

LESSON 22: Hosea, Joel, Amos,

LOGOS

A General and Light Survey of the Bible

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(REVISED) TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

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Lesson 3:	Exodus
Lesson 4:	Leviticus
Lesson 5:	Numbers
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--- SUMMER ---

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October 30, 2024:	INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT
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--- ADVENT / CHRISTMAS ---

January 8, 2025:	1st & 2nd Corinthians
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March 5, 2025:	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>
March 12, 2025:	James
March 19, 2025:	1st & 2nd Peter, Jude
March 26, 2025:	1st, 2nd, 3rd John
April 2, 2025:	Revelation

Lesson 22

HOSEA

- Both Hosea and Amos were prophets to the Northern Kingdom of Israel.
- Though his main target was the Northern Kingdom, his message encompassed the entire people of God.
- 2 Kings 15–17 covers the period of Hosea and records the terrible sins of idol worship and unbridled adultery.
- While Hosea, his marriage, and his life as recorded in this book were real, they also became a metaphor of the nation of Israel.

OUTLINE

- Hosea's Times. *The word of the LORD that came to Hosea, son of Beeri during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the reign of Jeroboam son of Jehoash king of Israel (1:1).*
- Hosea's Experience. (1:2–3:5)
 - Hosea's marriage: Israel's unfaithfulness. *When the LORD began to speak through Hosea, the LORD said to him, "Go, marry a promiscuous woman and have children with her, for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the LORD." So he married Gomer daughter of Diblaim... (1:2–3a)*
 - Hosea's children: Israel's judgment.
 - ...she conceived and bore him a son. Then the LORD said to Hosea, "Call him Jezreel, because I will soon punish the house of Jehu for the massacre at Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of Israel. (1:3b-5)
 - Gomer conceived again and gave birth to a daughter. Then the LORD said to Hosea, "Call her Lo-Ruhamah (which means "not loved"), for I will no longer show love to Israel, that I should at all forgive them. Yet I will show love to Judah; and I will save them—not by bow, sword or battle, or by horses and horsemen, but I, the LORD their God, will save them." (1:6-7)
 - Gomer had another son. Then the LORD said, "Call him Lo-Ammi (which means "not my people"), for you are not my people, and I am not your God... In the place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' they will be called 'children of the living God.' The people of Judah and the people of Israel will come together; they will appoint one leader and will come up out of the land, for great will be the day of Jezreel. (1:8-11)
 - A prophecy of judgement and restoration. (2)
 - The restoration of Hosea's marriage. *The Lord said to me, "Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress. Love her as the Lord loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes." So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a*

homer and a lethek of barley. Then I told her, “You are to live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will behave the same way toward you.” (3:1-3)

- Hosea’s Message: God’s Judgment and Restoration of Israel. (4–14)
 - Judgement.
 - *Hear the word of the LORD, you Israelites, because the LORD has a charge to bring against you who live in the land: “There is no faithfulness, no love, no acknowledgment of God in the land. There is only cursing, lying and murder, stealing and adultery; they break all bounds, and bloodshed follows bloodshed. (4:1-2)*
 - *My people consult a wooden idol, and a diviner’s rod speaks to them. A spirit of prostitution leads them astray; they are unfaithful to their God. (4:12)*
 - *Hear this, you priests! Pay attention, you Israelites! Listen, royal house! This judgment is against you... (5:1)*
 - Although Israel and Ephraim (Northern Kingdom) are frequently mentioned, Judah is not exempt. “Also for you, Judah, a harvest is appointed. (6:11)
 - *My God will reject them because they have not obeyed him; they will be wanderers among the nations. (9:17)*
 - *When I please, I will punish them; nations will be gathered against them to put them in bonds for their double sin. (10:10)*
 - *When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. But the more they were called, the more they went away from me. They sacrificed to the Baals and they burned incense to images... I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love. To them I was like one who lifts a little child to the cheek, and I bent down to feed them. (11:1-4)*
 - Restoration.
 - *Return, Israel, to the LORD your God. Your sins have been your downfall! Take words with you and return to the LORD. Say to him: “Forgive all our sins... Assyria cannot save us... We will never again say ‘Our gods’ to what our own hands have made, for in you the fatherless find compassion.” (14:1-3)*
 - *“I will heal their waywardness and love them freely, for my anger has turned away from them... Who is wise? Let them realize these things. Who is discerning? Let them understand. The ways of the LORD are right; the righteous walk in them, but the rebellious stumble in them. (14:4-9)*

JOEL

- Joel was a prophet to Judah.
- Because no information is given, scholars believe this book was written sometime between 900-100BC, probably after the Babylonian Exile began.
- This book presents some difficulties with interpretation that force us to simply learn what we can and accept it as written.

