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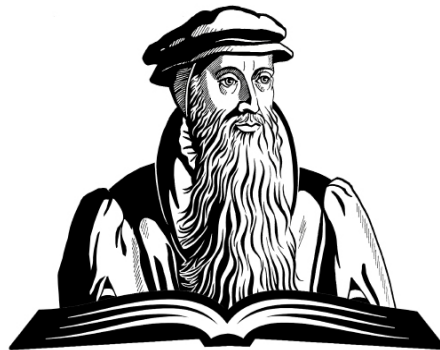
**BIBLE FOR
6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

Old Testament

Lesson 100

Hosea—The Minor Prophets

Lecture Presenter: Dr. Daniel Sweetman



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide

John Knox Institute of Higher Education

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Module

BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

Old Testament

113 LESSONS

77 Lessons presented by Mr. Daniel Van Brugge

36 Lessons presented by Dr. Daniel Sweetman

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| 01. The Bible: The Word of God | 26. Joseph and His Brethren |
| 02. Creation: The Work of an Almighty God | 27. Jacob Comes to Joseph |
| 03. Man: A Special Place in God's Creation | 28. God Heard Their Cry |
| 04. A Gracious Promise | 29. Moses and the Burning Bush |
| 05. Cain and Abel | 30. Let My People God |
| 06. Only Noah Found Grace | 31. Deliverance |
| 07. The Coming Judgment –A Way of Escape | 32. God's Patience with a Complaining People |
| 08. The Noahic Covenant | 33. Keeping the Law: Not to Merit /Thankfulness |
| 09. The Tower of Babel | 34. The Lord Dwells Among His People |
| 10. Abram: Called by God | 35. A Priest for the People |
| 11. Abram Intercedes for Lot | 36. Moses Intercedes for a Rebellious People |
| 12. Melchizadek | 37. Worshiping God Rightly |
| 13. Righteous by Faith | 38. Walk Not According to the World |
| 14. Two Sons | 39. Hearts of Ingratitude |
| 15. Lessons from Lot's Life | 40. Aaron's Rod Blossoming |
| 16. Faithless Abraham – Faithful God | 41. The Serpent of Brass Lifted Up |
| 17. Abraham Tested – God's Provision | 42. Phinehas Turning Away God's Wrath |
| 18. Isaac and Rebekah | 43. Cities of Refuge |
| 19. Jacob: A Better Desire than Esau | 44. A New Generation |
| 20. Jacob the Deceiver | 45. Moses' Last Days |
| 21. God Preserves Jacob | 46. Joshua—God's Promise Fulfilled |
| 22. Jacob Returns to Beth-el | 47. A Promise to Rahab |
| 23. Joseph Loved – Joseph Hated | 48. The Rise of Judges |
| 24. An Eye upon God | 49. Gideon—God with Him |
| 25. Joseph Raised Out of Prison | 50. Samson |

51. Ruth the Moabitess
52. Samuel Judges Israel
53. Israel's First King
54. The Kingdom Established
55. David Anointed the Next King
56. David Hunted by Saul
57. The Last Days of Saul
58. David, the Next King
59. Fetching the Ark
60. Thou Art the Man
61. David's Return to Jerusalem
62. Seven Sons of Saul Killed
63. Genealogies of Israel
64. David Appointed King
65. David's Kingdom Established
66. David Prepares for the Temple
67. David's Departing Instructions
68. Solomon Becomes King
69. Solomon Builds the House of God
70. The Kingdom is Rent
71. A Wicked Divided Kingdom
72. Ahab's Reign and Death
73. Elisha Begins his Work
74. Elisha's Voice is Heard
75. A Succession of Kings
76. Ahaz and Hezekiah
77. The Captivity of Judah
78. Introduction to the Prophets
79. Isaiah's Vision & Song
80. Isaiah Prophecies about Christ
81. The Prophet Jeremiah Called and Sent
82. Jeremiah Opposed and Comforted
83. Ezekiel, the Captive Prophet
84. Ezekiel's Comforting Visions
85. Daniel and His Three Friends
86. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream
87. Three Friends in the Fiery Furnace
88. Nebuchadnezzar's Madness
89. The Writing on the Wall
90. Daniel in the Lions' Den
91. Daniel's Visions and Dreams
92. Ezra—Return from Captivity
93. Ezra—Rebuilding the Temple
94. Ezra—The Scribe
95. Nehemiah—Rebuilding the Walls
96. Nehemiah—The Task Completed
97. Esther the Queen
98. Esther—Haman's Plot
99. Esther—The Jews Saved
- 100. Hosea—The Minor Prophets**
101. Joel and the Day of the LORD
102. Amos the Fearless Herdsman
103. Obadiah Prophecies Edom's Fall
104. Jonah's Flight
105. Jonah's Mission
106. Micah Preaches Judgment & Mercy
107. Nahum—A Message for Nineveh
108. Habakkuk's Questions, God's Replies
109. Zephaniah—Threatenings & Promises
110. Haggai Urges Building the Temple
111. Zechariah—The Night Visions
112. Zechariah Prophecies of Christ
113. Malachi—Last Old Testament Prophet

Lesson 100

Hosea—The Minor Prophets

Hosea, chapters 1 through 13

Memory Verse

“And I will sow her unto me in the earth; and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to them which were not my people, Thou art my people; and they shall say, Thou art my God.”

