

Digging into God's Word



*Amos, Micah,
Hosea*



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Digging Into the Word

I am so glad you are taking time to dig into the Word of God. What an amazing opportunity we have to grow in our understanding of God Himself and learn about the life and sacrifice of Christ. I hope you enjoy taking time to go verse by verse and chapter by chapter. I pray that you will grow in your faith and experience the love of the Savior whose biggest desire is to have a relationship with you.

Acknowledgment

I would like to thank Bradie Peebles for designing the cover of this study. Her gifts and talents are greatly appreciated!

Sources

For all 'Bible Notes', I used my study Bible which is the ***Holman Christian Standard Bible***. All websites used are noted within the text for additional study resources.

God Bless!

Amos

This book was written by the prophet Amos, who was from Judah, between 767-753 B.C. This was during a time of prosperity for Israel and most likely a time of peace between the two kingdoms during the reigns of Uzziah and Jeroboam II. While the book of Amos mentions surrounding nations, the heart of its message is aimed at the northern kingdom of Israel, which was engaging in idolatry and unjust social practices. – Bible Notes

[Who is Amos in the Bible? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

Chapter 1-Chapter 2: Amos and His Message

Chapter 1:

Vs.1- What specific information does he share for historical context?

(Bible Notes- The earthquake referenced by Amos was so significant that it was mentioned two centuries later by the prophet Zechariah (Zch 14:5).

What was Amos' occupation?

Vs. 2- What does he say the Lord does?

Vs. 3- Who is first mentioned to receive judgment from God and why?

Vs. 4-5- What punishment will come to them?

(Bible Notes- The Lord begins explaining why He would not relent from punishing six pagan nations: Damascus, Gaza, Tyre, Edom, Ammon, and Moab. He begins with Damascus, the capital of Aramean (Syrian) kingdom, which was judged for its cruelty against the people of Gilead, the region east of the Jordan and south of Damascus ruled by Hazael. Aram had been a bitter enemy of Israel for many years, but the conflicts described in 2 Kg 13:1-7 may have been specifically in view.)

Vs. 6- Who will He judge and why?

Vs. 7-8- What punishment will come to them?

(Bible Notes- Gaza, representing the Philistines, was also a bitter enemy of Israel. The Philistines deported an entire community of people from their homes, handing them over to Edom (2:1-3). The Philistines were known and feared not only for cruelty toward their captives but also for selling their captives as slaves to other nations.)

Vs. 9- Who will He judge and why?

Vs. 10- What punishment will come to them?

Vs. 11- Who will be judged and why?

Vs. 12- What punishment will come to them?

(Bible Notes- Likewise, Edom (Hb, “red”, v. 11; Gn 25:30) pursued his brother with a sword (see Obadiah), stifled compassion, and raged incessantly against him. The people of Edom and Israel (Nm 20:14-21) trace their history of bitter animosity back to Esau, the brother of Jacob/Israel (Gn 35:29-36:43).

Vs. 13- Who will be judged and why?

Vs. 14-15- What punishment will come to them?

(The Ammonites, who were descendants of Lot, Abraham’s nephew (Gn 19:36-38; Dt 2:19), occupied territory on Gilead’s border east of the Jordan River and had been battling Israel for control of Gilead since the days of the judges (Jdg 11:4-33).

Chapter 2: ...continued...

Vs. 1- Who will be judged and why?

Vs. 2-3- What punishment will come to them?

(Bible Notes- Moab (also descendants of Abraham’s nephew, Lot: Gn 19:36-38) would be punished for unwarranted cruelty against the king of Edom. To burn the enemy’s remains to ash was a supreme insult, perhaps suggesting the denial of a resurrected body.)

Vs. 4- Who will be punished and why?

Vs. 5- What punishment will come to them?

(Bible Notes- The first six nations addressed in this context are judged for their cruelty against humanity. Then the Lord addressed Judah, which had forsaken the law of God and had not kept His decrees. They followed lies, which led them astray.)

Vs. 6- Who will be judged?

Vs. 6-8- What specific actions are mentioned in each verse that led to their impending punishment?

Vs. 6-

Vs. 7-

Vs. 8-

(Bible Notes- By placing Israel's indictment in the final, climactic position, the Lord intended for the compact description of Israel's crimes against her own people to be heard as the worst of all. The Lord charged Israel with three specific offenses which, escalated in perversity. First, Israel was oppressing the poor. Second, they were profaning Yahweh's name with gross immorality. Third, they were flaunting in idolatrous worship what they had acquired by fraud and treachery.)

Vs. 9-10- What does the Lord remind the Israelites?

Vs. 11-12- God had raised up some of their young men to be Nazirites and prophets, but what had they done to them?

(Bible Notes- Israel's covenant relationship with the Lord had remained open only because the Lord had continued to speak through prophets and to call out Nazirites to model radical holiness demonstrated in their abstinence from wine (Am 2:11-12; cp. Nm 6). Instead of gratitude and

obedience, however, Israel had effectively told God to stop speaking to her either through words (the prophets; cp Is 30:10-11) or the testimony of holy living, (v 12).

[What is the Nazirite/Nazarite vow? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Vs. 13- What does the Lord say is going to happen to Israel?

Vs. 14-16- He makes sure this will come on everyone there. What does He say?

[Why does Amos keep repeating “for three sins . . . even for four” in chapters 1–2? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Chapter 3-Chapter 6: Words of Warning and Woe

Chapter 3: Breach of the Covenant

Vs. 1-2- Why was Israel set apart?

(Bible Notes- The uniqueness of the relationship between God and the people He had made His own (Dt 7:6; 10:15; 14:2) is implicitly compared to the marriage relationship: *I have known only you* (cp Hs 13:4-5). Because the Lord had revealed Himself to and through Israel, the people had a greater responsibility for their iniquities than did the surrounding pagan nations, and they would be punished accordingly.)

Vs. 3-8- (Bible Notes- The Lord asked seven rhetorical questions, illustrating the improbability of certain events if some other event had not taken place beforehand. The relationships depicted are not so much cause-and-effect as they are action-and-result. The emphatic statement of verse 7 makes the connection plain: When the Lord chooses to act in Israel, He will reveal His plans to his prophets, as He had done with Amos. The final two questions compel the readers to listen and apply to themselves what was heard.)

