

Book of Hosea

Prepared by Kevin E. Hughes

Hosea's Directive:

1. To expose **Israel's** breach of **Obedience** or **Sin**.
2. To announce **God's** intention to implement **Curses** for **Disobedience**, from **Deut 28:15-68**
3. To affirmed **God's Covenant** promise of **Israel's** ultimate **Restoration**, from **Deut 30:1-10**

Three Major Themes:

Sin, **Judgment**, and **Restoration**

- A. **Israel's Sin**: idolatry (3:1, 4:17; 8:4, 6; 10:5; 11:2; 13:2), Baal worship (2:8, 13; 11:2; 13:1), Broke Covenant and rebelled against the Law, (6:7, 8:1)
- B. **Israel's Judgment**: (1:2-9, 2:2-13, 4:1-5:14, 6:4-11:7, 11:12-13:16)
- C. **Israel's Restoration**: (1:10-2:1, 2:14-3:5, 5:15-6:3, 11:8-11, 14:1-9)



Theme Verse:

Whoever is wise, let him understand **these things** (things of **Lord**, prophesied by **Hosea**);
Whoever is discerning, let him know **them** (these things).

[**WHY ?**] For **the ways of the LORD** are right, And the righteous will walk in **them** (ways of **LORD**)
But transgressors will stumble in **them** (ways of **LORD**), **Hosea 14:9**

Bible Text Interpretation > Process

First > Read the Book thoroughly

Second > Develop your own [**Book Outline**]

- I. [**Book Sections**]
 - A. [**Sub-Sections**]
 1. [**Paragraphs**]
 - a. [**Sub-Points**]

Creating your own **Outline**, instead of using someone else's, requires You to:

- Break the TEXT down into its Major and Minor Points and Sub-Points.
It helps You to SEE the CONTEXT of the PASSAGE.
- Once Completed You are then better able to SEE what the TEXT is saying,
which is the TEXT INTERPRETATION, Your Goal.

Paragraph – in Hebrew Old Testament

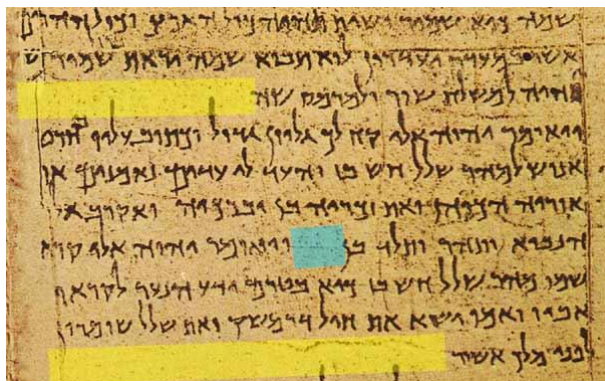
<https://charlesasullivan.com/2693/history-chapters-verses-hebrew-bible/>

literary unit > in Hebrew

The yellow highlights are the long blank spaces that represent where a literary unit has ended and the next one should begin.

Paragraphs > in Hebrew

The small blue highlight represents a paragraph within the same literary unit.



Taken from Isaiah 7:25-8:5,

Part of the Dead Sea Scrolls

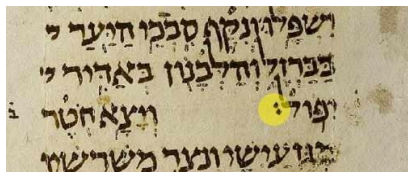
End of a Verse > The sof pasuq : in Hebrew

One of the more important cantillation marks that one must be aware of is the *sof pasuq*.

The *sof pasuq* looks like a large semi-colon (:).

It is similar to the period used to mark the end of a sentence in English.

This was the Hebrew traditional method which shows the end of a verse.



Hebrew is written Right to Left

Note the nine character empty space in the middle of the last line after the *sof pasuq*.

the nine character empty space demonstrates the end of a paragraph.

A larger space but not a complete blank line, usually indicates the end of a literary unit.

Hebrew written and read Right to Left

שְׁמַע יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֶחָד יְהוָה אֵל לֹהֵי־נוּ אֶחָד יְהוָה אֵל יְהוָה אֶחָד



EH-CHAD	ADONAI	EH-LO-HEY-NU	ADONAI	YIS-RA-EL	SHE-MA
is one	the LORD	our God	the LORD	Israel	Hear

Listen, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one. (Deut. 6:4)

Metaphor > Compares Hosea's Marriage with the Lord's Marriage

Hosea 1:2 (the Command for and Reason for the Lord's Metaphor)

2 When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea,

“Go (Command), take to yourself a wife of harlotry and have children of harlotry;

(Reason) for the land (of Israel) commits flagrant harlotry, forsaking (Dt 31:16c) the Lord.”

