

OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH HISTORY DEPICTED BY ONE FAMILY

INTRODUCTION: This symbolization of the Old and New Testament church shows that although the 12 tribes of Israel and Judah were dispersed, that now in this last period of the church, God is to gather together the outcast of Judah and the remnant of Israel by a revival and reformation.

Hosea 1

Verse 2

1. Here we see that Hosea's wife and children were visionary. This analogy was used by God to portray His people, Judah and Israel in an idolatrous state.
2. God would not literally have His prophet marry harlots. See **Lev. 21:7, 14**

Verse 3, 4

1. The first-born son of Hosea's visionary marriage was named Jezreel in order to foreshadow the vindication of the blood of Jezreel
Note: Someone had wrongly shed Jezreel's blood. This occurred when Jezebel slew the prophets of God. Read **1 Kings 18:3,4**
2. Jehu was to do the avenging. See **2 Kings 9:1-7 and 2 Kings 10:11**
3. Here is predicted the fall of Ahab's reign and kingdom as the "breaking of the bow" signified the destruction of the princes of the nation. This was fulfilled by Jehu when he slew all that pertained to Ahab's house.

Verse 5

1. Shows the place where the "breaking of the bow of Israel was to take place.
See **2 Kings 10:11**

Verse 6, 7

1. This child's name was called Loruhamah—meaning not having mercy.
2. God was to have no mercy upon the House of Israel. This was fulfilled when the King of Assyria came and took them captive and scattered them. **2 Kings 17:18, 19, 22, 23 and 2 Kings 18:11**
3. God was to continue to have mercy on the kingdom of Judah **2 Kings 19:1, 15, 16, 19, 20 and 35.**
4. He would save the two tribe kingdom but not by bow, sword, battle, horses or horsemen.

Verse 8, 9

1. This child was named Loammi—meaning not my people
2. God's mercy was to depart from Judah because of their continual course of backsliding. See **Matt. 23:37, 38 and Luke 23:18**
3. This verse brings us to the Christian era.

Verse 10, 11

1. Here we see that the descendants of Israel and Judah were to be multiplied as the sand of the sea, be reaccepted, and become the sons of the living God. Thus the present identifiable Jews of today are not necessarily those that are seen in the fulfillment of this prophecy.
2. After the scattering and rejection of Israel, the nation consequently lost their racial identity and were assimilated by the Gentile nations. Thus many of them became Christians, and are unidentified in the world today.
3. Many of the Jews who were scattered among the Gentiles, were to return as Christians. Therefore, through Jesus Christ they are once more offered salvation.

Hosea 2

Verses 1-5

1. Here we see that the prefix “Lo” has been omitted from the names of Loruhamah and Loammi, there rendering Ruhamah to mean “mercy and Ammi to mean “my people”.
2. This change of status implies a division of church history and brings us to the New Testament period.
3. Ammi and Ruhamah represent the laity (the church members) both male and female. This is brought out from the fact that they are pluralized.
4. The one speaking to them is Jezreel, their brother but also the mouthpiece of God.
5. The mother to whom the children are commanded to take the message is symbolic of that part of the church which is responsible for bringing converts, ministry. Since it is the children (laity) not the mother (ministry) who deliver the message it is clear that it is a message of revival and reformation to the church.
6. This description portrays a reformatory movement in the church as a result of mother playing the “harlot”. See **8T 249, 250** and **1 SM 128**
7. This message to Ammi and Ruhamah must be a laymen’s movement.

Verse 6-11

1. Here we see that because of a departure from God, the early Christian church was to suffer adverse circumstances as a means of calling her back. This was the reason for the Dark Ages of religion from 538 to 1798 A.D. By permitting Rome to gain control of the church, the true Sabbath was lost and substituted by a false one.

Verse 12-14

1. In fulfillment of these verses, the church fled into the wilderness, into the lands of the Gentiles. See **Rev. 12:6**

Verse 15

1. The valley of Achor is the only door of hope for the church. The only way out of her predicament.
2. It was in the typical Valley of Achor that Joshua stoned the sinners in Israel - Achan and his household. See **Joshua 7:24-26**
3. The significance of the valley is that God is to thoroughly purge His house, cutting

off the sinners in her midst just as in the case of Achan. Then shall she return to her former position of purity. See **5T 157, 211, 80; PK 725; 1T 190**

Verse 16, 17

1. After the hypocrites and sinners are taken out of her, the church shall no longer call the Saviour Baali (Lord), but shall call him Ishi (husband). She will then truly become His wife, indicating a much closer relationship.

Verse 18-20

1. Peace and prosperity will be in all her borders. **PK 299**

Verse 21-23

1. When these events take place the Lord is to be in the midst of His people. That is, His presence is to be manifested among His people.
2. There shall be no want of spiritual food, for the earth shall hear Jezreel - a symbol then of the church leadership - messengers (the 144,000 included).
3. This is the crowning event in the finishing of the Everlasting Gospel as He will sow her unto me in the earth. That means He will multiply her, bring in the great multitude.

CONCLUSION: Thus we see that God's plan for ancient Israel will be fulfilled through their descendants today who became Christians, particularly SDA Christians, and who start a revival and reformation in the church which will at last restore peace and happiness to God's family, and completes the proclamation of the gospel.