

Hosea and Gomer

Chapter 9

Chapter 9 Hosea & Gomer

- This is last Chap in OT
- I knew least about this Chapter
- I did know Hosea was a prophet
- ~92 prophets listed/named in the Bible
- Obviously not all wrote books, but some did
- Just out of curiosity, I asked ChatGPT for a list of most known prophets, what it thought the avg person would know
- Hosea was finally listed #14, based on its unique story
- TRUE/FALSE questions
- OT layout

I. Introduction

- A. Show timeline of Bible, specifically prophets (94.25" x 23.85") (7.85' x 1.9875')
 1. <https://apologeticspress.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Bible-Timeline-Full-Poster-V4-web.pdf>
- B. A prophet was a person who delivered a message from God to His people
- C. For the most part, prophets emerged after the Law had been given (called "God's covenant law enforcers")
- D. 8th Century BC "The Golden Age of Prophecy"
 1. Time of national crises
 2. N: Assyrians (under Sargon II) conquer Samaria 722 BC
 3. S: Jerusalem surrounded by Sennacherib of Assyria 700 BC
- E. Hosea: native to northern kingdom (also Elijah and Elisha, but no writings)
 1. N: Amos, Hosea (simultaneously)
 2. S: Micah, Isaiah
- F. Covers kings:
 1. Judah (south): Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah
 2. Israel (north): Jeroboam II
- G. When Hosea began ministry, Northern kingdom reached apex of its power and influence under Jeroboam II. After his death, within 30 years, N kingdom ceased to exist.
 1. Hosea 10:7: As for Samaria, her king is cut off like a twig on the water.
- H. Two aspects of Canaanite religion particularly angered God:
 1. Human sacrifice (most valued gifts offered to 'gods': children 2-3 years old)
 2. Cult prostitution (both forced and voluntary "selling" themselves)
 - i. Sex became a religion for Canaanites and their gods
 - ii. Hosea was "incensed" that Israel eagerly adopted this practice and others
- I. Hosea's marriage was a living message for the nation

II. Wife and Children (Hosea 1:2-9)

- A. Strange that a prophet would be commanded by God to enter a faithless marriage- marry a woman of harlotry.
 1. How pleased would you be if a preacher, a man you respected and admired, married a prostitute?
- B. Student book: Scholars debate whether Gomer was already a working prostitute at time of marriage. It's possible, but text language anticipates Gomer's unfaithfulness after the marriage.
- C. Wayne Jackson (former editor and founder of Christian Courier) said: It's better to take the language of V2 as an example of prophetic prolepsis – this is a common biblical figure of speech by which a writer speaks of something that will happen as if it already happened.
 1. The reasoning for this conclusion:
 - i. The situation is supposed to parallel the relationship of God with Israel
 - ii. Hosea's credibility would have been called into question had he knowingly married a prostitute
- D. Children
 1. First son named: Jezreel "the Lord gives seed"

