

A close-up photograph of a person's hands, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt, holding a single red rose. The person's fingers are wrapped around the stem of the rose, which has several green leaves. The background is dark and out of focus.

“Reap the Whirlwind”
Hosea 6:4-8:14

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Melbourne Community Church
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A person wearing a white shirt is holding a red rose with both hands. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

“Truth” song lyrics, c. 1975

Could it be that this could be the
day that starts eternity,
The day that we've been waiting for so long?
Could it be that yet today, the King of Kings
will turn and say,
“Pick up that trumpet, blow it loud and strong!”?

What will we learn?

- ❖ Mercy > sacrifice (“hesed” > religion)
- ❖ The LORD remembers.
- ❖ We reap what we sow.

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest up, holding a single red rose with both hands. The rose is positioned in the center, held between the palms. The background is dark and out of focus.

Old Testament prophets

- ❖ Mediated the Covenant
- ❖ Poetry > prose
- ❖ Symbolic words AND actions

Israel's sins confronted by Hosea:

- ❖ Infidelity
- ❖ Social injustice
- ❖ Violent crime
- ❖ Religious hypocrisy
- ❖ Political revolt
- ❖ Foreign alliances
- ❖ Selfish arrogance
- ❖ Spiritual ingratitude

The Divided Kingdom of Israel and Judah



The Divided Kingdom of Israel Judah



The Divided Kingdom of Israel and Judah



A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest down, holding a red rose in their left hand and a green leafy branch in their right hand. The background is dark. The text 'Hosea 1' is centered over the image, with a red horizontal line below it.

Hosea 1

- ❖ Our unfaithfulness breaks the heart of God.
- ❖ The love of God overcomes our unrighteousness.

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest down, holding two roses. The rose in the left hand is a vibrant red, while the one in the right hand is a pale pink or white. The person's hands are positioned in front of their chest, and the background is a dark, solid color. The text 'Hosea 2-3' is centered over the image, with a red horizontal line below it.

Hosea 2-3

- ❖ God's betrothal to His people is forever.
- ❖ God is our provider.

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest down, holding a red rose in their left hand and a green leafy branch in their right hand. The background is dark. The text 'Hosea 4-5' is centered over the image.

Hosea 4-5

- ❖ Ignorance leads to destruction.
- ❖ The wrath of God = natural consequences of sinful choices
- ❖ God uses our circumstances to turn us to him.

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest down. They are holding a red rose in their left hand and a green leafy branch in their right hand. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 6:1

**“Come, let us return to the LORD.
He has torn us to pieces
but he will heal us;
he has injured us
but he will bind up our wounds.**

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is holding two red roses. The person's hands are visible, and the roses are held in front of their chest. The background is dark and out of focus.

Hosea 6:1-2

**“After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will restore us,
that we may live in his presence.”**

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ...

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest up, holding a red rose in their left hand and a green leaf in their right hand. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 6:4

**“What can I do with you, Ephraim?
What can I do with you, Judah?
Your love is like the morning mist,
like the early dew that disappears.”**

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is holding a vibrant red rose with green leaves. The person's hands are visible, and the background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 6:6-7

**“For I desire mercy, not sacrifice,
and acknowledgment of God
rather than burnt offerings.**

**As at Adam, they have broken the covenant;
they were unfaithful to me there.”**

Mercy > sacrifice | "hesed" > religiosity

❖ 1 Samuel 15:22-23

❖ Isaiah 1:11-20

❖ Jeremiah 7:21-23

❖ Amos 5:21-24

❖ Micah 6:6-8

❖ Matthew 9:13; 12:7

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is holding a single red rose with green leaves. The person's hands are visible, and the rose is held in front of their chest. The background is dark and out of focus.

Matthew 12:7

[Jesus]: “If you had known what these words mean, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned the innocent.”

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is holding a red rose with green leaves. The person's hands are visible, and the rose is held in the center. The background is dark and out of focus.

Hosea 6:10

**“I have seen a horrible thing in Israel:
There Ephraim is given to prostitution,
Israel is defiled.**



Hosea 6:11-7:1

“Also for you, Judah,
a harvest is appointed.

Whenever I would restore the fortunes of my people,
whenever I would heal Israel,
the sins of Ephraim are exposed
and the crimes of Samaria revealed.

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest down, holding a single red rose with green leaves. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 7:1-2

**“They practice deceit,
thieves break into houses,
bandits rob in the streets;
but they do not realize
that I remember all their evil deeds.
Their sins engulf them;
they are always before me.”**

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a red rose. The person is wearing a white, long-sleeved button-down shirt. The hands are positioned on either side of the rose, with fingers wrapped around the stem. The rose is in full bloom, showing deep red petals. The background is dark and out of focus. The text 'The Lord remembers:' is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font with a black outline, centered horizontally. Below the title is a thin red horizontal line. To the left of the line, three bullet points are listed in the same white, serif font with a black outline.

The Lord remembers:

- ❖ Psalm 10:6-11
- ❖ Psalm 50:16-21
- ❖ Psalm 90:8

A person wearing a white shirt is shown from the chest down, holding a red rose and green leaves. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 7:3-4

**“They delight the king with their wickedness,
the princes with their lies.
They are all adulterers,
burning like an oven
whose fire the baker need not stir
from the kneading of the dough till it rises.”**

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of red roses. The background is dark, and the person's hands are visible as they hold the flowers. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 7:5-6

“On the day of the festival of our king
the princes become inflamed with wine,
and he joins hands with the mockers.
Their hearts are like an oven;
they approach him with intrigue.
Their passion smolders all night;
in the morning it blazes like a flaming fire.

