

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a single red rose. The person is wearing a white, long-sleeved button-down shirt. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

“Time to Seek the Lord”
Hosea 9:1-10:15

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

Hosea 10:12

**“Sow righteousness for yourselves,
reap the fruit of unfailing love,
and break up your unplowed ground;
for it is time to seek the LORD,
until he comes
and showers his righteousness on you.”**

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.

What will we learn?

- ❖ Because only God was/is faithful to the Old Covenant, we need a New Covenant.
- ❖ Hosea's keys to seeking the Lord

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest down, holding a single red rose with both hands. The rose is positioned in the center of the frame, held gently between the palms. The background is dark and out of focus. The text 'Old Testament prophets' is overlaid on the upper part of the image, with a red horizontal line below it.

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 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 red, and the rose in the right hand is white. The background is dark. The text 'Hosea 2-3' is centered over the image, with a red horizontal line below it. Below the line are two bullet points.

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 close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a red rose and a green stem. The person is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt. The background is dark and out of focus. The text 'Hosea 6-8' is overlaid on the image in a white, stylized font with a black outline. Below the title is a red horizontal line. Below the line is a list of three bullet points, each starting with a white diamond symbol and containing text in a white, stylized font with a black outline.

Hosea 6-8

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

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 9:1

Do not rejoice, Israel;
do not be jubilant like the other nations.
For you have been unfaithful to your God;
you love the wages of a prostitute
at every threshing floor.

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 9:2-3

Threshing floors and winepresses will not feed the people;
the new wine will fail them.

They will not remain in the LORD's land;
Ephraim will return to Egypt
and eat unclean food in Assyria.

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

Hosea 9:4

They will not pour out wine offerings to the LORD,
nor will their sacrifices please him.
Such sacrifices will be to them like the bread of mourners;
all who eat them will be unclean.
This food will be for themselves;
it will not come into the temple of the LORD.

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

Hosea 9:5-6

What will you do on the day of your appointed festivals,
on the feast days of the LORD?

Even if they escape from destruction,
Egypt will gather them,
and Memphis will bury them.

Their treasures of silver will be taken over by briars,
and thorns will overrun their tents.

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.

Hosea 9:7

The days of punishment are coming,
the days of reckoning are at hand.

Let Israel know this.

Because your sins are so many
and your hostility so great,
the prophet is considered a fool,
the inspired person a maniac.

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

Hosea 9:8

The prophet, along with my God,
is the watchman over Ephraim,
yet snares await him on all his paths,
and hostility in the house of his God.

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is holding a bouquet of flowers. The bouquet includes a prominent red rose and several green leaves. The person's hands are visible, and the background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 9:9

They have sunk deep into corruption,
as in the days of Gibeah.
God will remember their wickedness
and punish them for their sins.

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

Jeremiah 31:31

**“The days are coming,” declares the LORD,
“when I will make a new covenant
with the people of Israel
and with the people of Judah.**

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.

Jeremiah 31:32

**“It will not be like the covenant
I made with their ancestors
when I took them by the hand
to lead them out of Egypt,
because they broke my covenant,
though I was a husband to them,”
declares the LORD.**

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

Jeremiah 31:33

“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD.

“I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts.

I will be their God,
and they will be my people.”

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Remember what happened ...

- ❖ At Gibeah (Judges 19-20)
- ❖ At Baal Peor (Numbers 25)
- ❖ At Gilgal (1 Samuel 8)

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Hosea 9:10

“When I found Israel,
it was like finding grapes in the desert;
when I saw your ancestors,
it was like seeing the early fruit on the fig tree.
But when they came to Baal Peor,
they consecrated themselves to that shameful idol
and became as vile as the thing they loved.

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

Hosea 9:11-12

“Ephraim’s glory will fly away like a bird —
no birth, no pregnancy, no conception.
Even if they rear children,
I will bereave them of every one.
Woe to them
when I turn away from them!

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 stem in their right hand. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 9:13

**“I have seen Ephraim, like Tyre,
planted in a pleasant place.
But Ephraim will bring out
their children to the slayer.”**

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Hosea 9:14

Give them, LORD —
what will you give them?
Give them wombs that miscarry
and breasts that are dry.

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 9:15

“Because of all their wickedness in Gilgal,
I hated them there.