2. First daughter: Lo-Ruhammah “no mercy”
 3. Later son: Lo-Ammi “not my people”
 - i. Paul – Romans 9:26:
25 As He says also in Hosea:
“I will call them My people, who were not My people, And her beloved, who was not beloved.” 26 “And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them, ‘You are not My people,’ There they shall be called sons of the living God.”
 - ii. Peter – 1 Peter 2:10:
9 But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.
 4. Based on these names, it’s apparent God was grieved that love and commitment to Him had all but disappeared from Israel.
- III. Not My Wife (Hosea 2:1-8)
- A. OT & NT are filled with warnings of sexual sins and consequences
 1. Heb 13:4: 4 Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.
 2. 1 Cor 6:16-18: 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! 16 Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” 17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. 18 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.
 - B. Student book: Wayne Jackson: Israel would continue their pursuit of satisfaction in idolatry, but every trail would be blocked. Idols provide no happiness, only tons of misery.
 - C. Hopefully those who pursue sin eventually realize it fails to provide what it promises. When this occurs some may turn back to God
- IV. Wife and Israel (Hosea 3:1-5)
- A. Hosea was a grieving husband
 1. Had a life with wife and children
 2. Wife left everything to be an adulteress
 - i. CONSIDER THIS FEELING! This is how God felt about his people
 3. Faithfulness had died
 - i. God was still faithful though
 - ii. He had Hosea seek his wife
 - B. Student book: Why Hosea had to purchase Gomer is not explicitly stated in the text, but given the total amount paid, she may have become a sex slave.
 1. Exodus 21:32: 32 If the ox gores a male or female servant, he shall give to their master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned.
- V. Conclusion
- A. Hosea’s marriage for God’s people
 - B. Hosea’s call to marry a harlot was personal, prophetic, metaphorical
 - C. Sin is more than a legal transgression, it is relational betrayal
 - D. Student book:
 1. Although the marriage of Hosea and Gomer is hardly a model for Christians today, it helps us better appreciate what true devotion looks like.
 2. Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful
 3. 1 Thess 4:3: 3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality;
 4. Heb 13:4: 4 Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.
 - E. Hosea and Gomer teach that God’s love is not sentimental but covenantal

ChatGPT: List most known prophets in the bible by avg person...

- | | | |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Moses | 6. Jeremiah | 11. Elisha |
| 2. Elijah | 7. Ezekiel | 12. Noah* |
| 3. Isaiah | 8. Samuel | 13. Abraham* |
| 4. Daniel | 9. John the Baptist | 14. Hosea |
| 5. Jonah | 10. Nathan | 15. Zechariah |

Top 15 Most Known Prophets in the Bible

1. Moses

The single most recognizable prophet across cultures.

2. Elijah

Fire from heaven, raising the dead, chariot of fire.

3. Isaiah

Famous for widely quoted Messianic prophecies.

4. Daniel

Lions' den, dreams, and apocalyptic imagery.

5. Jonah

Jonah and the whale—one of the most famous Bible stories in the world.

6. Jeremiah

Major prophet, widely quoted, known for lamentation and warning.

7. Ezekiel

Dry bones, wheels-within-wheels—extremely memorable imagery.

8. Samuel

Recognizable for anointing David and hearing God as a child.

9. John the Baptist

Iconic New Testament prophet; baptizes Jesus.

10. Nathan

Known from the famous “You are the man!” confrontation of David.

11. Elisha

Successor to Elijah; known for miracles like healing Naaman and raising the dead.

12. Noah (sometimes not considered a “prophet” in the technical sense, but culturally treated as one)

Ark, flood—one of the most universally known biblical figures.

13. Abraham (also not strictly labeled a “prophet” in the Bible, but considered one in tradition and universally recognized)

Foundational patriarch; name recognition is extremely high.

14. Hosea

Known for the dramatic story involving his marriage symbolizing God and Israel.

15. Zechariah

Famous for prophetic visions and widely referenced in Christian teaching.

