

THE STORY of the BIBLE



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❖ Unfaithfulness hurts God

You **adulterous** people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. Or do you think Scripture says without reason that **he jealously longs** for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us?



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James 4:4-5 (NIV)

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.



John 10:10 (NIV)

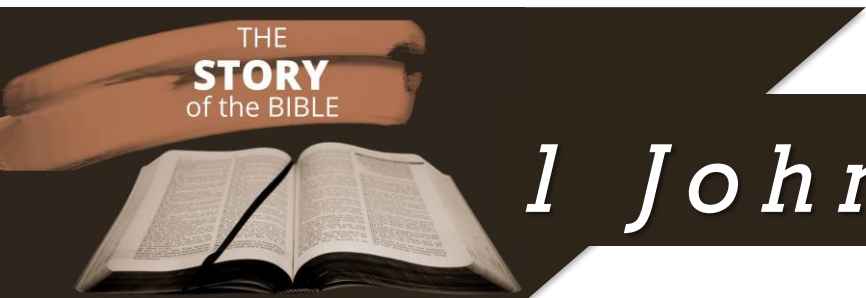
Worshiping foreign gods has sapped their strength, but they don't even know it. Their hair is gray, but they don't realize they're old and weak. Their arrogance testifies against them, yet they don't return to the Lord their God or even try to find him.



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Hosea 7:9-10 (NLT)

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.



1 John 2:15–17 (NIV)

Like a wild donkey looking for a mate, they have gone up to Assyria. The people of Israel have sold themselves— sold themselves to many lovers.



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Hosea 8:12 (NLT)

Even though I gave them all my laws, they act as if those laws don't apply to them.



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Hosea 8:12 (NLT)

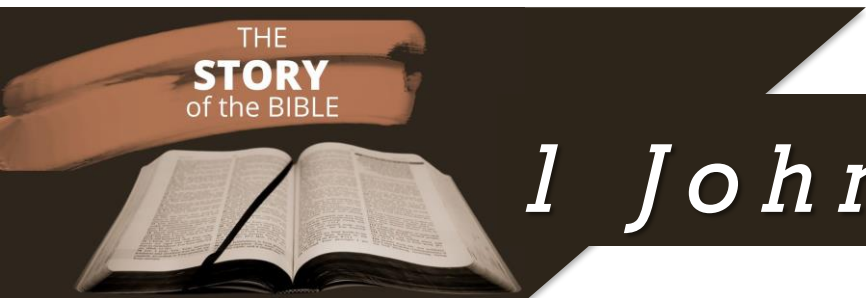
We love because **he first loved us.**

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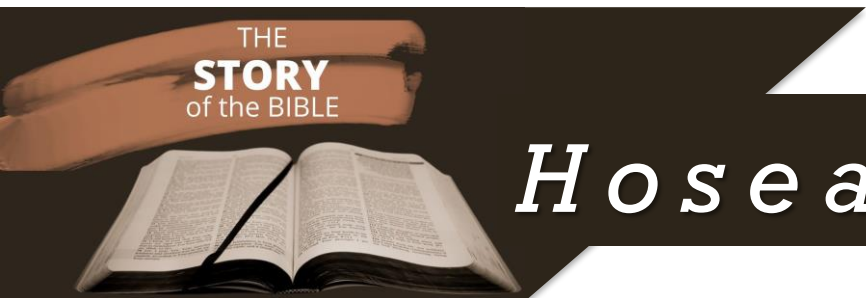
1 John 4:19 (NIV)

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.



1 John 4:9-10 (NIV)

I myself taught Israel how to walk, leading him along by the hand. But he doesn't know or even care that it was I who took care of him.



Hosea 11:3 (NLT)

Its people don't realize that I am watching them. Their sinful deeds are all around them, and I see them all.



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Hosea 7:2 (NLT)

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- Unfaithfulness hurts God

❖ God sometimes allows you to see what life without Him looks like

I know what you are like, O Ephraim. You cannot hide yourself from me, O Israel. You have left me as a prostitute leaves her husband; you are utterly defiled.



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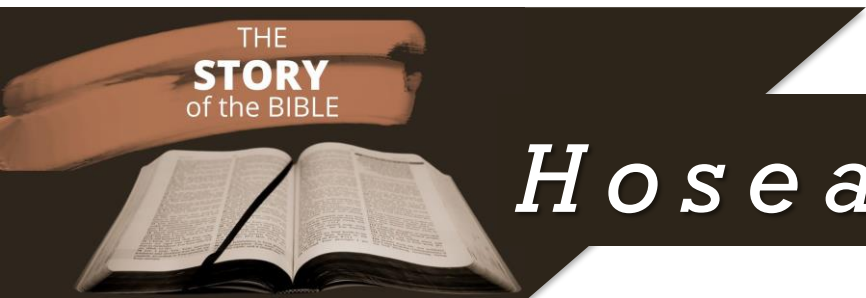
Hosea 5:3 (NLT)

When they come with their flocks and herds to offer sacrifices to the Lord, **they will not find him, because he has withdrawn from them.**

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Hosea 5:6 (NLT)

Then I will return to my place until they admit their guilt and turn to me. For as soon as trouble comes, they will earnestly search for me.”



Hosea 5:15 (NLT)

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- Unfaithfulness hurts God
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❖ God pursues us even when we have been unfaithful

“But then I will win her back once again. I will lead her into the desert and speak tenderly to her there.



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Hosea 2:14 (NLT)

Then the Lord said to me, “Go and love your wife again, even though she commits adultery with another lover. This will illustrate that the Lord still loves Israel, even though the people have turned to other gods and love to worship them.”



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Hosea 3:1 (NLT)

But afterward the people will return and devote themselves to the Lord their God and to David's descendant, their king. In the last days, they will tremble in awe of the Lord and of his goodness.



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Hosea 3:5 (NLT)

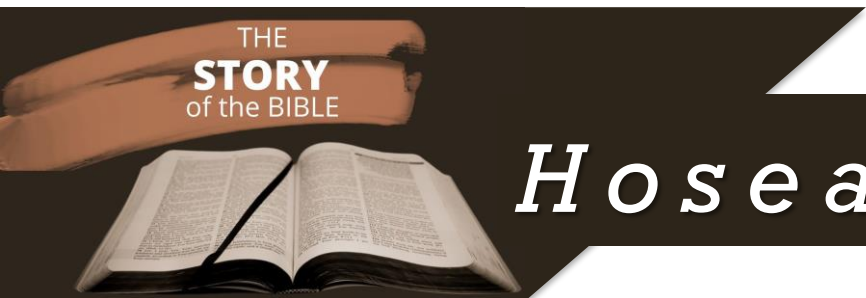
I will return her vineyards to her and transform the Valley of Trouble into a gateway of hope. She will give herself to me there, as she did long ago when she was young, when I freed her from her captivity in Egypt.



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Hosea 2:15 (NLT)

I will make you my wife forever, showing you righteousness and justice, unfailing love and compassion. I will be faithful to you and make you mine, and you will finally know me as the Lord.



Hosea 2:19-20 (NLT)

The Lord says, “Then I will heal you of your faithlessness; my love will know no bounds, for my anger will be gone forever.



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Hosea 14:4 (NLT)

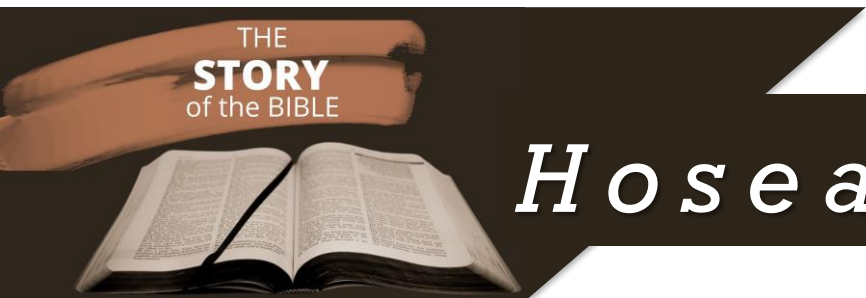
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❖ It's the church's responsibility to speak truth in your life

my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge.
“Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject
you as my priests; because you have ignored the law
of your God, I also will ignore your children.



Hosea 4:6 (NIV)

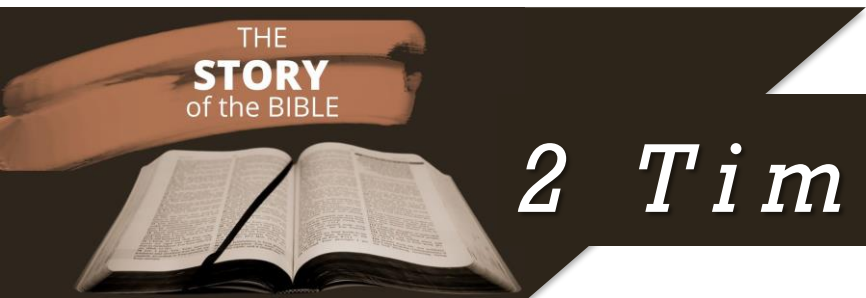
They feed on the sins of my people and relish their wickedness.



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Hosea 4:8 (NIV)

For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.



2 Timothy 4:3-4 (NIV)

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- It's the church's responsibility to speak truth in your life

❖ God is not interested in relationship without love

I want you to show love, not offer sacrifices. I want you to know me more than I want burnt offerings.



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Hosea 6:6 (NLT)

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- God is not interested in relationship without love

❖ How do I come home?

So now, **come back to your God.** Act with love and justice, and always depend on him.



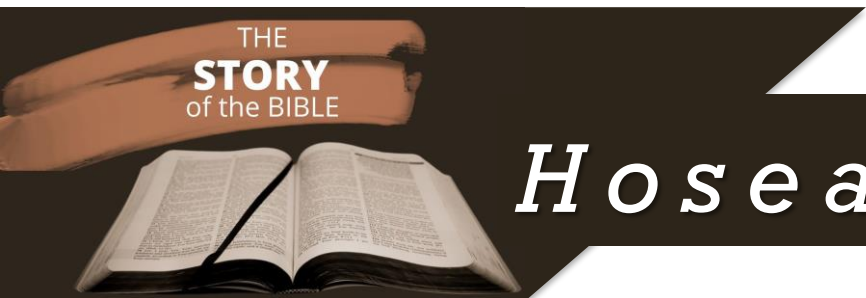
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Hosea 12:6 (NLT)

Return, O Israel, to the Lord your God, for your sins
have brought you down.

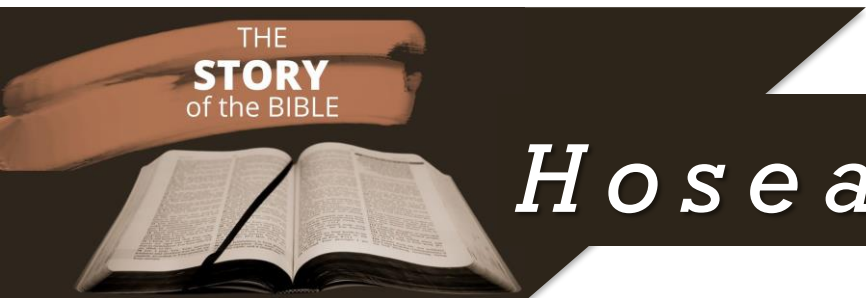
Bring your confessions, and return to the Lord.

Say to him, “Forgive all our sins and graciously receive
us, so that we may offer you our praises.



Hosea 14:1-2 (NLT)

“O Israel, stay away from idols! **I am the one who answers your prayers and cares for you.** I am like a tree that is always green; all your fruit comes from me.”
Let those who are wise understand these things. Let those with discernment listen carefully. The paths of the Lord are true and right, and righteous people live by walking in them. But in those paths sinners stumble and fall.



Hosea 14:8–9 (NLT)

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- How do I come home?



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