Hosea 2:23

You have probably noticed that the order of the Old Testament Bible Lessons has not followed the exact order of the books in our Bible. After studying nine of the twelve books of history, we turned to the five major prophets. In these books, we learned about the final years and the destruction of the nation of Judah, and the captivity in Babylon. Then we went back to study the last three books of history, Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther, learning about the Jews’ return to the promised land. In this way, we followed the history of the children of Israel in chronological order.

The Minor Prophets

The last group of books of the Old Testament are the twelve books of the minor prophets. They are called the minor prophets because they are shorter in length than the major prophets. The first nine books of the minor prophets were written before the captivity. The last three were written after the Jews had returned from captivity. Some minor prophets prophesied to the people of the ten tribes of Israel. Some prophesied to the nation of Judah. Some prophesied to heathen nations! The books of the minor prophets vary in length from fourteen chapters to only one chapter. Despite these differences, in each of these books we can read about man’s sin, God’s judgment, and God’s rich mercy in Christ.

Hosea’s Marriage and God’s Marriage

Hosea, the first of the minor prophets, prophesied to the ten tribes of Israel not long before they were defeated by the Assyrians and led away into captivity. In Hosea 1:2, Hosea is instructed by the Lord to marry a harlot named Gomer. After bearing Hosea three children, Gomer runs away and ends up a slave. Hosea is instructed to go after her and buy her back again. These events in Hosea’s life were meant to be a vivid illustration to the people of Israel of their unfaithfulness to their God. They were sinking away in idolatry. Soon they would be slaves. Even the names of Hosea’s three children contained fearful warnings. The name Jezreel means “scattered.” The Lord would scatter the ten tribes, causing their kingdom to cease. The names Lo-ruhamah and Lo-ammi mean “No Mercy,” and “Not My People.” The people of Israel would soon taste the bitter fruits of their unfaithfulness. But what amazing promises do we read in the last verses of chapter one,

chapter two, and chapter three! The name Jezreel also means “to sow.” Notice this word in our memory text. The Lord would take the “Lo” off the names of the other two children. “No mercy” would become “Mercy;” and “Not My people” would become “Thou art My people.” God has chosen them and will purify them.

In the following chapters of the book, the sins and unfaithfulness of the people of Israel are vividly described. Because of their covenant with the Lord to be his people, their idolatry is nothing less than adultery. This must be punished. Since they have “sown the wind,” they must “reap the whirlwind” (Hosea 8:7). Yet, as a grieving husband, the Lord calls out, “O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee?” (Hosea 6:4), and “How shall I give thee up, Ephraim?” (Hosea 11:8). Almost 100 times throughout the book of Hosea, God speaks in the first person, “I”. It is the Lord who will bring punishments upon the people. It is also the Lord who will have mercy upon his people as we read so beautifully in the final chapter of Hosea.

The Significance of Marriage

Hosea describes God’s relationship with his people in terms of marriage. From this we can learn the significance of marriage. Around the world today, marriage is under attack. Adultery, fatherlessness, homosexuality, and gender confusion all try to weaken the institution of marriage. In the book of Hosea, however, we see that the human marriage relationship is instituted by God to portray God’s relationship to his people. Just as a husband pledges to faithfully love and protect his wife, God has pledged to never leave or forsake his people. He has made this possible by sending his own Son to redeem them. The church is the chosen bride of Christ—see Revelation, chapters 19 through 21. If you are chosen by God, you will be united to him forever!

Review Questions

1. Hosea prophesied during the reign of which king of Israel? _____ the son of _____.
2. What was the name of Hosea’s daughter? _____
3. How much did Hosea need to pay to buy Gomer back? _____

Look up the following comparisons.

4. In Hosea 3:1, to what does God compare Hosea’s love to Gomer?

5. In Hosea 6:4, what is Ephraim and Judah’s goodness compared to?

6. In Hosea 6:9, what are the priests compared to?

7. In Hosea 9:10 and 10:1, what is Israel compared to?

8. In Hosea 13:3, Ephraim's downfall is compared to what?

9. In Hosea 13:7–8, what animals portray God's wrath?

10. In Hosea 14:5, what does God compare his mercy to?

11. In Hosea 14:5–7, to what does God compare the restored Israel?

Discussion Questions

1. The name Hosea and the name Jesus are the same in Hebrew. What does this name mean? How is Hosea a type of Christ in Hosea chapter 3? _____

2. What might be some reasons why the devil is attacking marriage so fiercely in our time?

4. We do not serve golden calves or idols like Baal. In what way might you live a life of unfaithfulness to God, even though you might be an outwardly decent churchgoer?

What can you learn about Christ the Bridegroom in the following texts?

5. Matthew 22, verses 2 & 3 _____

6. Matthew 25, verses 1 & 2 _____

7. 2 Corinthians 11:2 _____

8. Ephesians 5:25 _____