Vs. 7- What does the Lord make clear?

Vs. 9- What countries are mentioned to come and see ‘the great turmoil in the city’?

(Bible Notes- The Lord cried out against the ungodliness of His people by summoning their enemies to come see for themselves what was going on in the northern kingdom, represented by the capital city of Samaria. Ashdod was one of the five chief cities of the Philistines, located on

the coast of the Mediterranean. To be put on display before their enemies-the Philistines or Egypt-would have represented the height of embarrassment (cp. Ezk 22:1-5).

Vs. 10- What does He accuse Israel of?

Vs. 11- What does He say will happen?

Vs. 12- What does He describe here?

Vs. 13-15- What will He destroy in addition to punishing the Israelites?

(Bible Notes- The land would be surrounded by an enemy, successfully attacking the material defenses and destroying the places of idol worship upon which Israel relied in place of the Lord. This attack would demolish the material comforts and luxuries the Israelites preferred to enjoy instead of obeying the Lord. Only a remnant of the people would survive.)

[What was the significance of the horns of the altar \(Amos 3:14\)? | GotQuestions.org](https://www.gotquestions.org/Amos-3-14.htm)

Chapter 4: Failure to Repent

Vs. 1- Who is addressed here, what are they called and why?

(Bible Notes- This section opens by singling out wealthy women whose actions were habitually to oppress the poor; crush the needy; and invite their husbands to bring the desired beverages and come drink with them, making the women complicit with the men of Israel in the pursuit of personal pleasure at the expense of the poor.)

Vs. 2-3- What does the Lord say will happen to them?

(Bible Notes- These verses likely describe prophetically the Assyrian conquest of Samaria, when thousands of people were deported from the city (cp 2Kg 17:1-6). The Assyrians were notorious for leading their captives by hooks inserted through the nose or other part of the face. Translation difficulties make Am 4:2 difficult to interpret. If it is extending the metaphor of verse 1, then it

depicts the women as being led single-file through the gaps in the city wall where the conquerors had broken through.)

Vs. 4-5- What does the Lord accuse them of ‘loving to do’?

(Bible Notes- The Lord sarcastically called the people to rebel at their pagan sanctuaries. Jeroboam I, the first king of the northern kingdom of Israel, had set up golden calves at Bethel and Dan to provide worship centers rivaling the worship of the Lord at the temple in Jerusalem (see 1 Kg12:26-30). Gilgal was the site where Israel first worshiped after crossing the Jordan to enter the promised land (Jos 4:1-5:10). Before the Lord established worship exclusively at the temple in Jerusalem, sacrifices to the Lord were offered there (1 Sm 7:15-16; 10:8; 11:14-15; 13:7-15; 15:21). However, both Bethel and Gilgal were illegitimate places of worship after the temple was built (1 Kg 3:2; 8:10-11; cp. Dt 12:5-6, 10-14).

[What does leaven symbolize in the Bible? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

Vs. 6-11- The Lord declares the many extremes He had taken to get them to repent and turn back to Him, but, sadly, the result was the same: “you did not return to Me”. What does He describe in each verse?

Vs. 6-

Vs. 7-8-

Vs. 9-

Vs. 10-

Vs. 11-

Vs. 12- This is a powerful statement! How did He address Israel?

Vs. 13- Jot down these powerful descriptors of God:

Chapter 5: Choice of Life or Death

Vs. 1-2- This lament speaks of the tragedy that will befall Israel. What does he say?

Vs. 3- What point does the Lord make here?

Vs. 4- God's message is clear. What does He say?

[What does God mean when He says, "Seek me and live" \(Amos 5:4\)? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

Vs. 5-6- Again, He tells them not to seek false gods at Bethel or Gilgal for they will be destroyed. What does He implore them to do?

(Bible Notes- Before this tragedy became a reality, the Lord explained to His people the way of escape (cp. 1 Co 10:13). The Israelites were to seek Him and "good" rather than evil (Am 5:14). This command is in all three cases linked with the result-to live rather than die (Am 5:4,6,14; cp. Dt 16:20; 30:16; Heb 11:6). They were also told do not seek or go to or journey to any of the illegitimate places of worship, which will all be eliminated by the Lord.)

Vs. 7- What figurative language does He use to describe how they had been living?

Vs. 8-9- What does God remind them?

Vs. 10-11- What does God accuse the people of doing, and what will be the consequence for this?

Vs. 12- The Lord continues to point out their sin. What does He make clear?

Vs. 13- What does He say a wise person will do and why?

[What does it mean that there is a time to be silent and a time to speak \(Ecclesiastes 3:7\)? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Vs. 14-15- Amos pleads with the people. What does he say and why?

Vs. 16-17- What does God say will happen?

Vs. 18-20- What will the ‘Day of the Lord’ be like for them?

[What is the day of the Lord? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Vs. 21-23- These are very direct and painful words the Lord speaks to them. What does He say and why?

[What is a solemn assembly in the Bible? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Vs. 24- What does He want to see?

Vs. 25-27- What does He accuse them of and what will ultimately happen to them?

(Bible Notes- God denounced and rejected the empty religious practices of His people, calling instead for justice and righteousness (cp. v. 15; Mt 23:14, 23, 25). The Lord pointed out that their sacrifices and grain offerings, although presented to Him, could not be equated with keeping His covenant while they were carrying around idols. The One who created the stars (Am 5:8) could not allow His people to worship a star god—namely Sakkuth (Mesopotamian astral deity) and Kaiwan (another idol associated with Saturn)—and remain in the land He had given them.)

Chapter 6:

Vs. 1-2- Why does the Lord pronounce a ‘woe’ to Samaria and Zion?

(Bible Notes- Calneh (cp. Gn 10:10; “Calno”, Is10:9) and Hamath were fortified cities in Syria. These cities, Gath, and eventually Samaria, were all conquered by the Assyrians; Israel was no better than these kingdoms when God’s judgment was necessary.)

Vs. 4-6- How did the Lord describe their lifestyles?

Vs. 7- What will happen to them?

Vs. 8- The Lord speaks powerfully and plainly. What does He say?

[What does the Bible say about pride? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

Vs. 9-11- How is God’s impending judgment described?

Vs. 12-13- Of what does He accuse them?

Vs. 14- What will be the consequence of their actions?