NAOMI, RUTH, AND BOAZ

TRUE or **FALSE**

1. The Old Testament is structured into 5 “segments”

TRUE

NAOMI, RUTH, AND BOAZ

TRUE or **FALSE**

2. The 5 segment groupings include:
Law, History, Kings, Poetry, Prophets

FALSE

– ¹*Law*, ²*History*, ³*Poetry*,
⁴*Major Prophets*, ⁵*Minor Prophets*

NAOMI, RUTH, AND BOAZ

TRUE or FALSE

3. Hosea is one of the Major Prophets

FALSE

– Hosea is the first of the “Minor” Prophets section

NAOMI, RUTH, AND BOAZ

TRUE or **FALSE**

4. The difference between “Major” and “Minor” Prophets is the length of the book’s writings.

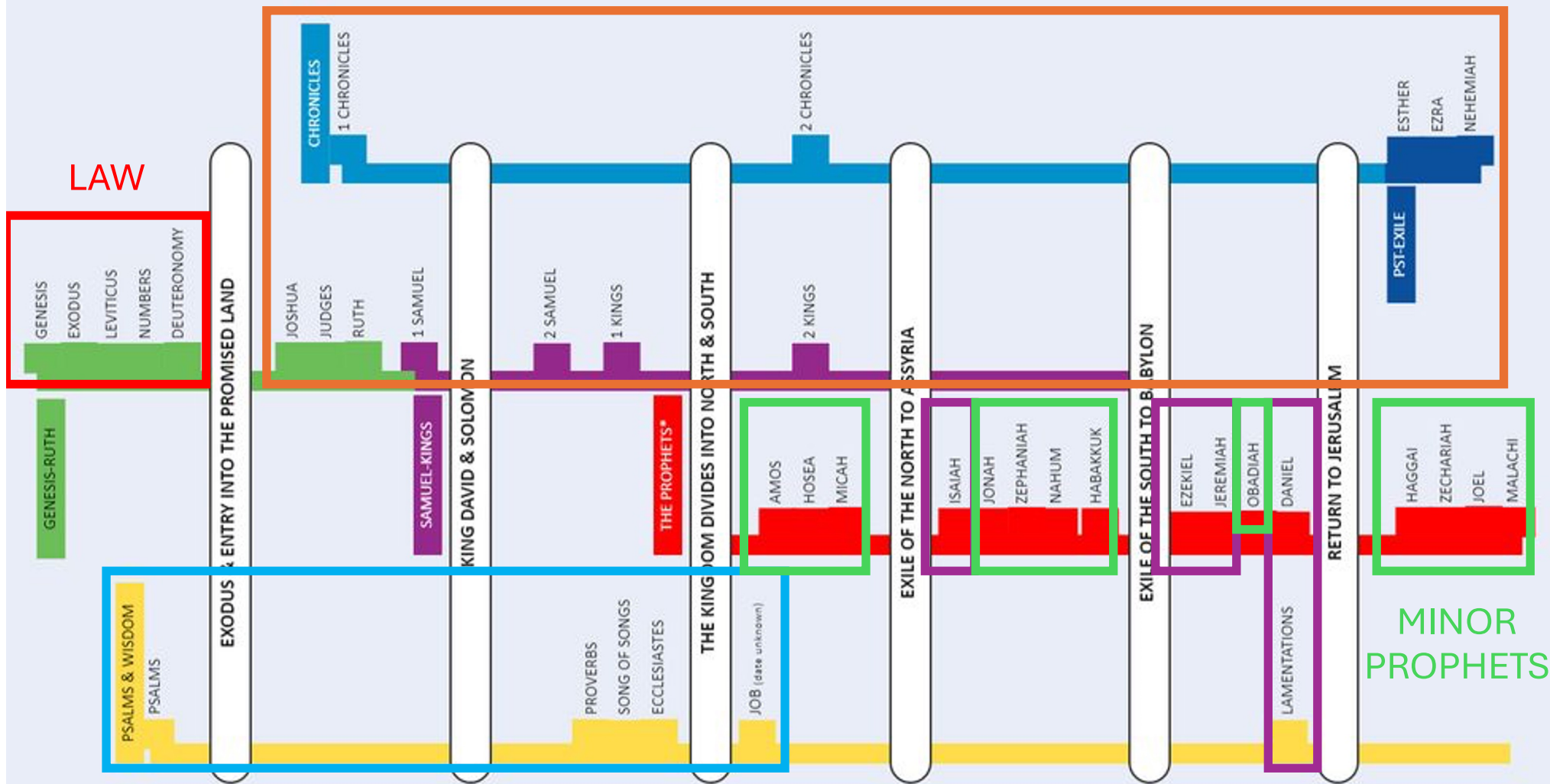
TRUE

Old Testament layout

Law – 5	Genesis Exodus	Leviticus Numbers	Deuteronomy
History – 12	Joshua Judges Ruth	1/2 Samuel 1/2 Kings 1/2 Chronicles	Ezra Nehemiah Esther
Poetry – 5	Job Psalms	Proverbs Ecclesiastes	Song of Solomon
Major Prophets – 5	Isaiah	Jeremiah Lamentations	Ezekiel Daniel
Minor Prophets – 12	Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah	Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk	Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah Malachi

