



June 14

HOSEA

There is nothing minor about the minor prophets.

Hosea prophesied to Israel in the 700's B.C.

The word of the Lord that came to Hosea son of Beeri during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the reign of Jeroboam son of Jehoash king of Israel...

Hosea 1:1

1. God's love for His people is that of a faithful husband.

*The Lord said to me, "Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another and is an adulteress. Love her as the Lord loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes." **Hosea 3:1***

2. God is clear in what He requires from the people He loves.

"... my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge.

*"Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children." **Hosea 4:6***

*For I desire mercy, not sacrifice, and acknowledgment of God rather than burnt offerings. **Hosea 6:6***

3. God restores those who love Him.

"My heart is changed within me; all my compassion is aroused.

I will not carry out my fierce anger, nor will I turn and devastate Ephraim.

For I am God, and not man – the Holy One among you.

I will not come in wrath.

They will follow the Lord; he will roar like a lion.

When he roars, his children will come trembling from the west.

*They will come trembling like birds from Egypt, like doves from Assyria. I will settle them in their homes," declares the Lord. **Hosea 11:8-11***

Hosea's message: be faithful.