



Cover to Cover: (Hosea)

Sept 9

Watch: [Hosea](#)

Context: The minor prophets! Ah, those hard to find books at the end of the Old Testament that are difficult to find and often passed over; yet how much the poorer are we for neglecting them! If Amos was defined by God's wrath, Hosea is all about His steadfast or loyal/Covenant love. These prophets prophesied during the time of the Kings, confronting sin, casting hope and ultimately pointing to the Messiah. Hosea begins with his marriage to Gomer. It is not clear whether she was unfaithful before or during their marriage but the point is clear: their relationship is a wreck. Yet despite her unfaithfulness and the lawfulness of a divorce, as a prophetic act, Hosea is called by the Lord to pursue Gomer and restore their relationship. This is all a sign of how God had been the faithful husband to Israel, Israel the faithless bride, yet rather than divorce her, He will pursue her and renew the Covenant. Israel has rebelled. There are consequences for sin. However, God's Covenant love is stronger than the sins of His people. The rest of the book is a series of two accusatory poems followed by hope filled poems that all ultimately point to Jesus.

First, a.m. Sermon Recap:

- We often hear of Tyre and Sidon in the Bible. Where were these places and what were they known for?
- What was their great sin that Isaiah said they would be judged for? How is this the chief sin?
- How were they eventually judged?
- How should this city stand as a warning to us today?

Read: Hos 6

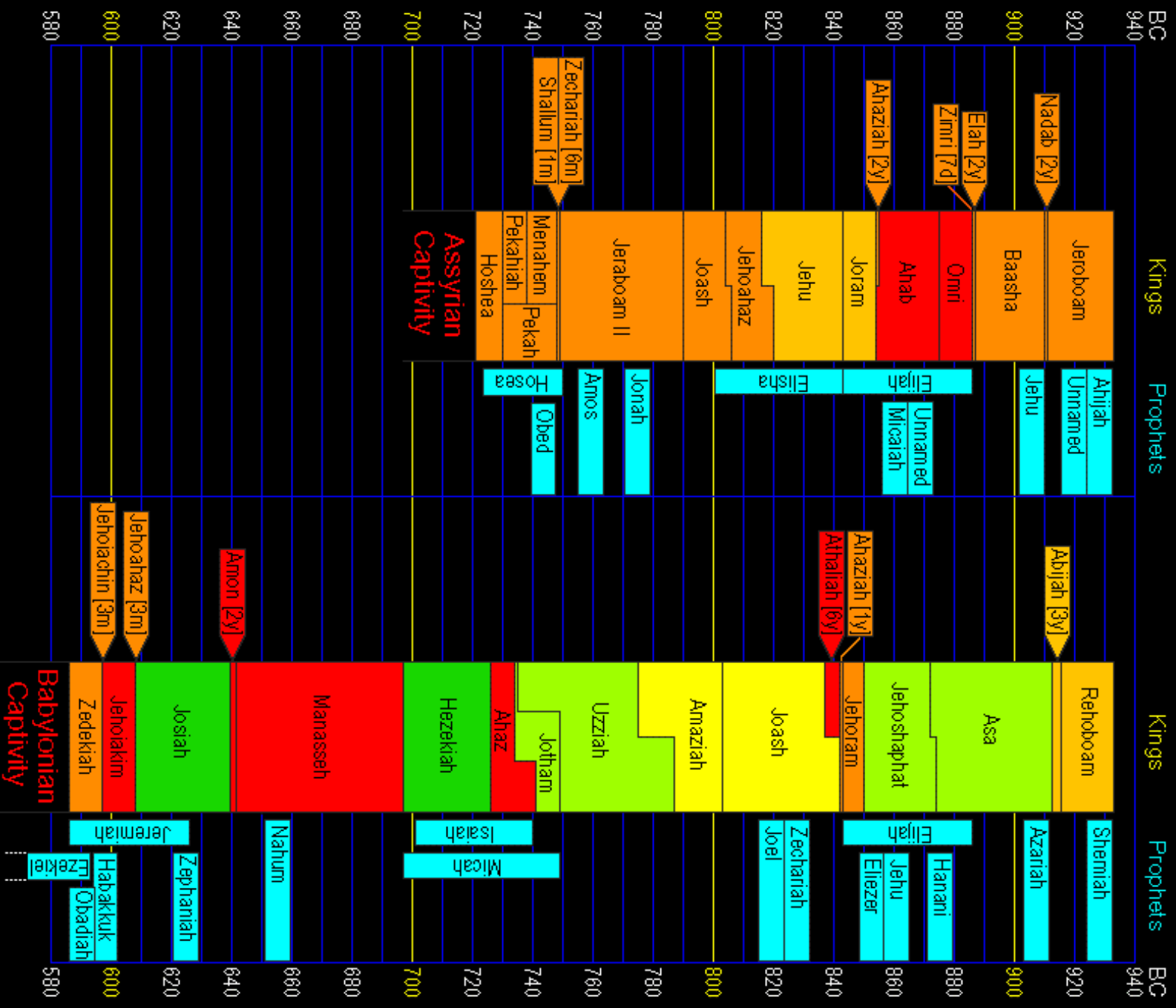
Questions:

- How is v. 1 similar to Heb 12:6?
 - Use the discipline of a child as an example.

- In His love, to what lengths will He go to discipline His people?
- Yet it is not all gloom, what hope lies beyond discipline (v. 2)?
 - How is this a picture of the Resurrection?
- V. 3- *In Hebrew "to know" is far more than head knowledge about someone but a personal relational knowledge* (what is the difference?). What sort of knowledge is being commended here and on what basis?
- *Yet, their knowledge of the Lord was of the hypocritical sort. They claimed to know Him but broke the Law all the while pretending to worship Him (and "behind" His back worshiped false God's of heaven and earth).* In v. 4 what does God equate their "love" with? *This is why the prophets were sent (v. 5).*
- V.6- What does God desire? What does this look like? Does that mean worship is unimportant?
- *No mention of the word covenant is used Genesis 1-3, however, there clearly was a Covenant of Works (reinforced by this verse).* How was Israel like Adam? (not only in their sin but violation of the covenant). How is Israel a picture of the human condition? Through Covenants, what has God been seeking to do since the Fall?
- How is the state of Israel vividly described (vv. 8-9) and summarized (v. 10)? (*Gilead was a site of former glories and Shechem a place of worship*). Big picture, how does this illicit the compassion of God?
- What modern day lessons can be learned from Hosea or chapter 6? Lessons about discipline, idolatry, a saving knowledge of Him, true worship and discipleship, etc? Discuss things that stood out to you.

Israel

Judah



Righteous

Evil