## Hosea 2:1-13 God's unfaithful people – Punishment for their sins

1 Say to your brethren, 'My people,' And to your sisters, 'Mercy is shown.'

God's Unfaithful People – Punishment pronounced

- <sup>2</sup> "Bring charges against your mother, bring charges; For she is not My wife, nor am I her Husband! Let her put away her harlotries from her sight, And her adulteries from between her breasts;
- <sup>3</sup> Lest I strip her naked And expose her, as in the day she was born, And make her like a wilderness, And set her like a dry land, And slay her with thirst.
- 4 "I will not have mercy on her children, For they are the children of harlotry.
- <sup>5</sup> For their mother has played the harlot; She who conceived them has behaved shamefully. For she said, 'I will go after my lovers, Who give me my bread and my water, My wool and my linen, My oil and my drink.'
- <sup>6</sup> "Therefore, behold, I will hedge up your way with thorns, And wall her in, So that she cannot find her paths.
- <sup>7</sup> She will chase her lovers, But not overtake them; Yes, she will seek them, but not find them. Then she will say, 'I will go and return to my first husband, For then it was better for me than now.'
- 8 For she did not know That I gave her grain, new wine, and oil, And multiplied her silver and gold Which they prepared for Baal.
- 9 "Therefore I will return and take away My grain in its time And My new wine in its season, And will take back My wool and My linen, Given to cover her nakedness.
- 10 Now I will uncover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, And no one shall deliver her from My hand
- 11 I will also cause all her mirth to cease, Her feast days, Her New Moons, Her Sabbaths All her appointed feasts.
- 12 "And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees, Of which she has said,' These are my wages that my lovers have given me.' So I will make them a forest, And the beasts of the field shall eat them.
  13 I will punish her For the days of the Baals to which she burned incense. She decked herself with her earrings and jewelry, And went after her lovers; But Me she forgot," says Yahweh (the Lord). NKJV

## Facts Revealed:

- ❖ Say to your brethren, 'My people,' And to your sisters, 'Mercy is shown.' [Hosea 2:1]
  - ♦ This verse seems to conclude the message of the previous chapter speaking of the Kingdom restoration of Israel.
  - ♦ The verses following are a return to the subject dealing with the unfaithfulness of the people which is bringing God's wrath.

God's Unfaithful People – Punishment pronounced [Hosea 2:2-13]

➡ "Bring charges against your mother, bring charges; For she is not My wife, nor am I her Husband! Let her put away her harlotries from her sight, And her adulteries from between her breasts;

Lest I strip her naked And expose her, as in the day she was born, And make her like a wilderness, And set her like a dry land, And slay her with thirst. [Hosea 2:2-3]

- ♦ Yahweh said He was a husband to Israel when He brought them out of Egyptian bondage.

  [Jeremiah 31:31-32]
- ♦ Now the spiritual harlotry of the people has separated Yahweh form His former relationship with them.
- ♦ Still Yahweh calls His people to repentance to enable a restoration of that relationship.
- ♦ Unless the people repent, Yahweh must deal with their sin in righteous wrath.
- → His reference to her nakedness at the time of her birth is similar to the description Yahweh gave of her beginning. [Ezekiel 16:1-14]
- □ "I will not have mercy on her children, For they are the children of harlotry.

  For their mother has played the harlot; She who conceived them has behaved shamefully. For she said, 'I will go after my lovers, Who give me my bread and my water, My wool and my linen, My oil and my drink.' [Hosea 2:4-5]

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  - ♦ Deliberate sin on the part of the parent has a dreadful effect on their children.
  - ♦ God had said, "You shall not make for yourself a carved image any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me." [Exodus 20:4-5, Deuteronomy 5:8-9]
  - ♦ Continuing in sin destroys the generations of people who practice them.
  - ♦ Beside her sexual impurity, she also gave her lovers credit for what Yahweh had given her.
- ➡ "Therefore, behold, I will hedge up your way with thorns, And wall her in, So that she cannot find her paths.

She will chase her lovers, But not overtake them; Yes, she will seek them, but not find them. Then she will say, 'I will go and return to my first husband, For then it was better for me than now.'

For she did not know That I gave her grain, new wine, and oil, And multiplied her silver and gold — Which they prepared for Baal. [Hosea 2:6-8]

- ♦ She had taken the blessings of the Lord and used them to serve Baal.
- ❖ Because of her deliberate sins and idolatry, Yahweh will blind her mind and make her undesirable to her lovers.
- ♦ His purpose in this is to call her to repentance.
- ★ "Therefore I will return and take away My grain in its time And My new wine in its season,
   And will take back My wool and My linen, Given to cover her nakedness.

Now I will uncover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, And no one shall deliver her from My hand.

I will also cause all her mirth to cease, Her feast days, Her New Moons, Her Sabbaths — All her appointed feasts. [Hosea 2:9-11]

- ❖ In punishment, Yahweh will take away all his blessings and expose her for what she truly is.
- ♦ Her happy times will come to an end.
- ➡ "And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees, Of which she has said,' These are my wages that my lovers have given me.' So I will make them a forest, And the beasts of the field shall eat them.

I will punish her For the days of the Baals to which she burned incense. She decked herself with her earrings and jewelry, And went after her lovers; But Me she forgot," says Yahweh (the Lord). [Hosea 2:12-13]

- ♦ Yahweh will take away his blessings because His people had turned their back on Him in favor of pleasure and idolatry.
- ♦ The church today faces the same problem as we approach the time of the end.

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, **lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God**, having a form of godliness but denying its power.

And from such people turn away! [2 Timothy 3:1-5]