OUTLINE

- The Locust Plague. (1:2–20)
 - *Hear this, you elders; listen, all who live in the land. Has anything like this ever happened in your days or in the days of your ancestors? Tell it to your children, and let your children tell it to their children... What the locust swarm has left the great locusts have eaten; what the great locusts have left the young locusts have eaten; what the young locusts have left other locusts have eaten.* (1:2-4)
 - *A nation has invaded my land, a mighty army without number; it has the teeth of a lion, the fangs of a lioness.* (1:6)
 - *Grain offerings and drink offerings are cut off from the house of the LORD. The priests are in mourning, those who minister before the LORD.* (1:9)
- The coming Day of the Lord (2)
 - *...Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming. It is close at hand — a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness. Like dawn spreading across the mountains a large and mighty army comes, such as never was in ancient times nor ever will be in ages to come.* (2:1-2)
 - *At the sight of them, nations are in anguish; every face turns pale. They charge like warriors; they scale walls like soldiers. They all march in line, not swerving from their course. They do not jostle each other; each marches straight ahead. They plunge through defenses without breaking ranks.* (2:6-8)
 - *Before them the earth shakes, the heavens tremble, the sun and moon are darkened, and the stars no longer shine. The LORD thunders at the head of his army; his forces are beyond number, and mighty is the army that obeys his command. The day of the LORD is great; it is dreadful. Who can endure it?* (2:10-11)
- A call to repentance. (2)
 - *“Even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.”* (2:12)
 - *Gather the people, consecrate the assembly; bring together the elders, gather the children... Let the priests, who minister before the LORD, weep between the portico and the altar. Let them say,*

“Spare your people, LORD. Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn... Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’ (2:16-17)

- Forgiveness and restoration. (2)
 - *Then the LORD was jealous for his land and took pity on his people. (2:18)*
 - *“I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten — the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm — my great army that I sent among you. You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the LORD your God, who has worked wonders for you; never again will my people be shamed. Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the LORD your God, and that there is no other...” (2:25-27)*
- Promise of a Glorious Future (2:28–3:21)
 - *“And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.” (2:28–29)*
 - *And everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved... (2:32)*
 - *“In those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. There I will put them on trial for what they did to my inheritance, my people Israel, because they scattered my people among the nations and divided up my land.” (3:1-2)*

AMOS

- * Amos was a shepherd, one of the few prophets who was not a priest.
- * He prophesied in Israel (the Northern Kingdom) during the height of its prosperity. He ministered at the same time as Hosea, during the reign of Uzziah, King of Judah, and Jeroboam, King of Israel.

OUTLINE

- Prologue. *The words of Amos, one of the shepherds of Tekoa—the vision he saw concerning Israel two years before the earthquake, when Uzziah was king of Judah and Jeroboam son of Jehoash was king of Israel.* (1:1)
- Judgments. (1:3–2:16)
 - Judgment against Damascus. (1:3–5)
 - Judgment against Gaza. (1:6–8)
 - Judgment against Tyre. (1:9–10)
 - Judgment against Edom. (1:11–12)
 - Judgment against Ammon. (1:13–15)
 - Judgment against Moab. (2:1–3)
 - Judgment against Judah. *This is what the Lord says: “For three sins of Judah, even for four, I will not relent. Because they have rejected the law of the Lord and have not kept his decrees, because they have been led astray by false gods, the gods their ancestors followed, I will send fire on Judah that will consume the fortresses of Jerusalem.”* (2:4–5)
 - Judgment against Israel. (2:6–16)
 - The broken covenant. *This is what the Lord says: “For three sins of Israel, even for four, I will not relent. They sell the innocent for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals. They trample on the heads of the poor... and deny justice to the oppressed. Father and son use the same girl and so profane my holy name. They lie down beside every altar on garments taken in pledge. In the house of their god, they drink wine taken as fines.* (2:6–8)
 - The spurned grace. *“I brought you up out of Egypt and led you forty years in the wilderness to give you the land of the Amorites. “I also raised up prophets from among your children and Nazirites from among your youths... But you made the Nazirites drink wine and commanded the prophets not to prophesy.”* (2:10–12)
 - The resulting judgment. *“Now then, I will crush you... The swift will not escape, the strong will not muster their strength, and the warrior will not save his life. The archer will not stand his ground, the fleet-footed soldier will not get away, and the horseman will not save his life. Even the bravest warriors will flee naked on that day,” declares the Lord.* (2:13–16)