(Bible Notes- What the Lord would do in response would be comprehensive, reaching to Israel’s borders (cp. 2 Kg 14:25,28).

Chapters 7-9: Visions of Judgment and Salvation

Chapter 7: The Lord has Spared (1-6)

(Bible Notes- In this third and final section of the book, Amos describes five visions that demonstrate the Lord’s judgment. These first two visions revealed that although the Lord would certainly judge His people, He was not willing to destroy them completely.)

Vs. 1-2- What is revealed in this first vision?

How does Amos respond?

Vs. 3- What is the Lord's response?

Vs. 4-6- What did Amos see in this second vision?

Again, Amos pleads with God on their behalf. How does the Lord respond?

(Bible Notes- The close relationship between the prophet and God comes into focus, a relationship that benefits the people of God. The Lord gave the prophet an occasion to pray, giving Him an opportunity to demonstrate His reluctance to threaten Jacob's survival and His willingness to listen and show mercy.)

Chapter 7:7-Chapter 8:14: The Lord Will Spare No Longer

Vs. 7-8- Explain this third vision:

Vs. 9- What does the Lord mention will happen in this judgment?

[What is the significance of high places in the Bible? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

(Bible Notes- In contrast to the first two visions, God showed Amos two visions revealing judgment that would not be turned back (cp. 8:1-3). The Lord would destroy places of illicit worship in the northern kingdom, and He would demolish the dynasty of Jeroboam II.)

Vs. 10-11- Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent word to the king. What does he explain?

Vs. 12-13- What does the priest tell Amos?

Vs. 14-15- What does Amos clarify for the priest?

Vs. 16-17- Amos continues to share the word of the Lord. What outcomes does he reveal?

(Bible Notes- Amos urged the false priest to hear the word of the Lord. Amos refused to be silenced. Amaziah was powerless either to forbid God's prophet from speaking or to stop his prophecies from being realized. Regardless of what Amaziah thought about Amos's prophecies, exile for Israel was certain (cp. 5:5; 6:7). In addition, for trying to contend against rather than faithfully to serve the one true God, the false priest had surrendered any divine protection of his family, of his possessions and heritage (land), as well as of his life.)

Chapter 8:

Vs. 1-2- What does Amos see in this fourth vision?

What does the Lord say?

Vs. 3- How does the Lord describe this to Amos?

(Bible Notes- Amos was not speaking on his own. The explanation of the vision is introduced as what the Lord said to Amos, and the phrase *the Lord God's declaration* is inserted in the announcement of Israel's "end" (cp. vv. 9,11). That day would bring the dramatic reversal of Israel's disobedient pursuits. Enjoyment of illicit worship (cp. 5:23) would become wailing; the nation in which God's people lived life on their own terms rather than His would become a scene of carnage; noisy backtalk (e.g., Am 7:10-13) would cease at God's command.)

Vs. 4-6- Within these verses Amos explains more of the depravity which caused such judgment. Explain:

Vs. 4-

Vs 5-

[What was the significance of the new moon in Bible times? | GotQuestions.org](#)

[What is the Sabbath day? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Vs. 6-

Vs. 7- How does the Lord respond to them?

Vs. 8-9- How will God demonstrate His power over creation when this day comes upon Israel?

Vs. 10- What does He say regarding the people?

(Bible Notes- Their deeds were so repulsive that the land itself would heave, and mourning would visit Israelites of every social stratum. The grief to come in that day of judgment would be evidence of the Lord's supreme authority over every aspect of their lives.)

Vs. 11-14- The Lord declares a famine to come. What kind of famine and how will this affect His people?

(Bible Notes- Compounding the immeasurable grief to come would be the future famine of *...hearing the words of the Lord*. God's people would realize that what they had ignored and treated as dispensable was, in fact, what they could not do without.)

[What does it mean that there will be a famine of hearing the words of the Lord \(Amos 8:11\)? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Chapter 9: The Lord Will Save None (1-6)

Vs. 1- Who does Amos see in this final vision and where is He?

Vs. 1-4- What does the Lord say in these verses:

Vs. 1-

Vs. 2-

Vs. 3-

Vs. 4-

(Bible Notes- In this fifth vision Amos *saw the Lord standing beside the altar* and commanding the complete destruction of the temple and the people, beginning with the place of Israel's fundamental offense against the Lord--worship of other gods at places other than Jerusalem. As promised in His description of "the Day of the Lord" in 5:20, God Himself would pursue the people and hunt them down wherever they tried to hide or escape (cp. Ps 139:7-10).

Vs. 5-6- How is God's sovereignty portrayed in these verses?

(Bible Notes- As the Lord declared in Am 8:8-- that because of Israel's sins the land would "rise like the Nile" and "quake and all who dwell in it would mourn"- so He reiterated His sovereignty over the earth to make it rise and subside "like the Nile" and cause the earth to melt so that all who dwell in it mourn.)

[What is the biblical understanding of the wrath of God? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

Vs. 7-15: The Lord Will Restore His People

Vs. 7- [Who were the Cushites? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

What questions does the Lord pose to them to show His sovereignty over the nations?

Vs. 8- What does the Lord declare?

(Bible Notes- *The sinful kingdom* seems to refer collectively to the Gentile nations, which God will destroy, a group to which the Israelites should belong because of their sinful rebellion. Though Israel was undeserving, the Lord promised that He would not totally destroy the people.)

Vs. 9-10- What will the Lord do to Israel?

What will become of those who boast that “disaster would never overtake or confront them”?

Vs. 11-12- Things will improve, however. What hope is conveyed for a future day?

(Bible Notes- The phrase *in that day* marks the time of restoration following judgment. Just as the Lord insisted that what would befall Israel, though at the hand of other nations, would be His doing, so He Himself would do the rebuilding.)

[What is the significance of Edom in the Bible? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Vs. 13-14- What details are given about this restoration?

Vs. 15- What does God declare He will do for His people?

