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**The Prophetic Wisdom of Hosea**

**Essay Questions**

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| Lesson One | **An Introduction to Hosea** |

# Review Questions

1. What conclusions can we draw from Hosea 1:1 about the time when the prophet Hosea began and ended his ministry?
2. List and explain the factors revealed in Hosea 1:1 that help us identify the location of Hosea’s ministry.
3. Describe the general circumstances in Israel, and later in Judah, that prompted Hosea to deliver his prophecies from God.

1. Draw a timeline showing the three main dates of the Assyrian judgment that we touched on in this lesson. Briefly describe the circumstances surrounding each event on the timeline.
2. What dynamics do we find consistent in all of God’s covenants with his people? As a prophetic emissary of God’s covenants, what was the main purpose of the prophet Hosea’s ministry?
3. What are the earliest and latest possible dates of composition of the book of Hosea? What evidence do we have to support these dates?
4. What does Hosea 1:1 tell us about the location where Hosea wrote his book?
5. Describe the circumstances in Judah under King Hezekiah when the book of Hosea was written. Make sure to include the events surrounding Sennacherib’s invasion in 701 B.C. in your answer.
6. What was Hosea’s purpose for composing his book during Hezekiah’s reign?
7. In the first division of the book of Hosea (Hosea 1:2–3:5), Hosea presented prophecies that focused on both judgment and hope. When did Hosea first receive and deliver these prophecies? How do we know that this is when Hosea received these revelations?
8. In the second division of the book of Hosea (Hosea 4:1–9:9), Hosea presented prophecies concerning God’s unfolding judgment. Explain the circumstances prompting God’s earlier and later lawsuits in this section. How did the kings of Israel and Judah provoke God’s first and second calls for alarm?
9. In the third division of the book of Hosea (Hosea 9:10–14:8), Hosea presented prophecies about unfolding hope from God. What are the five comparisons God made with Israel in this section? Describe the simple pattern of hope that appears with each comparison, and explain how each comparison gave Israel hope for the future.
10. What conclusions can we draw from Hosea 1:1 about the time when the prophet Hosea began and ended his ministry?

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| Lesson Two | **Revelations for the Wise** |

# Review Questions

1. How did Hosea’s earlier and later family experiences give Israel hope for God’s blessings after judgment?
2. Why did Hosea focus his revelations on God’s blessings coming through Judah? (Hint: What three Old Testament themes helped shape Hosea’s prophecies?)
3. How does the New Testament outlook on the church as the bride of Christ connect our lives with Hosea’s day?
4. How are Hosea’s hopes for the future of God’s bride in the first division of his book fulfilled by Christ in the latter days?
5. List and describe God’s accusations and judgments against Israel in the second division of Hosea’s book.
6. What did God’s lawsuits and calls for alarm say about Judah in the second division of Hosea’s book? Give specific examples from Scripture.
7. Describe the visible and invisible church.
8. What is the purpose of God’s temporary judgments for both true believers and unbelievers in the visible church?
9. How did God display his favor and patience to Israel in the five main sections of Hosea’s third division? Support your answer with Scripture.
10. Using specific Scripture references, explain how Hosea urged both Israel and Judah to respond to God in each of the final five sections of his book.
11. How do Hosea’s final revelations apply to the church as the bride of Christ?
12. Explain how Jesus fulfills Hosea’s third-division prophecies in each of the three stages of his kingdom.