HISTORY

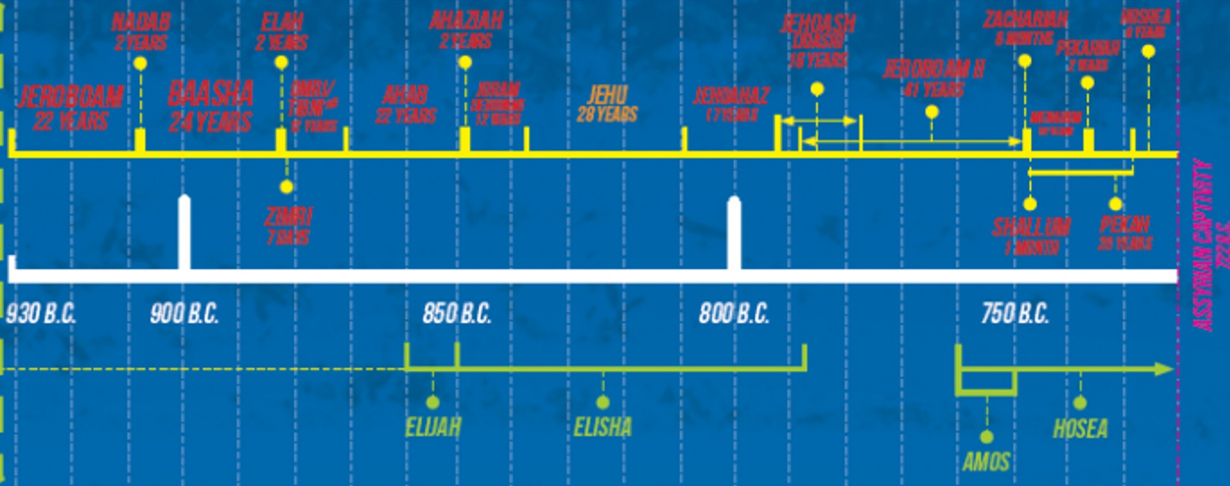
LAW



POETRY

MAJOR PROPHETS

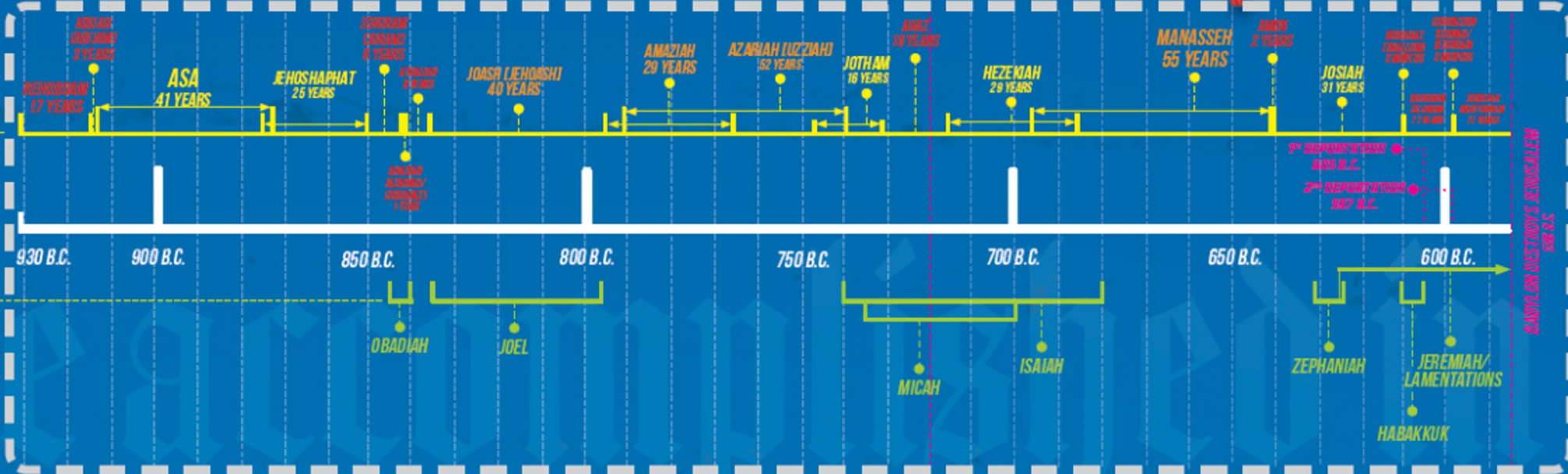
MINOR PROPHETS



JESUS' TEMPTATION A.D. 27

STEPH

THE KINGDOM OF JUDAH



THE DIVIDED KINGDOM

IF FOLLOW THE DOTTED LINE TO SEE AN EXPANDED BREAKDOWN OF THE DIVIDED KINGDOM

THE KINGDOM OF JUDAH

IF FOLLOW THE DOTTED LINE TO SEE AN EXPANDED BREAKDOWN OF THE KINGDOM OF JUDAH

PROPHETS NOT SHOWN ABOVE...



INTERTESTAMENTAL PERIOD



JOHN THE BAPTIST MATTHEW

FOLLOW THE DOTTED LINE TO SEE AN EXPANDED BREAKDOWN OF THE KINGDOM OF JUDAH

Outline – Hosea and Gomer

I. Introduction

II. Wife and Children
(Hosea 1:2-9)

III. Not My Wife (Hosea 2:1-8)

IV. Wife and Israel (Hosea 3:1-5)

V. Conclusion

II. Wife and Children

- Wife harlot
- First son: Jezreel “the Lord gives seed”
- First daughter: Lo-Ruhammah “no mercy”
- Later son: Lo-Ammi “not my people”
- NT references
 - Paul – Romans 9:26
 - Peter – 1 Peter 2:10
- Based on these names, it’s apparent God was grieved that love and commitment to Him had all but disappeared from Israel.

III. Not My Wife

- OT & NT filled with warnings of sexual sins and consequences
 - Heb 13:4
 - 1 Cor 6:16-18
- Hopefully those who pursue sin eventually realize it fails to provide what it promises
 - Then turn back to God

IV. Wife and Israel

- Hosea was a grieving husband
 - Had a life with wife and children
 - Wife left everything to be an adulteress
