

## THE MESSAGE OF THE PROPHET HOSEA

### "I WILL NEVER LET YOU GO"

#### "God's Pursuing Love"

(The Book of Hosea)

#### INTRODUCTION:

*God's primary vehicle of revelation in the Scriptures is that of historical narrative—storytelling. In fact, salvation history is truly the drama of redemption. It is the message of God acting in human history to reconcile man to Himself, bringing an end to sin and glory to Himself.*

*This morning's sermon is delivered in a similar format. It is called an Expository First Person Narrative or Sermon. And while there is a definite structure to such a message, it is not designed for outlining. However, like any sermon, its target is the heart and its means of entry is the ear. So listen attentively to the narrator and as an active participant in the story as the prophet Hosea speaks this morning.*

*Should you desire to study the prophetic message of Hosea in the future, the following notes will assist you in understanding the flow and argument of this unique prophetic book.*

#### THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

*Hosea ministered during the closing years of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, also known as Ephraim. Religiously it was a time of gross immorality and Baal worship. Politically it was a time of instability, and Israel had placed her trust in foreign alliances rather than God.*

#### THE THEME(S):

*The Faithfulness of God in spite of the Unfaithfulness of God's People;  
The Redemptive and Restoring Love of God*

#### THE ARGUMENT:

##### 1A. HOSEA'S MARRIAGE: ISRAEL'S UNFAITHFULNESS EXPERIENCED (CHAPTERS 1-3)

*"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.'"*

—Hosea 1:2

## 2A. HOSEA'S MESSAGE: ISRAEL'S UNFAITHFULNESS EXPOSED (CHAPTERS 4-14)

*“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.”*

—Hosea 4:1

### 1B. Israel's Rebellion Proclaimed (4:1-7:16)

*“There is swearing, deception, murder, stealing and adultery.  
They employ violence, so that bloodshed follows bloodshed.”*

—Hosea 4:2

### 2B. Israel's Retribution Pronounced (8:1-11:7)

*“Put the trumpet to your lips!  
Like an eagle the enemy comes against the house of the LORD,  
Because they have transgressed My covenant  
And rebelled against My law.”*

—Hosea 8:1

*“They will not return to the land of Egypt;  
But Assyria – he will be their king  
Because they refused to return to Me.”*

—Hosea 11:5

### 3B. Israel's Restoration Promised (11:8-14:9)

*“I will not execute My fierce anger;  
I will not destroy Ephraim again.  
For I am God and not man, the Holy One in your midst,  
And I will not come in wrath.”*

—Hosea 11:8