

Hosea and Micah

[1] Israel is a luxuriant vine that yields its fruit. The more his fruit increased, the more altars he built; as his country improved, he improved his pillars. [Hos 10:1 ESV]

[2] ...the LORD said to Hosea, "Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the LORD." [3] So he went and took Gomer,... and she conceived and bore him a son. [4] And the LORD said to him, "Call his name Jezreel,... [5]... [6] She conceived again and bore a daughter. And the LORD said to him, "Call her name No Mercy, for I will no more have mercy on the house of Israel, to forgive them at all. [7] But I will have mercy on the house of Judah, and I will save them by the LORD their God. I will not save them by bow or by sword or by war or by horses or by horsemen." [8] When she had weaned No Mercy, she conceived and bore a son. [9] And the LORD said, "Call his name Not My People, for you are not my people, and I am not your God." [10] Yet the number of the children of Israel shall be like the sand of the sea, which cannot be measured or numbered. And in the place where it was said to them, "You are not my people," it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God." [11] And the children of Judah and the children of Israel shall be gathered together, and they shall appoint for themselves one head... [Hos 1:2-11 ESV]

Hosea

1. "Hosea" = "_____"
2. Time period: 758-722 B.C. (see 2 Kings 15-17)
3. Historical setting: Prophesying to Israel preceding their captivity by Assyria.
4. God's unfailing love for an _____ people.
5. Overall structure...
 - A. The _____ of Israel's unfaithfulness (1-3)
 - B. The prophecy of God's faithfulness (4-14)
 - C. The sins of Israel (4-7)
 - D. The judgment of Israel (8-10)
 - E. The restoration of Israel (11-14)
6. Note Hosea's metaphors...
 - A. To describe _____ – lion, leopard, bear eagle, husband, lover, parent.
 - B. To describe _____ – adulterer, snare, heated oven, senseless dove, faulty bow, headless talk, a _____ baby refusing birth, mist, chaff, smoke, like a twig on water.
7. Feel the heart of a God who judges unfaithfulness, yet _____ with love for His people.

[2] "Plead with your mother, plead-- for she is not my wife, and I am not her husband-- that she put away her whoring from her face, and her adultery from between her breasts; [3] lest I strip her naked and make her as in the day she was born, and make her like a wilderness, and make her like a parched land, and kill her with thirst. [4] Upon her children also I will have no mercy, because they are children of whoredom. [5] For their mother has played the whore; she who conceived them has acted shamefully. For she said, 'I will go after my lovers, who give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.' [Hos 2:2-5]

[14] "Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her. [15] And there I will give her her vineyards and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. And there she shall answer as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt. [16] "And in that day, declares the LORD, you will call me 'My Husband,' and no longer will you call me 'My Baal.' [17] For I will remove the names of the Baals from her mouth, and they shall be remembered by name no more. [18] And I will make for them a covenant on that day... And I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land, and I will make you lie down in safety. [19] And I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. [20] I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the LORD. [21] "And in that day I will answer, declares the LORD,... And I will have mercy on No Mercy, and I will say to Not My People, 'You are my people'; and he shall say, 'You are my God.'" [Hos 2:14-23 ESV]

[1] And the LORD said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by another man and is an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the children of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love cakes of raisins." [2] So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver... [Hos 3:1-2]

[1] Hear the word of the LORD, O children of Israel, for the LORD has a controversy with the inhabitants of the land. There is no faithfulness or steadfast love, and no knowledge of God in the land; [2] there is swearing, lying, murder, stealing, and committing adultery; they break all bounds, and bloodshed follows bloodshed... [6] My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you have rejected knowledge, I reject you from being a priest to me. And since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children... [Hos 4:1-2, 6 ESV]

[1] "Come, let us return to the LORD; for he has torn us, that he may heal us; he has struck us down, and he will bind us up. [2] After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. [3] Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD; his going out is sure as the dawn; he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth... [11] For you also, O Judah, a harvest is appointed, when I restore the fortunes of my people. [Hos 6:1-3, 11 ESV]

[12] Sow for yourselves righteousness; reap steadfast love; break up your fallow ground, for it is the time to seek the LORD, that he may come and rain righteousness upon you. [Hos 10:12 ESV]

[1] When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. [Hos 11:1 ESV]

[1] Return, O Israel, to the LORD your God, for you have stumbled because of your iniquity. [2] Take with you words and return to the LORD; say to him, "Take away all iniquity... [3] ...In you the orphan finds mercy." [4] I will heal their apostasy; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them. [5] I will be like the dew to Israel; he shall blossom like the lily; he shall take root like the trees of Lebanon; [6] his shoots shall spread out; his beauty shall be like the olive, and his fragrance like Lebanon. [7] They shall return and dwell beneath my shadow; they shall flourish like the grain; they shall blossom like the vine; their fame shall be like the wine of Lebanon. [8] O Ephraim, what have I to do with idols? It is I who answer and look after you. I am like an evergreen cypress; from me comes your fruit. [9] Whoever is wise, let him understand these things; whoever is discerning, let him know them; for the ways of the LORD are right, and the upright walk in them, but transgressors stumble in them. [Hos 14:1-9 ESV]

[8] He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? [Mic 6:8 ESV]

Micah

1. Time period: 740-686
2. Historical setting: A contemporary of Isaiah before Assyria's destruction of Israel.
3. God's judgment on _____ and _____.
4. Composed of three sermons (1-2; 3-5; 6-7).
5. Each sermon includes two emphases:
 - A. Oracles of judgment.
 - B. Oracles of future hope.
6. Structure of prophecy reflects _____ of God's justice and mercy.

[1] Woe to those who devise wickedness and work evil on their beds! When the morning dawns, they perform it, because it is in the power of their hand. [2] They covet fields and seize them, and houses, and take them away; they oppress a man and his house... [Mic 2:1-3 ESV]

[8] But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the LORD, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin. [9] Hear this, you heads of the house of Jacob and rulers of the house of Israel, who detest justice and make crooked all that is straight, [10] who build Zion with blood and Jerusalem with iniquity. [11] Its heads give judgment for a bribe; its priests teach for a price; its prophets practice divination for money; yet they lean on the LORD and say, "Is not the LORD in the midst of us? No disaster shall come upon us." [Mic 3:8-11 ESV]

[1] It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and it shall be lifted up above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it, [2] and many nations shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. [3] He shall judge between many peoples, and shall decide disputes for strong nations far away; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore; [4] but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid, for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken. [5] For all the peoples walk each in the name of its god, but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever. [Mic 4:1-5 ESV]

[2] But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. [3] Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. [4] And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. [5] And he shall be their peace... [Mic 5:2-5 ESV]

[7] But as for me, I will look to the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me. [8] Rejoice not over me, O my enemy; when I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the LORD will be a light to me... [18] Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. [19] He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. [Mic 7:7-8, 18-19]