(Bible Notes- The passage features two emphatic statements of the absolute certainty that the prophecies are true. First, He (Yahweh) will do what He said He would do (Am 9:12). Second, the book ends with the appropriate final statement of assurance that the Lord would remain faithful to His covenant commitment to His people, both then and forevermore. *Yahweh your God has spoken.*)

[Book of Amos Summary | Watch an Overview Video](#) (Bibleproject.com)

Micah

Micah the Moreshite was a prophet between 750-686 B.C. delivering his message primarily to Judah but addressing both Samaria and Jerusalem. Micah was not a court prophet like Isaiah but spoke to leaders and common people alike. Micah, from a small town in Judah, lived in a time of great political upheaval. The Assyrian Empire had begun to dominate the ancient Near East around 740 B.C. Israel and Judah became vassals of this new political power and were engaging in idolatry. God declared through Micah that he would send Assyria to judge both the northern and southern kingdoms for their sins. Micah witnessed the fall of Samaria in the north and the revival under Hezekiah in the south. However, many cities of Judah were destroyed, and Jerusalem was besieged but did not fall at that time (2Kg 18-19).

Although best known for its prophecy concerning the birthplace of the Messiah (5:2), the book of Micah is primarily concerned with the spiritual apostasy of both Israel and Judah and includes many of the same themes found in Amos. Though he often stands in the shadow of Isaiah, his more famous contemporary, Micah's message is no less important than Isaiah's. He preached against the social and ethical injustices of the day and warned the people of the coming exile. But he also foretold a time of restored blessing under the divine Ruler of Bethlehem. - Bible Notes

[Who was Micah in the Bible? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

Chapter 1-Chapter 2: God's Coming Judgment on Israel and Judah

Chapter 1: The Prophet's Call to Attention: God's Anger Against Samaria and Judah

Vs. 1-2- Micah speaks the word of the Lord based on what he saw regarding Samaria, the capital of the Northern Kingdom and Jerusalem, the capital of the Southern Kingdom. Yet, who does he address as he begins his speech?

(Bible Notes- Though Micah's vision specifically concerns Israel and Judah, the entire earth will be affected.)

Vs. 3-4- What did Micah describe here?

Vs. 5- Why is he saying this will happen?

Vs. 6-7- He tells of Samaria's coming destruction. What did he accuse them of?

(Bible Notes- Describing the cosmic nature of God's judgment, Micah is appealing to God's sovereignty, one of his major themes. The judgment of Samaria and Jerusalem would be a strong witness to the peoples on earth that the sovereign Lord does not tolerate idolatry.)

[What is the definition of idolatry? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Vs. 8-9- How did he describe his anguish and why is he so sorrowful?

Vs. 10-16- Micah's lament extends to the towns upon whom judgment is coming. Summarize his statements and sentiment and why this disaster will befall them:

Chapter 2: The Lord's Restoration of Israel's Remnant

Vs. 1-2- What are these people being accused of?

Vs. 3- What did the Lord say He would do?

How did He accuse them of 'walking' or acting?

[What does the Bible say about pride? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Vs. 4-5- What did He say would happen?

(Bible Notes- Micah declares God's indictments of his people by mentioning the specific offenses committed by certain groups. At this time, the rich were brutally oppressing the poor, even devising wicked schemes against the poor in the dead of night. They ruthlessly took from those who could not defend themselves. The unjust seizure of land was especially heinous because God had divided the land among the respective tribes as their divinely assigned

inheritance (cp. 1 Kg 21). Those who committed such acts would no longer be able to participate in covenantal activities.)

Vs. 6- What had these nation's preachers said to prophets like Micah?

(Bible Notes- The false prophets of Micah's day were commanding that prophesying be stopped. The true prophets, like Micah, were considered troublemakers, whose preaching was considered dangerous to society. The true prophets were humiliating the rich by their words; thus, their prophesying must be stopped.)

Vs. 7- The Lord asks His people rhetorical questions. What did He ask?

Vs. 8-9- What did He say they were acting like and why?

(Bible Notes- The people, however, were anything but upright at this time (cp. 1 Kg 11:33, 38). Micah describes the ways in which the poor were treated like enemies. They were stripped of their garments. Women (probably widows) and their children were forced from their homes.)

Vs. 10- What did He tell them to do and why?

Vs. 11- What kind of preacher did He say they would prefer?

(Bible Notes- The "prophet" for these unrighteous people is one who preaches the ways in which they can continue in their debauchery.)

Vs. 12- What will the Lord do for the remnant of Israel?

Vs. 13- What did He assure them?

(Bible Notes- Micah ends the first oracle with a message of hope. A remnant will be gathered, and the Lord will be their leader, creating a sharp contrast with the false prophets and their message of “hope”, which says only what corrupt people want to hear.)

Chapter 3-Chapter 5: God’s Merciful Deliverance

Chapter 3: The Judgment of Unjust Leaders and False Prophets

Vs. 1-4- How did Micah describe the leaders of these people?

What did he tell them would happen when they cried out to the Lord?

(Bible Notes- Micah begins his second oracle by summoning the people to pay attention to his indictments. The leaders are those who should know what is just. But their behavior toward the poor reflects that they know nothing but evil and injustice.)

Vs. 5- Who did he address here and what did he accuse them of?

Vs. 6-7- What will they experience because of their actions?

(Bible Notes- Micah then turns his attention to the false prophets who proclaim peace while Micah and those like him preach doom. But the end will come for these false prophets. They and their visions will be plunged into eternal darkness (v.6). When disaster comes, they will receive no answer from God, unlike Micah who receives his message from God.)

Vs. 8- How did Micah compare himself with these false prophets?

Vs. 9-11- He addressed both the leaders and the false prophets again. What did he accuse them of? Explain each verse:

Vs. 9-

Vs. 10-

[What is Zion? What is Mount Zion? What is the biblical meaning of Zion? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

Vs. 11-

What did the false prophets believe about God?

Vs. 12- What will happen because of them?

(Bible Notes- Micah also describes the destruction of the temple in this context. The temple, the visible sign of God on earth, was doomed to be destroyed along with the people of God.)

Chapter 4:

Vs. 1-2- Micah describes the “last days”. What did he say would happen?

Vs. 3- What will the Lord do for them?

What will they do with their weapons and why?

Vs. 4- What has the Lord promised about the last days?

Vs. 6-8- What did the Lord declare?

Who will rule over them?

(Bible Notes- Micah describes the future glory of Zion. The temple mount will be exalted in the last days. With power and great glory, the Lord will rule from Zion, the center of God’s dealings with all the peoples of the earth. Micah is likely the source of this prophecy, which is an integral part of his vision of the future Jerusalem. Also, Micah’s description is much longer, an indication that Isaiah may have adopted a portion of it to fit his purposes. The prophets corroborate each other with astounding accuracy.)

