

- Recap of last week: Hosea was a prophet to the Northern Kingdom of Israel who took a prostitute for a wife, had children with her, and bought her back after she went astray again, all to symbolize the way God had treated Israel. (Hosea 1-3) God lists all the things Israel has been guilty of and how they will be punished. (Hosea 4-5) God tells them an internal debate will rage about whether or not to worship Him again, and emphasizes that He desires “mercy not sacrifice” a principle Christ will emphasize to the Pharisees. (Hosea 6) God says other nations won’t help them and reemphasizes that they will pay for their crimes (Hosea 7-8)
- God tells Hosea to tell Israel that they will receive no more nourishment from their grain, their wine, or their bread, and will be forced to eat unclean food when they go into captivity. (Hosea 9:1-4)
- God tells them that the days of punishment have come and that He will “remember their iniquities and punish their sins.” (Hosea 9:5-9)
- Under Christ, God will not remember our iniquities or punish our sins. (Hebrews 8:12)
- Incidentally, the previous verse (Hebrews 8:11) is also a reference to the way God treats us differently from the way He did in the Old Testament. It will be predicted again by the prophet named Jeremiah (Jeremiah 31:34).
- God explains that once Israel was pure (he uses the analogy of both and grape a new fig – images of fruit that is only ripe and good for a short time), but now the glory has gone from them. (Hosea 9:10-17)
- God tells Israel that the idols they have built will be overgrown with weeds and that there is still time to repent. (Hosea 10)
- God is still patient and wants to give everyone time to repent. (II Peter 3:11)
- God says he loved Israel at the time He brought them out of bondage in Egypt, but that the further they got from that event in time and space the more they built idols. He also mentions that the Southern Kingdom of Judah still follows him. (Hosea 11)
- God says that Judah will eventually bring dishonor on itself and suffer the same fate as Israel, who is particularly guilty of fraud and injustice. In doing so, God notes that they will dishonor one of the founders of their nation, Jacob. (Hosea 12)
- God says Israel will be laid waste for their idolatry. He says he will rip them open like a lion, a leopard, a bear robbed of its cubs. (Hosea 13:1-8)
- God says most of Israel will be devoured and suffer great and horrible punishment. But God does promise to save those who believe. He even notes that death and hell have no sting. (Hosea 13:9-16)
- Those who believe in Christ now have that power as well. (I Corinthians 15:55)
- God tells Hosea to finally urge everyone to repent again. He says, let those who are wise understand these things. (Hosea 14)
- The prophet Amos was in roughly the same time period as Hosea. He was a shepherd from a place called Tekoah before being a prophet. He predicts ruin on Syria, Palestine, Tyre and Moab in addition to Israel and Judah. (Amos 1-2)

- A separate prophet named Joel is going to explain the ruin of other nations a little more. (Joel 3:2)
- God compares the destruction of Israel to the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah and compares a few people being left alive to the fact that a shepherd might find some sheep parts after an animal has attacked a flock. (Amos 3-4)
- God says you can run but you can't hide from the coming attack and that justice will be done. (Amos 5-6)
- In the middle of prophesying, a priest named Amaziah tells Amos that he should not be predicting Israel's downfall and invites him to go prophesy in the Southern Kingdom of Judah. Amos declines, saying God told him to prophesy in Israel and you are going to suffer the same fate as everyone else when Syria attacks. (Amos 7)
- God reiterates to Amos that Israel will be destroyed but that eventually He will return them to their land never to be uprooted again. (Amos 8-9)

Questions

1. What three sources does God tell Israel they will get no more nourishment from?
2. What kind of food will Israel be forced to eat in captivity?
3. What does God say that He will do that will cause him to punish Israel?
4. How does that differ from the way God treats us under Christ?
5. What two fruits does God liken Israel to when it was young and loyal to God? Why?
6. What does God say will happen to the idols Israel has made?
7. What is God's attitude toward the right time to repent?
8. How does God say Israel reacted to being brought out of slavery in Egypt?
9. At the time Hosea was prophesying does God say Judah is still following Him?
10. What does God say Israel is particularly guilty of?
11. Who does God say Judah will eventually dishonor?
12. What three animals does God liken his destruction to?
13. Who does death have no sting for?
14. Who does God say will understand Hosea's prophesy?
15. What was Amos' occupation before he was a prophet?
16. Where was Amos from?
17. What three lands does Amos prophesy will fall?
18. What prophet elaborates on the downfall of nations?
19. What does God compare the coming destruction of Israel to?
20. What analogy does God use to describe the remnant of people left?
21. Who tells Amos not to prophesy to Israel and what is his reaction?
22. What does God tell Amos will happen after the Syrian captivity?