE SECOND PERSON CONVEYS DIRECT FACE-TO-FACE ADDRESS MEANT TO HAVE AN AFFECTIVE IMPACT. 9–15: THE OTHER MALE PROVIDERS ARE NO GOOD. THE WIFE (ISRAEL) SOUGHT MATERIAL BENEFITS FROM OTHER MALES, ALL THE WHILE IGNORANT OF THE FACT THAT IT WAS HER HUSBAND (THE LORD) WHO PROVIDED FOR HER. BUT NOW HER HUSBAND (THE LORD) WILL REMOVE HIS PROVISIONS, INCLUDING FOOD AND CLOTHING. WITHOUT THE CLOTHING, SHE (ISRAEL) WILL BE NAKED AND SHAMED. HER JOY WILL DISAPPEAR AND NONE OF HER LOVERS WILL BE ABLE TO HELP HER AGAINST HER ANGRY HUSBAND (THE LORD).
- BERLIN, A., BRETTLER, M. Z., & FISHBANE, M. (EDS.). (2004). THE JEWISH STUDY BIBLE (P. 1146). NEW YORK: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS.

- 15 DAYS OF THE BAALIM, FESTIVALS AND OTHER OCCASIONS IN WHICH OFFERINGS WERE SACRIFICED TO DIFFERENT BAALS (BAALIM IS THE PLURAL OF THE DEITY BAAL). "BAAL" MEANS "LORD" OR "OWNER" AND IN THE BIBLE OFTEN REFERS TO A PHOENICIAN OR CANAANITE GOD OF THE SAME NAME. THE TERM WAS ALSO USED AS A TITLE FOR THE LORD (SEE 2 SAM. 5:20; 1 CHRON. 14:11), THOUGH THE BOOK OF HOSEA DOES NOT SUPPORT THAT PRACTICE (2:18). "BAAL" CAN ALSO MEAN "HUSBAND" AND, AS A VERB, "MARRY" OR "TAKE A WOMAN AS A SEXUAL PARTNER." BAALS STAND FOR THE UNIDENTIFIED "LOVERS" MENTIONED BEFORE, AND ALL THE CONNOTATIONS THAT THE TERM CARRIES SUIT WELL THE GENERAL ATMOSPHERE PERMEATING THE TEXT.
- BERLIN, A., BRETTLER, M. Z., & FISHBANE, M. (EDS.). (2004). THE JEWISH STUDY BIBLE (P. 1147). NEW YORK: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS.

- HOS 2:16 "SO THEN, I MYSELF WILL ENTICE HER, I WILL BRING HER INTO THE WILDERNESS AND SPEAK TO HER HEART.
- EZEK. 20:33-38
- HOS 2:17 I WILL GIVE HER BACK HER VINEYARDS FROM THERE AND MAKE THE VALLEY OF ACHOR A DOOR OF HOPE. SHE WILL RESPOND THERE—AS IN THE DAYS OF HER YOUTH, AS IN THE DAY SHE CAME UP OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT.
- EZEK 28:25-26; JOSH 7:24-26; JER 2:1-3; EZEK 16:8-14
- SEE PAGE 24-25 TREI ASAR

- HOS 2:18 IN THAT DAY-IT IS A DECLARATION OF ADONAI-YOU WILL PROCLAIM, 'MY HUSBAND,' AND NEVER AGAIN CALL ME, 'MY BAAL.'
- ISA 54:5
- ADONAI WILL NOT CONTINUE TO DISCIPLINE ISRAEL FOREVER, BUT HE WILL RENEW HIS VOWS TO HER.
- HOS 2:19 THEN I WILL REMOVE THE NAMES OF THE BAALIM OUT OF HER MOUTH, NO LONGER TO BE MENTIONED BY THEIR NAME.
- EZEK 23:13; JOSHUA 23:7; PSALM 16:4
- HOS 2:20 IN THAT DAY I WILL MAKE A COVENANT FOR THEM WITH THE BEASTS OF THE FIELD, THE FLYING CREATURES IN THE SKY, AND THE CREEPING THINGS ON THE GROUND. I WILL BREAK INTO PIECES THE BOW AND SWORD AND WARFARE FROM THE LAND, AND I WILL CAUSE THEM TO LIE DOWN SECURELY.
- EZEK 34:25, ISA 2:4, EZEK 39:1-10; JER. 23:6; EZEK 34:35
- SEE PAGE 28-29 TRIE ASAR

- HOS 2:21 THEN I WILL BETROTH YOU TO ME FOREVER-YES, I WILL BETROTH YOU TO ME WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS, JUSTICE, COVENANT LOYALTY AND COMPASSION.
- ISA: 4-5; ISA 1:27; ISA 54:6-8
- HOS 2:22 I WILL BETROTH YOU TO ME WITH FAITHFULNESS, AND YOU WILL KNOW ADONAI.
- THESE WORDS ARE QUOTED DURING THE CEREMONY OF DONNING TEFFILIN
- JER 31:33-34
- HOS 2:23 SO IT WILL BE IN THAT DAY, I WILL RESPOND-IT IS A DECLARATION OF ADONAI-I WILL RESPOND TO THE SKIES, AND THEY WILL RESPOND TO THE EARTH,
- ISA 55:10-11; ZECH 8:12; MAL 3:10-11
- SEE PAGE 30 TREI ASAR

- HOS 2:24 AND THE EARTH WILL RESPOND WITH GRAIN, NEW WINE, AND FRESH OIL-AND THEY WILL RESPOND WITH 'JEZREEL!' (GOD SOWS)
- JER 31:12; JOEL 2:19
- HOS 2:25 I WILL SOW HER IN THE LAND FOR MYSELF. I WILL HAVE COMPASSION ON LO-RUHAMAH. I WILL SAY TO LO-AMMI, 'YOU ARE MY PEOPLE!' AND THEY WILL SAY, 'MY GOD!"
- HAVE COMPASSION LO-RUHAMAH
- HAD NOT OBTAINED COMPASSION LO-AMMI
- JER 31:27; ROM 9:25; 1 PET 2:10