Historical Context:

1. Narrative
2. Final days of Jeroboam who reigned in the Northern Kingdom of Israel
3. Speculated to end right before Assyrian Siege of Samaria in 722
4. Beginning of prophetic career of is stable and flourishes in economic prosperity
5. Ultimately faces a prolonged national crisis

Overview of the book of Hosea:

1. 14 chapters total
2. First three chapters discuss the marriage of Hosea

A.When the Lord began to speak through Hosea, the Lord said to him, “Go, marry a promiscuous woman and have children with her, for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the Lord.” Hosea 1:2

B. Adultery was committed when?

C. Have three kids and everything fell apart

What God asks Hosea To Do:

1. Tells Hosea that even though his wife isn’t faithful, he mst still seek her, pay off her debts, and forgive her once more
2. Act of renewal of their marriage

Why:

1. Prophetic Symbol of God’s relationship with Israel
2. God has been faithful to Israel
3. God took them out of slavery
4. Brought them to Mt Sinai and established a covenant
5. Exodus 6:7 “I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.”
6. Exodus 19:5 -6 “Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, youwill be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”

D. Brought Israel to the Promised Land

a. Israelites took abundance and worshiped Canaanite god Baal

E. God debated ending covenant and “divorcing” Israel

What God Does:

1. He pursues Israel and renews covenant
2. God loves greater than Israel sins
3. Hosea 2:19-20 “I will betroth you to me forever;I will betroth you in righteousness and justice, in love and compassion. I will betroth you in faithfulness, and you will acknowledge the Lord.”

B. What it means

a.Hosea 3:4-5 “For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince,

without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods.

Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the Lord their God and David

their king. They will come trembling to the Lord and to his blessings in the

last days.”

C. Future restoration

a. One day Israel will repent and come back to God who will provide a king