- Faithfulness had died – Gomer and Israel
- God was still faithful though
- Hosea purchased Gomer
 - Slave's ransom?
 - Exodus 21:32

Hosea and Gomer	God and Israel
Hosea marries Gomer (1:3)	God is betrothed to Israel (2:19)
Hosea is a faithful husband (3:3)	God is a faithful “Husband” (1:7)
Hosea’s love is unrequited (3:1)	God’s love is unrequited (3:1)
The relationship disintegrates (3:1)	The relationship disintegrates (2:2)
Gomer pursues other men (3:1)	Israel pursues other gods (4:1)
Gomer is indifferent to the feelings of Hosea (3:1)	Israel is indifferent to God’s feelings (11:1)
Hosea has a daughter whose name Lo-Ruhamah means “Not Loved” (1:6)	God will not have pity on His wayward children in Israel (5:6)
Hosea has a son whose name Lo-Ammi means “Not My People” (1:9)	God declares that the Israelites are not His People (1:9)
Hosea redeems and restores adulterous Gomer (3:2)	God redeems and restores the unfaithful nation, Israel (14:4-8)

V. Conclusion

Hosea and Gomer...

- Marriage reflection of God's people
- The marriage call was personal, prophetic, metaphorical
- Their marriage is hardly a model for Christians today
 - ...but it helps us better appreciate what true devotion looks like
- Sin is relational betrayal
 - 1 Thess 4:3
 - Heb 13:4
- Teach that God's love is not sentimental but covenantal

Us...

- Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful