

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 02 Dec 2012.....Hosea 1:1-3:5..... Exposing a Broken Relationship
- 2) 09 Dec .....Hosea 4:1-7:16..... Rebuking Destructive Behavior
- 3) 16 Dec .....Hosea 8:1-10:15.....Deciding on Discipline
- 4) 23 Dec ..... Matthew 1:18-2:18..... Seeking the Savior
- 5) 30 Dec .....Hosea 11:1-12:14..... **Remembering Compassion**
- 6) 06 Jan 2013.....Hosea 13:1-14:9..... Restoring the Repentant
- 7) 13 Jan ..... Amos 1:1-4:13..... Unseal the Indictment
- 8) 20 Jan..... Gen 1; Ex 1, Ps 139; Mk 10..... Value of Human Life
- 9) 27 Jan ..... Amos 5:1-6:14..... Court is in Session
- 10) 03 Feb..... Amos 7:1-17..... Can I Get a Witness
- 11) 10 Feb..... Amos 8:1-9:15..... Let the Verdict be Read
- 12) 17 Feb..... Jonah 1:1-2:10..... Pursuing Those Called to Tell
- 13) 24 Feb..... Jonah 3:1-4:11..... Pursuing Those Who Need to Hear

INTRODUCTION

- We learn about God’s enduring compassion toward sinners. He always leaves a door open as long as possible with the expectation people will repent and seek Him whole-heartedly

| Passage      | Comments  |
|--------------|---|
| Hosea 11:1-7 | <p><b>Israel Failed to Count Its Blessings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v1b. God called His son out of Egypt (Israel in history, Jesus in prophecy) ..... Matthew 2:15</li> <li>• v1a-2. God loved Israel in its early days before Israel chose to chase after false gods of pleasure</li> <li>• vv3-4. Israel failed to see God’s hand on their country. [Is America in the same boat as Israel where we have been blessed by God but we fail to acknowledge Him?]</li> <li>• vv5-6. A special fate – one tailored for the situation, is chosen for Israel. Assyria, a cruel, conquering nation, will crush, nearly annihilate, and disperse Israel</li> <li>• v7. God’s preachers throughout the land cry out for the nation to return to God, but their cries are ignored</li> </ul>   |
| 11:6         | <p>The Message (an amplified version of the English Bible) provides this enlightening rendition of verse 6:<br/> <i>“That’s why his cities are unsafe—the murder rate sky-rockets and every plan to improve things falls to pieces.”</i></p>  |
| 11:8-12      | <p><b>God Prefers to Bless and Not Curse</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv8-9. God makes a case not to totally destroy Israel</li> <li>• vv10-11. God promises to restore Israel one day</li> <li>• v12. BUT, at this time in history both Israel and Judah were non-repentant, so they could expect judgment</li> </ul>  |
| 12:1-7       | <p><b>We must Wait for God – and Not Lose Faith</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v1. <i>“Oil is exported to Egypt”</i> indicates Israel’s wealth and resources were captured and taken away                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ The tribe of Asher is noted as being blessed with wealth (Gen 49:20) and sitting on oil (Deut 33:24)</li> <li>♦ <b>Note:</b> The oil &amp; gas pockets in the Middle East are forecasted to run out mid-century. <b>BUT</b> in recent months, as reported in the <i>“American Thinker”</i> massive energy resources were discovered within Israeli territory, which will soon turn geopolitical issues in that region upside down</li> <li>♦ Recall the kings of the east (possibly China or oil-starved middle-eastern countries will one day be prepared to march on Israel (for what purpose except to capture much needed resources) . Rev 16:12</li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv2-6. God makes another judicial case, this time by bringing Judah (Israel’s southern cousin) into focus                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ God recall’s Judah’s (and Israel’s) humble beginning and calls for their humble return – But do they?</li> <li>♦ <b>The Secret to Success.</b> <i>“Observe kindness and justice, and wait continually on God”</i> ..... HOW?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

| Passage | Comments   |
|---------|--|
| 12:7-14 | <p><b>Israel Began Nobly with Prophets and Visions – But Ends in Bloodshed Because of Willful Ignorance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v8. Israel (Ephraim) presents her case that she became rich without God’s help, and she did it honestly                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Similar to Proverbs 30:20 <i>This is the way of an adulterous woman: She eats and wipes her mouth, And says, “I have done no wrong.”</i></li> <li>♦ Self-delusion is the down fall of so many. Jesus gives us several principles to keep us from being self-deluded:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Let no man deceive you ..... 2Thes 2:3</li> <li>2. Do not be deceived by Satan .....Rev 12:9</li> <li>3. Do not deceive yourself ..... 1Cor 3:18</li> </ol> </li> <li>♦ Like Cain, God expects us to “master it” – in other words, be willing to take the steps necessary to prevent and eliminate sin from our lives</li> <li>♦ We are accountable, and we must rely on God for the escape routes at times ..... 1Cor 10:13</li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv9-11. God presents His case that He’s known Israel since the beginning, He has seen all their sins, He has given them ample warning through prophecies and visions, – and He has a plan to restore them to the “good ole days” when they resided in tents and had close, intimate fellowship with God</li> <li>• vv12-14. BUT the good ole days of being kept close to God by a prophet are over while God contends with the sins of His people</li> <li>• <b>Principle to live by.</b> We cannot move forward with God till sin is dealt with and removed</li> </ul> |

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- As another year passes away and a new year begins, we should heed God’s command and wait on Him continually – through tough times and easy times, times of persecution and times of peace

NEXT WEEK: **Hosea 13-14.** When riches & comfort increase man has a tendency to forget God. How do we prepare for good times & bad?