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest down. They are holding a red rose in their left hand and a green leafy stem in their right hand. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 7:7-8

**“All of them are hot as an oven;
they devour their rulers.
All their kings fall,
and none of them calls on me.**

**Ephraim mixes with the nations;
Ephraim is a flat loaf not turned over.**

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest up, holding a single red rose with green leaves. The person's hands are visible, and the background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 7:9

“Foreigners sap his strength,
but he does not realize it.
His hair is sprinkled with gray,
but he does not notice.

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest up. They are holding a red rose in their left hand and a green leafy branch in their right hand. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 7:10

**“Israel’s arrogance testifies against him,
but despite all this
he does not return to the LORD his God
or search for him.**

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest up, holding a red rose in their left hand and a green leafy branch in their right hand. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 7:11

“Ephraim is like a dove,
easily deceived and senseless —
now calling to Egypt,
now turning to Assyria.

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of flowers, including a prominent red rose. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 7:12

**“When they go, I will throw my net over them;
I will pull them down like the birds in the sky.
When I hear them flocking together,
I will catch them.**

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest down, holding a red rose and green leaves. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 7:13

**“Woe to them,
because they have strayed from me!
Destruction to them,
because they have rebelled against me!
I long to redeem them
but they speak about me falsely.**



Hosea 7:14-15

“They do not cry out to me from their hearts
but wail on their beds.

They slash themselves, appealing to their gods
for grain and new wine,
but they turn away from me.

I trained them and strengthened their arms,
but they plot evil against me.

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of flowers, including a prominent red rose. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 7:16

**“They do not turn to the Most High;
they are like a faulty bow.
Their leaders will fall by the sword
because of their insolent words.
For this they will be ridiculed
in the land of Egypt.”**

A person wearing a white shirt is shown from the chest down, holding a red rose in their right hand and a green leafy branch in their left hand. The background is dark. The text 'Israel's history:' is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font with a black outline, positioned above a red horizontal line.

Israel's history:

- ❖ Covenant breaking
- ❖ Disrupted kingship
- ❖ Foolish foreign policy
- ❖ Religious treachery



Hosea 8:1-2

“Put the trumpet to your lips!

**An eagle is over the house of the LORD
because the people have broken my covenant
and rebelled against my law.**

Israel cries out to me,

‘Our God, we acknowledge you!’



Hosea 8:3-4

**“But Israel has rejected what is good;
an enemy will pursue him.
They set up kings without my consent;
they choose princes without my approval.
With their silver and gold
they make idols for themselves
to their own destruction.**

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of red roses. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 8:5-6

“Samaría, throw out your calf-ídol!

My anger burns against them.

How long will they be incapable of purity?

They are from Israel!

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest up. They are holding a red rose in their left hand and a green stem with leaves in their right hand. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 8:6

**“This calf — a metalworker has made it;
it is not God.
It will be broken in pieces,
that calf of Samaria.**

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is holding a stem of a rose with several green leaves. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 8:7

**“They sow the wind
and reap the whirlwind.
The stalk has no head;
it will produce no flour.
Were it to yield grain,
foreigners would swallow it up.**

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is holding a red rose with green leaves. The person's hands are visible, and the rose is held in front of their chest. The background is dark and out of focus.

Hosea 8:8

**“Israel is swallowed up;
now she is among the nations
like something no one wants.”**



Sowing and reaping:

- ❖ Job 4:8
- ❖ Psalm 126:5-6
- ❖ Proverbs 11:18; 22:8
- ❖ 2 Corinthians 9:6
- ❖ Galatians 6:7

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of red roses. The background is dark, and the person's hands and the flowers are the central focus. The text is overlaid on this image.

Hosea 8:9-10

“For they have gone up to Assyria
like a wild donkey wandering alone.
Ephraim has sold herself to lovers.
Although they have sold themselves among the nations,
I will now gather them together.
They will begin to waste away
under the oppression of the mighty king.”

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is holding a red rose with green leaves. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Israel is like ...

- ❖ Morning cloud / dew (her faithfulness)
- ❖ Adam / all humanity
- ❖ Evildoers / band of robbers
- ❖ Oven
- ❖ Cake unturned
- ❖ Silly dove

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Israel is like:

- ❖ Vessel without pleasure
- ❖ Wild donkey

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of red roses. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 8:11-12

**“Though Ephraim built many altars for sin offerings,
these have become altars for sinning.
I wrote for them the many things of my law,
but they regarded them
as something foreign.**

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is holding a bouquet of red roses. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 8:13

**“Though they offer sacrifices as gifts to me,
and though they eat the meat,
the LORD is not pleased with them.
Now he will remember their wickedness
and punish their sins:
They will return to Egypt.**

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest down. They are holding a red rose in their left hand and a green leafy stem in their right hand. The background is dark and out of focus.

Hosea 8:14

**“Israel has forgotten their Maker
and built palaces;
Judah has fortified many towns.
But I will send fire on their cities
that will consume their fortresses.”**

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What have we learned?

- ❖ Mercy > sacrifice (“hesed” > religion)
- ❖ The LORD remembers.
- ❖ We reap what we sow.



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Are you being called?

- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the Lord's Supper

Life Begins in the Womb

❖ Luke 1:15

❖ Luke 1:41

❖ Psalm 22:9-10

❖ Psalm 139:13

❖ Isaiah 49:1

❖ Jeremiah 1:4-5