- Reasons for and a description of judgment. (chaps. 3–6)
 - *Hear this word, people of Israel, the word the LORD has spoken against you — against the whole family I brought up out of Egypt: “You only have I chosen of all the families of the earth; therefore, I will punish you for all your sins.” (3:1-2)*
 - *Therefore, this is what the Sovereign LORD says: “An enemy will overrun your land, pull down your strongholds and plunder your fortresses.” (3:11)*
 - *“Therefore, this is what I will do to you, Israel, and because I will do this to you, Israel, prepare to meet your God.” (4:12)*
 - *This is what the LORD says to Israel: “Seek me and live...” (5:4)*
 - *There are those who turn justice into bitterness and cast righteousness to the ground... There are those who hate the one who upholds justice in court and detest the one who tells the truth. You levy a straw tax on the poor and impose a tax on their grain. Therefore, though you have built stone mansions, you will not live in them; though you have planted lush vineyards, you will not drink their wine. For I know how many are your offenses and how great your sins. There are those who oppress the innocent and take bribes and deprive the poor of justice in the courts. Therefore, the prudent keep quiet in such times, for the times are evil.” (5:7-13)*
 - *Seek good, not evil, that you may live. Then the LORD God Almighty will be with you, just as you say he is. Hate evil, love good; maintain justice in the courts. Perhaps the LORD God Almighty will have mercy... (5:14-15)*
 - *“I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me. Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them. Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream! ...You have lifted up the shrine of your king, the pedestal of your idols... Therefore, I will send you into exile beyond Damascus,” says the LORD, whose name is God Almighty. (5:21-27)*
 - *Woe to you who are complacent in Zion, and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria, you notable men of the foremost nation, to whom the people of Israel come! ...You lie on beds adorned with ivory and lounge on your couches. You dine on choice lambs and fattened calves. You strum away on your harps like David and improvise on musical instruments. You drink wine by the bowlful and use the finest lotions, but you do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph. Therefore, you will be among the first to go into exile; your feasting and lounging will end. (6:1-7)*

- Impending judgement. (7:1–9:10)
 - *This is what the Sovereign LORD showed me: He was preparing swarms of locusts after the king's share had been harvested and just as the late crops were coming up. When they had stripped the land clean, I cried out, "Sovereign LORD, forgive! How can Jacob survive? He is so small!" So, the LORD relented. "This will not happen," the LORD said. (7:1-3)*
 - *This is what the Sovereign LORD showed me: The Sovereign LORD was calling for judgment by fire; it dried up the great deep and devoured the land. Then I cried out, "Sovereign LORD, I beg you, stop! How can Jacob survive? He is so small!" So the LORD relented. "This will not happen either," the Sovereign LORD said. (7:4-6)*
 - *This is what he showed me: The Lord was standing by a wall that had been built true to plumb, with a plumb line in his hand. And the LORD asked me, "What do you see, Amos?" "A plumb line," I replied. Then the Lord said, "Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel; I will spare them no longer. "The high places of Isaac will be destroyed, and the sanctuaries of Israel will be ruined; with my sword I will rise against the house of Jeroboam." (7:7-9)*
 - Amaziah, the Priest.
 - *Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent a message to Jeroboam king of Israel: "Amos is raising a conspiracy against you in the very heart of Israel. The land cannot bear all his words... Then Amaziah said to Amos, "Get out, you seer! Go back to the land of Judah... Don't prophesy anymore at Bethel, because this is the king's sanctuary and the temple of the kingdom." (7:10-13)*
 - *Amos answered Amaziah, "I was neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees. But the LORD took me from tending the flock and said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.' Now then, hear the word of the LORD. You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel, and stop preaching against the descendants of Isaac.' Therefore this is what the LORD says: 'Your wife will become a prostitute in the city, and your sons and daughters will fall by the sword. Your land will be measured and divided up, and you yourself will die in a pagan country. And Israel will surely go into exile, away from their native land.'" (7:14-17)*
- The fruit basket. (8)
 - *This is what the Sovereign LORD showed me: a basket of ripe fruit. "What do you see, Amos?" he asked. "A basket of ripe fruit," I answered. Then the LORD said to me, "The time is ripe for my people Israel; I will spare them no longer." (8:1-2)*

- *“In that day,” declares the Sovereign LORD, “the songs in the temple will turn to wailing. Many, many bodies—flung everywhere! Silence!” Hear this, you who trample the needy and do away with the poor of the land... skimping on the measure, boosting the price and cheating with dishonest scales... The LORD has sworn by himself... “I will never forget anything they have done.” (8:3-7)*
- The Restoration after Judgment (9:11–15)
 - *“In that day I will restore David’s fallen shelter — I will repair its broken walls and restore its ruins — and will rebuild it as it used to be...” (9:11)*
 - *“...and I will bring my people Israel back from exile. They will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them. They will plant vineyards and drink their wine; they will make gardens and eat their fruit. I will plant Israel in their own land, never again to be uprooted from the land I have given them,” says the LORD your God. (9:14–15)*

NEXT WEEK: Obadiah, Jonah, and Micah