

Interesting Facts About Hosea

MEANING: "Salvation"

AUTHOR: Hosea

TIME WRITTEN: Written during the early years of Hezekiah

POSITION IN THE BIBLE:

- 28th Book in the Bible
- 28th Book in the Old Testament
- 6th of 17 books of Prophecy (Isaiah - Malachi)
- 1st of 12 minor prophets (Hosea - Malachi)
- 38 Books to follow it.



CHAPTERS: 14

VERSES: 197

WORDS: 5,175

OBSERVATIONS ABOUT HOSEA:

- n Hosea ministers to the Northern Kingdom of Israel.
- n Since Ephraim is the largest tribe in the Northern Kingdom, sometimes the kingdom is referred to as Ephraim.
- n Hosea's career spanned about 45 years, from 755 B.C. to about 710 B.C.
- n The Book of Hosea covers approximately 40 years of his prophetic ministry.
- n Hosea's ministry spanned:
 - Four kings of Judah (Uzziah - Hezekiah).
 - Six kings of Israel (Zechariah - Hoshea).
- n Hosea was:
 - The son of Beri. (1:1)
 - Husband of Gomer. (1:3)
 - Father of two sons and one daughter.
- n Hosea is not mentioned elsewhere in the Bible.
- n Hosea was a younger contemporary of Amos.

HOSEA

n Hosea was a contemporary of two Southern Kingdom prophets:

- Isaiah
- Micah.

n Hosea utters approximately 150 statements concerning the sins of Israel. More than half of them deal with the sin of idolatry.

n Using metaphors and various images, Israel is upbraided for their:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| • Lying | • Ingratitude |
| • Murder | • Idolatry |
| • Insincerity | • Covetousness |

n More than any other of the Old Testament prophets, Hosea's personal life and experiences illustrate his prophetic message.

- An adulterous wife (Gomer) and a faithful husband (Hosea).
- Gomer runs after another man - physical adultery.
- Israel runs after other gods - spiritual adultery.

n Hosea and Gomer's three children are appropriately named by God as signs to Israel.

- Zereel - "God Scatters."
- Lo-Ruhamah - "Not Pitied."
- Lo-Ammi - "Not My People."

n Four attributes of God are seen in the Book of Hosea.

- Chapters 4-7 - God is HOLY.
- Chapters 8-10 - God is JUST.
- Chapters 11-14 - God is LOVING and GRACIOUS.

"My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." Hosea 4:6