Vs. 9-10- Micah returns to their current situation. What did he say would happen to them?

(Bible Notes- Micah once again centers his attention on the current crisis in Jerusalem. He foresees the Babylonian exile when the Jews will go into captivity. First, they will leave the city; then they will camp out in the open fields; finally, they will go to Babylon, which in this context may not mean the literal city).

Vs. 11-12- What did Micah say regarding the actions of other nations?

[What does the Bible mean when it refers to a “Daughter of Zion”? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Chapter 5:

(Bible Notes- Micah follows his pattern of first doom, and then hope, in order to emphasize his message. He first warns Israel to protect herself against the coming attacks, in which the king will be insulted by his enemies. This dire warning is followed by the glorious hope of a future King who will protect his people.)

Vs. 1-2- Micah describes their current hardship, but what did he prophecy?

What is specifically mentioned about this ruler's origin?

(Bible Notes- The King's influence will extend throughout the world. Ephrathah is the ancient name of Bethlehem and is used to distinguish it from the Bethlehem in Zebulun (cp. Jos 19:15). The Bethlehem in Judah was David's hometown (1 Sm 17:12), and clearly a king from David's line is in view (cp. 2 Sm 7:16; Is 11:1). This future ruler, the Messiah, will come forth from ancient Bethlehem, and He will be closely allied with the purposes of the Lord.) Micah's wording indicates that he was expecting a divine person, in keeping with the prophecies of Is 9:6, where the future King is referred to as God. Both prophets agree that this future King will bring eternal peace. Christ is the fulfillment of both of these predictions as indicated where this passage is specifically quoted (Mt 2:6). The eternity of Christ is taught throughout the New Testament (cp. Jn 1:1-2; 17:5; Php 2:6; Col 1:15-19; Rv 1:17) as His preexistence is affirmed here.)

[Is Micah 5:2 a Messianic prophecy? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Vs. 3-4- Micah describes a time of waiting for His birth, then describes this ruler What will He do?

How far will His greatness extend?

Vs. 5- He will be their _____.

Vs. 5-6- What country did Micah warn them about?

[When and how was Israel conquered by the Assyrians? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

Vs. 7-8- Where will the remnant of Jacob reside?

(Bible Notes- The reign of eternal peace is also characterized by the gathering of the remnant (survivors; those who remain, especially after a slaughter), a concept that is very important to Micha's overall theology (cp. Mc 2:12; 5:8; 7:18)

Vs. 10-15- These verses describe the Lord's declaration and "cleaning house" effectively. What did He say He would do?

Chapter 6-Chapter 7: God's Triumph in Righteousness

Chapter 6: The Case Against Judah

Vs. 1-2- What did the Lord bring against His people?

Vs. 3- What did the Lord ask them?

(Bible Notes- The Lord was calling His people to answer the accusations of His case against them. The mountains and the hills, even the enduring foundations of the earth (all creation, from the heights to the depths) would be His witnesses. The Lord reversed the typical question of accusation, "What have you done?" (cp. Gn 3:13; 4:10; Jdg 2:2; 1 Sm 13:11) and demanded that His people explain what *He* had done to *them* (cp. Ex 14:11). The implied answer is that the Lord had done nothing to deserve the people's scorn. What had He *not* done on their behalf?)

Vs. 4- What did the Lord remind them of? (Read Exodus chapters 3-15)

Vs. 5- He reminds them of the encounter with _____ the king of Moab, and how God used _____, son of Beor. (Read Numbers chapters 22-24).

Why did He also remind them of what happened from Acacia Grove to Gilgal? (Read Judges chapter 2).

Vs. 6-8- Questions are posed to see what sacrifices are costly enough to gain the Lord's forgiveness. Micah reminds them that God made His expectations clear. What did He require of them?

[What does it mean to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly \(Micah 6:8\)? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Vs. 9-12- The Lord calls out to the city and what does He accuse them of?

Vs. 13-15- Because of their sins, what did He declare would happen to them?

Vs. 16- Which kings are mentioned?

(Bible Notes- God would break down their self-sufficient pride by thwarting every effort not only to be materially successful but also to meet basic needs. He reiterated the reason for making His nation a desolate place (Hb *shammah*, “an object of horror, execration, or scorn”; cp Dt 28:37; 2 Ch 29:8; Jr 42:18). They had willingly participated in the evil, idolatrous, and unethical practices promoted by two kings of Israel, Omri and his son Ahab, who were notorious for leading Israel astray (see 1 Kg 16:25-26, 30; 21:25-26; cp 12:28-33).

Chapter 7: The Moral Decline of Israel

Vs. 1- Micah expresses his own feelings. What did he say?

Vs. 2-4- How did he describe the people of his land?

What did Micah assure them was coming?

Vs. 5-6- Who did Micah warn them not to trust?

Vs. 7- Micah makes a profound statement during this hardship. Jot this down to remember:

Vs. 8-20- The Vindication of Zion

(Bible Notes- Speaking in the persona of Jerusalem, Micah prophesied about the restoration of God's city. Such good news is only effective, however, in the context of the confession that one has sinned against the Lord and an acknowledgment that His wrath and punishment are just, reflecting His righteousness. When the darkness and sin had been overcome by the light of the Lord's presence and His justice, Zion would triumph over the enemy (cp. 2 Sm 22:29; Ps 18:43, 107:10, 14; Is 9:2).

Vs. 8- What message is spoken to Jerusalem's enemies?

Vs. 9- What do they admit and what assurance do they have?

Vs. 10- What did he say regarding their enemies?

Vs. 11-12- What positive news did they receive?

Vs. 13- What will happen to the earth and why?

Vs. 14-15- The people will need a Shepherd. What will God do for them?

Vs. 16-17- How will other nations respond to this?

Vs. 18-20- Micah highlights the beautiful character of God. What does he say in each verse?

Vs. 18-

Vs. 19-

Vs. 20-

(Bible Notes- Micah, whose name means “Who is like the Lord?” asks, *Who is a God like You?* The central attribute upon which the prophet elaborates is the forgiveness God extends to the people whom He has purified through the exile—the remnant of His inheritance—the objects of His faithful love. God’s people could count on the Lord to continue to keep His covenantal obligations, rooted in His loyalty and promise of faithful love to Abraham and his descendants through Jacob (i.e., Israel, Mc 7:20). Verse 19 is a vivid description of what Christ’s crucifixion and resurrection accomplished. This Ruler from Bethlehem has thereby fulfilled Micha’s confidence in the Lord to vanquish our iniquities and completely do away with our sins (cp. Ps 103:12).

[Got Forgiveness? How can I receive forgiveness from God? | GotQuestions.org](#)

[Book of Micah Summary | Watch an Overview Video](#) (Bibleproject.com)

Hosea

The book of Hosea is written between 750-725 B.C. by the prophet Hosea primarily to the people of the Northern Kingdom of Israel. After the reign of Jeroboam II, the kingdom was in a state of great moral and spiritual decay. The Israelites had begun worshiping the Canaanite god of fertility, Baal. He also prophesied concerning Judah, the southern kingdom. The Lord would use Hosea to call his people to repentance and back to Himself. The first three chapters of Hosea tell the true story of the marriage between Hosea and Gomer, a promiscuous woman. The Lord used their relationship to show His people Israel their apostasy, or spiritual adultery, toward Him. Thus, the book of Hosea is full of metaphorical language meant to enable the reader to visualize and better understand the Lord's message through Hosea. - Bible Notes

[Who was Hosea in the Bible? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Chapter 1: Hosea's Marriage and Israel's Apostasy

Vs. 1- Hosea gives some historical information to provide a timeline for his book. What information did he provide?

Vs. 2- What did the Lord tell Hosea to do and why?

[Why did God tell Hosea to marry a prostitute \(Hosea 1:2\)? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Vs. 3- Who did he choose for his wife?

Vs. 4- She bore him a son. What was his name and why was it significant?

(Read 2 Kings chapters 9-10 and 1 Kings 21:23 for reference)

[What is the meaning of Jezreel? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Vs. 6- Hosea's wife conceived again. What did the Lord name her and why?

Vs. 7- What did He say regarding Judah?

Vs. 8-9- Gomer had a son once she had weaned her daughter. What did the Lord name him and why?

Vs. 10-11- This, however, will not be permanent. What hope is given to the people of Judah?

(Bible Notes- The Lord commanded that the boy be named *Not My People* to convey to Israel that He was temporarily suspending His covenant with the northern kingdom. This demarcation indicates the reversal of God's protection of the Israelites from Egypt when He announced that He would rescue them from slavery: "I will take you as My people, and I will be your God" (Ex 6:7; cp. Lv 26:12; Dt 27:9; Jr 7:23; 11:4).

Chapter 2:

Vs. 1- What did He say to call His brothers and sisters?

(Bible Notes- The reversal of the prophetic meaning of the children's names is completed in the future restoration of Israel, to whom the Lord has extended His *Compassion*. This command anticipates a future act or the development of a present condition.)

Vs. 2- After speaking of 'brothers and sisters', what did He say about their 'mother' and why?

(Bible Notes- The command to *rebuke your mother* presumably is addressed to the mother's children—likely, here, to the sons and daughters of Israel who, though still worshiping the Lord, lived among morally and spiritually corrupt people. Speaking to Israel in the persona of a devoted husband whose wife is actively pursuing adulterous relationships, the Lord insists that the ongoing betrayal of this adulterous wife must cease.)

Vs. 3-4- What will happen if this adultery does not stop?

Vs. 5- What did He accuse her of?

Vs. 6-7- How did the Lord say He would intervene?

Vs. 8- What is devastating about how the Lord was treated?

Vs. 9-12- What will be the consequences for their actions?

Vs. 13- Why is He going to do this?

Vs. 14-15- When He removes them into the wilderness what will He do?

How will they respond to Him?

(Bible Notes- Although remembered as a place where the people grumbled against the Lord, the wilderness was also a place in which the people had to rely on God alone to provide for them, and they saw Him do it. God would return to Israel what He had stripped away, even declaring that He would *make the Valley of Achor...a gateway of hope.*)

Vs. 16-20- Once He gets their attention, how will they respond to Him?

He will do away with all Baal worship and remove it completely. How did He describe their renewed commitment as He takes them as His wife again?

(Bible Notes- Citing five of the Lord's attributes characterizing His commitment to His people—comparable to payment of the bride price, the Lord three times repeated His promise to them (cp. Ex 6:7): *I will take you to be My wife* (Hb 'aras, "espouse, betroth, the first step toward marriage and binding contract; description of the "new covenant", Jr 31:31-34; Zch 8:7-8; Heb 8:10). *Righteousness* and *justice* denote God's perfect fairness in His treatment of Israel (Hs 2:19). *Love* and *compassion* describe God's unwavering devotion to Israel (Hs 2:19). God's *faithfulness* contrasted Baal's fickleness and Israel's unfaithfulness.)

Vs. 21-23- How will the Lord respond?

[Does God pursue us? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

Chapter 3:

Vs. 1- What did the Lord tell Hosea to do and how did He relate to this circumstance?

Vs. 2-5- Hosea follows God's directions and had to buy back his promiscuous wife. How did God equate this relationship with Israel?

(Bible Notes- The parameters established by Hosea for Gomer's return to his household were intended to illustrate the way the Israelites would be restored to the Lord and again receive His love and goodness (v. 5; cp. Jr 30:9). The focus of the text shifts from Hosea's experience to the intended result of removing from the people of Israel everything in which they had trusted instead of trusting the Lord.)

What did He say will happen in the last days?

Chapter 4 – Chapter 6: Hosea's Messages

Chapter 4: Israel's Apostasy Defined

(Bible Notes- Chapter 4 begins a series of messages delivered by Hosea to Israel. Thus God commands them to listen to what He has to say, and He presents His case against the inhabitants of the land, the place God had promised to give His people when they came into covenant relationship with Him.)

Vs. 1- The Lord gives three direct reasons why He brings a case against Israel. What did He say?

Vs. 2- What examples of their behavior did He give?

Vs. 3- How has this affected the land and its inhabitants?

Vs. 4-6- Who is His case against and why?

What will be the consequence of them forgetting the law of their God?

Vs. 7-10- The Lord said the same judgment will happen to both people and priests. What will happen to them all?

Vs. 10- What had they abandoned?

Vs. 11- What had their promiscuity and excessive drinking done to them?

Vs. 12-13- What had the people been doing?

Vs. 13-14- They had led their daughters astray by this behavior. What did the Lord say regarding their daughters?

“People without _____ are doomed.”

Vs. 15- What did He want them to refrain from doing?

Vs. 16-18- How did He describe His people’s actions?

Vs. 19- What did He assure them?

Chapter 5: God’s Warnings and Judgments for Israel

Vs. 1-4- The Lord demands attention as He warns of the coming judgment. What did He accuse them of in verses 3 and 4?

Vs. 5-7- Israel, Ephraim, and even Judah are named here as those accused of wickedness. What is a consequence of their actions?

[Who was Ephraim in the Bible? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

(Bible Notes- All of Israel, including Judah, had chosen to treat God as just another god to whom they could offer sacrifices. The Israelites were sacrificing animals but doing so with arrogance and shallow intentions; therefore, their attempts to seek the Lord failed. The Israelite apostasy had given rise to a generation identified more accurately as children of Baal than as children of the Lord.)

Vs. 8-11- He tells them to sound battle cries and trumpets because judgment is coming. What did He accuse Judah and Ephraim of?

Vs. 12-13- When distress came upon Ephraim and Judah, who did they turn to for help?

(Bible Notes- Ephraim and Judah believed the cure for their problems would come from Assyria. The great king may be a reference to Tiglath-pileser III (Pul) of Assyria (cp. 10:6; also called King Yareb, an epithet meaning “contender”).

Vs. 14-15- God’s judgment will be on them until they do what?

Chapter 6:

Vs. 1-2- Hosea pleads with his people to turn back to the Lord. What assurances did he give them?

Vs. 3- This verse is as relevant today as it was then. Jot this down to remember:

Chapter 6:4-Chapter 8:14: Israel’s Condition During Hosea’s Ministry

Vs. 4- How did the Lord describe their loyalty to Him?

Vs. 5-6- Their lack of loyalty and disregard for the Lord has brought judgment. What does the Lord desire?

(Bible Notes- The Israelites were following their own rituals rather than obeying God out of the sincere devotion in their hearts. His desire was for an outward manifestation of an inner heart commitment (cp. Mt 9:13; 12:7).

Vs. 7-11- What atrocities did He describe being witness to?

(Bible Notes- Within this list cataloging sins, *Adam* refers to God’s creation in the garden of Eden. *Gilead* was a place where wickedness occurred (cp. Gn 31:25-26; Jdg 11:1-40). *Shechem* also was notorious for wickedness (see Gn 34).

Vs. 11- chapter 7:1- What positive glimpse did the Lord give here?

Chapter 7: ...continued...

Vs. 1- What will be exposed?

Vs. 2- What did the people neglect to consider and how did God describe this disregard with which they treated Him?

(Bible Notes- The restoration of Isarel involves the exposure and healing of their sins. God remembers each sin as if it were vividly reenacted before Him.)

Vs. 3-4- How did He describe their deceit?

Vs. 5-7- He describes a conspiracy with traitors to take down the king using an analogy of a baker and an oven. What did he highlight in verse 7?

Vs. 8-10- What has Ephriam done?

What did He say about Israel?

Vs. 11-12- Instead of God, who did Ephriam turn to?

What will the Lord do and why?

Vs. 13- What was God's intention?

Yet how had they treated God?

Vs. 14-16- God had been the One who had blessed and strengthened them, yet He reveals how they had treated Him in return. What did He say?

What will ultimately happen because of the betrayal and lack of repentance?

Chapter 8: Israel's Self-Serving Behavior Results in Destruction

Vs. 1-3- Of what did God accuse Israel and what will be the consequence?

Vs. 4-6- What specific betrayal does He mention?

(Bible Notes- The Israelites did not seek God's counsel when appointing their leaders, resulting in catastrophe, and they constructed idols (cp. Jn 4:24).

Vs. 7-9- What had Israel gone to for help?

Vs. 10- What did God accuse them of and what will be a consequence?

(Bible Notes- God would allow Israel to fall under the domination of the foreign nations whose protection Israel sought to purchase.)

Vs. 11-14- Ephriam, Israel, and Judah have all disregarded the Lord. What does He say about each?

(Bible Notes- Ephriam's destiny belongs to Yahweh. God would allow Israel to fall under the domination of the foreign nations whose protection Israel sought to purchase. Even the palaces and fortified cities are against God's will because they are mere human efforts to provide the security and represent attempts by Israel and Judah to save themselves instead of calling upon God for their deliverance. God would destroy the things they had built to take His place.)

Chapter 9 – Chapter 13: Prophecies and Judgments for Israel

Chapter 9: Prophecies About Israel's Future

Vs. 1-2- What is Israel accused of?

Vs. 3- Where must they go?

(Bible Notes- Egypt and Assyria are references to the exile of the Israelites, who would find themselves in Assyria where they would eat unclean food (food that had not been prepared according to their laws.)

Vs. 4-5- Why won't the Lord accept their offerings, sacrifices, and festivals?

Vs. 6- What is the inevitable outcome?

(Bible Notes- Memphis, a city located in northern Egypt, has long been associated with burial grounds, including some significant pyramids still standing. Their idols and possessions would be abandoned and forgotten with only thistles and thorns remaining.)

Vs. 7- Hosea and other prophets had been mocked as fools and insane, but what point did he make very clear?

Vs. 8- Hosea describes himself and his circumstances. What did he say?

What did he say was in the house of God?

Vs. 9- He compares their corruption to the 'days of Gibeah'. (Read Judges chapters 19-21 for reference). What will God do?

Vs. 10- Israel's forefathers had also done detestable things in the eyes of God. What did they do?

[What was Baal Peor in the Bible? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

Vs. 11-14- Their disregard and disrespect for God will have lasting consequences. What will happen to their children and future generations?

(Bible Notes- Since Ephraim's glory was her children, judgment included an infertility that would strip them of this "glory". Even if children were conceived, they would die. Children alive at the time were considered part of God's judgment. Future generations would be cut off from the land.)

[Why does God allow the innocent to suffer? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

Vs. 15- These are strong words from the Lord! What did he say to them "because of their evil"?

(Bible Notes- *At Gilgal...I came to hate them* is a statement reminiscent of the history of how Gilgal has been at the heart of much of Israel's disobedience.)

[What is the importance of Gilgal in the Bible? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

Vs. 16-17- Why will Ephraim be uprooted and rejected?

Chapter 10: More Accusations Against Israel

Vs. 1-2- What had the people of Israel done?

How did Hosea describe their hearts and what will be the consequences for this betrayal of the Lord?

Vs. 3-4- What attitude did the people have based on these things they would do and say?

Vs. 5-6- What had the people been worshiping and what will happen to it?

(Bible Notes- The loss of the calf of Beth-aven was evidence that their false religion had failed them. The idol was meant to be *an offering to the great king* (or King Yareb; see not on 5:13). Ephraim and Israel would feel shame because of their Baal worship. What they worshiped and believed was the source of their good fortune became the possession of the Assyrian king. The complete ineffectiveness of Baal was evident to the people.)

Vs. 7- What will happen to Samaria's king?

Vs. 8- What is described as "the sin of Israel"?

[What is the significance of high places in the Bible? | GotQuestions.org](http://GotQuestions.org)

(Bible Notes- The *high places of Aven*, a reference to Bethel, would be destroyed. Here the Israelites had congregated in their apostasy, which began to lose its significance as *thorns and thistles* grew over their altars.)

Vs. 9- (Bible Notes- *The days of Gibeah* was to the people of Israel a reminder of their many years of disobedience since the incident involving the concubine and civil war (Jdg 19-21). Israel had continued in its disobedience. The city represented both Israel's decadence and its dependence on violent force.)

Vs. 10- What will be the ultimate consequence for Israel's disregard for the Lord?

Vs. 12- Hosea tries to encourage the people to change their ways. What did he say?

Vs. 13- Unfortunately, what had the people done instead?

In what had they placed their trust and confidence?

Vs. 14-15- He said war will come "because of your extreme _____."

(Bible Notes- Israel's trust in military strength and power was misplaced. The destruction resulting from this battle is compared with *Shalman's destruction of Beth-arbel*. Likely Shalman is Shalmaneser V of Assyria, who succeeded Tiglath-pileser III (cp. 2 Kg 17:3-5). The destruction would be so horrific that even mothers and their children would be brutally killed.)

Chapter 11: God's Love for Israel

Vs. 1- How did the Lord refer to Israel here and what feelings did He express?

(Read Exodus chapters 3-15 for reference God's call of His people out of Egypt.)

Vs. 2- What had Israel done?

Vs. 3-4- What had the Lord done for them over the years?

What are times in your life that you have forgotten God, His care, and His provision or misplaced your gratitude?

Vs. 5-6- What had Israel refused to do, and what will be the consequence of their actions?

Vs. 7- God's people had turned from Him repeatedly. What will happen when they call to Him?

Vs. 8- What is stirred in the heart of the Lord?

(*Admah* and *Zeboiim*, together with Sodom and Gomorrah, are among the cities of the plain destroyed (cp. Gn 10:19; 19:24-25). God did not want to see this destruction fall upon His people and affirmed that He would not unleash His wrath to the extent that He did with these evil cities.)

Vs. 9- What did He promise and why?

Vs. 10-11- What did the Lord say would happen when He calls His people?

Vs. 12- What did he say regarding Ephraim, Israel, and Judah?

Chapter 12:

Vs. 1- What is noted about Ephraim?

Vs. 2-6- The Lord has a dispute with Judah as well. He reveals that He is about to punish Jacob (Israel) and describes briefly the life of Jacob and His initial encounters with him. What did He tell Judah they must do?

(Bible Notes- God addressed Judah about her forefather Jacob, thus showing a connection with the northern kingdom.)

Vs. 7-8- What attitude did Ephraim have about their wealth?

Vs. 9- What did God say He would do?

Vs. 10- Who had God sent to communicate His messages to them?

(Bible Notes- The prophets functioned as mouthpieces for God, declaring God's warnings and judgments and announcing His appointments to leadership. Despite the presence of these men of God, throughout Israel's history, the people repeatedly went astray.)

Vs. 11- What will become of these altars built for idols?

Vs. 14- What is said of Ephraim?

Chapter 13: Further Judgment on Israel

Vs. 1-3- What did His people continue to do and what did Hosea compare their lives to?

Vs. 4-5- What did the Lord tell them?

Vs. 6- What happened when the people settled in the land and they became content and satisfied?

(Bible Notes- The word *satisfied* conveys the sense of complacency, leading to a false sense of self-reliance so that *their hearts became proud*. Despite God's provision, the people forgot Him and failed to express gratitude for His provisional care.)

Have you even noticed your heart feeling so content that you neglect God, even forgetting to acknowledge Him and His care for you?

Vs. 7-9- How did the Lord describe the wrath He would bring upon them in judgment?

Vs. 10- What had the people once demanded? (Read 1 Sm chapter 8)

Now what is the Lord asking them?

Vs. 11- What did He say about their king?

Vs. 12-13- Because of their sins and lack of repentance, how is Ephriam described?

(Bible Notes- The metaphor of a woman giving birth provides a clear picture of a child who refuses to act upon the labor pains of coming birth and ends up stillborn. Thus, the judgments that came upon Israel to refine and correct could have been a new path to new birth and restoration.)

Vs. 14- What does God have the power to do?

Vs. 15- What will come upon the people despite their flourishing lifestyles?

V. 16- This is a graphic depiction of the horrors the people will experience because of their guilt and rebellion against God. War is horrific! What is described?

[How are idols connected to demons \(Deuteronomy 32:16-17\)? | GotQuestions.org](#)

Life apart from God leads to anguish. If only they would have listened to the many warnings given to them by multiple prophets. Are you listening?

Chapter 14: The Final Plea for Israel's Repentance

Vs. 1-3- What did Hosea plead for his people to do?

Vs. 4-7- What will the Lord do if they would turn from their evil ways back to Him?

Vs. 8- What did the Lord clarify?

(Bible Notes- The prophet used a *flourishing pine tree* as a simile to show the futility of Baal's fertility. The worship of this idol was associated with a wooden image or pole, and now clearly its effectiveness was nil (cp. 4:12-13). God alone is the source of fertility in every area of life.)

Vs. 9- This is a great fact for all people to remember! Jot this down:

[Book of Hosea Summary | Watch an Overview Video](#) (Bibleproject.com)