Because of their sinful deeds,

I will drive them out of my house.

I will no longer love them;

all their leaders are rebellious.”



1 Samuel 8:7

And the LORD told him: "Listen to all that the people are saying to you; it is not you they have rejected, but they have rejected me as their king."

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Hosea 9:16

**“Ephraim is blighted,
their root is withered,
they yield no fruit.
Even if they bear children,
I will slay their cherished offspring.”**

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 9:17

**My God will reject them
because they have not obeyed him;
they will be wanderers among the nations.**

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

1 Samuel 15:23

“For rebellion is like the sin of divination,
and arrogance like the evil of idolatry.
Because you have rejected the word of the LORD,
he has rejected you as king.”

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Hosea 10:1

Israel was a spreading vine;
he brought forth fruit for himself.
As his fruit increased,
he built more altars;
as his land prospered,
he adorned his sacred stones.

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Hosea 10:2

**Their heart is deceitful,
and now they must bear their guilt.
The LORD will demolish their altars
and destroy their sacred stones.**

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Hosea 10:3

Then they will say, “We have no king
because we did not revere the LORD.
But even if we had a king,
what could he do for us?”

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 stem with leaves in their right hand. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 10:4

They make many promises,
take false oaths
and make agreements;
therefore lawsuits spring up
like poisonous weeds in a plowed field.

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

Hosea 10:5

The people who live in Samaria fear
for the calf-idol of Beth Aven.

Its people will mourn over it,
and so will its idolatrous priests,
those who had rejoiced over its splendor,
because it is taken from them into exile.

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

Hosea 10:6-7

It will be carried to Assyria
as tribute for the great king.

Ephraim will be disgraced;

Israel will be ashamed of its foreign alliances.

Samaria's king will be destroyed,

swept away like a twig on the surface of the waters.

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Hosea 10:8

The high places of wickedness will be destroyed —
it is the sin of Israel.

Thorns and thistles will grow up
and cover their altars.

Then they will say to the mountains, “Cover us!”
and to the hills, “Fall on us!”

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

Hosea 10:9-10

“Since the days of Gibeah, you have sinned, Israel,
and there you have remained.

Will not war again overtake
the evildoers in Gibeah?

When I please, I will punish them;
nations will be gathered against them
to put them in bonds for their double sin.”

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 'Double sin?' is centered at the top in a white, outlined font, with a red horizontal line below it.

Double sin?

- ❖ Dan and Bethel?
- ❖ Monarchy and idolatry?
- ❖ Forsaking God and David's line?
- ❖ Then and now?

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Hosea 10:11

“Ephraim is a trained heifer
that loves to thresh;
so I will put a yoke
on her fair neck.
I will drive Ephraim,
Judah must plow,
and Jacob must break up the ground.

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Hosea 10:12

**“Sow righteousness for yourselves,
reap the fruit of unfailing love,
and break up your unplowed ground;
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Sufjan Stevens:

“You came to take us
All things go, all things go
To recreate us
All things grow, all things grow”

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a single red rose. The person is wearing a white, long-sleeved button-down shirt. The background is dark and out of focus. The text is overlaid on the image.

Matthew 6:33

[Jesus]: “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

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Hosea 10:13

**“But you have planted wickedness,
you have reaped evil,
you have eaten the fruit of deception.”**

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Hosea 10:13-14

“Because you have depended on your own strength and on your many warriors, the roar of battle will rise against your people, so that all your fortresses will be devastated — as Shalman devastated Beth Arbel on the day of battle, when mothers were dashed to the ground with their children.

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Hosea 10:15

**“So will it happen to you, Bethel,
because your wickedness is great.
When that day dawns,
the king of Israel will be completely destroyed.”**

A person wearing a white shirt is shown from the chest up, holding a red rose in their left hand and a green rose stem in their right hand. The background is dark. The text 'Israel's history:' is overlaid on the image, with a red horizontal line below it.

Israel's history:

- ❖ **Stubbornness**
- ❖ **Dishonesty**
- ❖ **Disloyalty**

What have we learned?

- ❖ Because only God was/is faithful to the Old Covenant, we need a New Covenant.
- ❖ Hosea's keys to seeking the Lord
 - ❖ Don't be stubborn.
 - ❖ Pursue righteousness.



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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