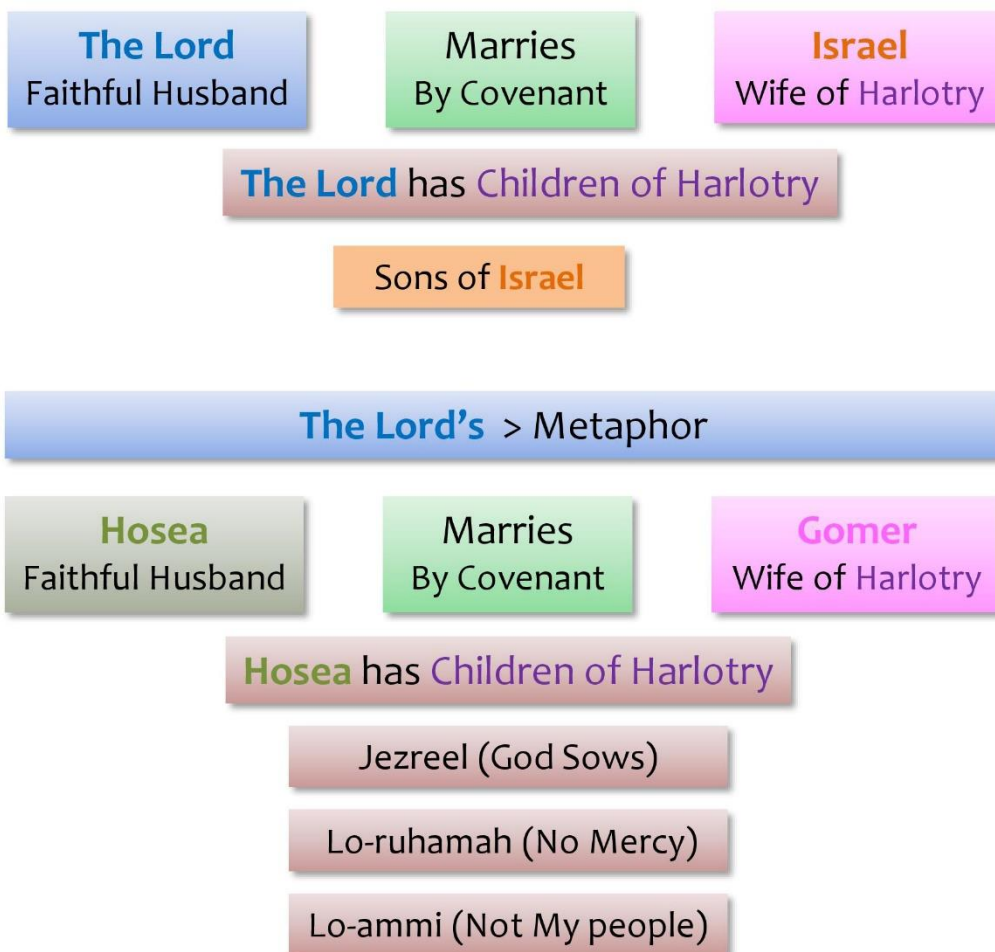
Hosea 3:1 (the Lord's Metaphor > Go Love a woman “as” the Lord loves Wife, Israel)

1 Then the LORD said to me, “Go again, love a woman who is loved by her husband, (Jer 31:32)

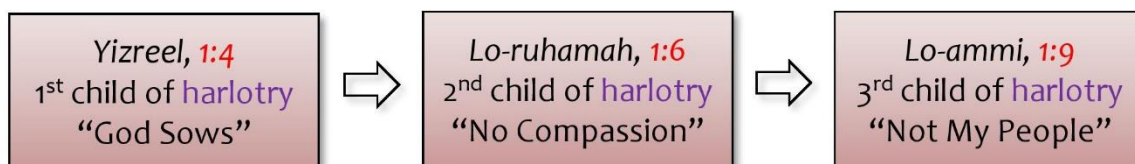
yet an adulteress, even as (Metaphor, “as” Simile) the LORD loves the sons of Israel, though they turn to other gods and love raisin cakes.”

Metaphor > Compares Hosea's Marriage with the Lord's Marriage

Hosea 1:1-11, Hosea 1:2, Hosea 3:1



In Hosea's Day, the Lord's Wife (Israel) has committed flagrant Harlotry (Sin > Judgement)



Israel was Never a Faithful Wife to Her Husband the Lord

Jeremiah 31:32 (Israel is Wife to her Husband the Lord, since the day of Exodus) **1446 BC**
32 not like the covenant which I made with **their fathers** in the day I took **them** by the hand to bring **them** out of the land of Egypt, **My** covenant which **they broke**, although I was a **husband** (Hos 2:7, 2:16, 2:19, 3:1, Isa 54:5-6, 62:4-5, Jer 3:14) to **them**,” declares **the Lord**.

What Moses said and knew about Israel, before he died, 1406 BC

Deuteronomy 9:7 (Wife always **Rebellious**)

7 “Remember, do not forget how **you** provoked **the Lord your God** to wrath in the wilderness; from the day that **you** left the land of Egypt until **you** arrived at this place, **you** have been **rebellious** against **the Lord**.

Deuteronomy 31:16 (Wife will **play the harlot**)

16 **The Lord** said to **Moses**, “Behold, **you** are about to lie down with **your fathers**; and **this people** will arise and **play the harlot** (Hos 1:2) with the strange gods of **the land**, into the midst of which **they** are going, and (**they**) will **forsake** (Hos 1:2) **Me** and **break My** covenant which I have made with **them**.

Deuteronomy 31:27 (Wife **rebellious** and **stubborn** now and much more after **Moses** dies)

27 “For I (**Moses**) **know your** (Israel’s) **rebellion** and **your stubbornness**; behold, while I am still alive with **you** today, **you** have been **rebellious** against **the Lord**; how much more (**rebellious**), then, after **my death**?

Deuteronomy 31:29 (Wife after **Moses** death, will **act corruptly** and **provoke** Lord to anger)

29 “For I (**Moses**) **know** that after **my death you** (Israel) will **act corruptly** and **turn from the way** which I have commanded **you**; and **evil** will befall **you** in the latter days, for **you** will do that which is **evil** in the sight of **the Lord**, **provoking Him** to anger with the work of **your hands**.”

Married Wife



Harlot Wife



Cursed Wife