

Thematic Structure of Hosea

- A. Hosea's Marriage and Children (1)
- B. Israel's Unfaithfulness and Yahweh's Mercy (2)
- C. Hosea's Reconciliation to His Unfaithful Wife (3)
- D. Prophecies Against Israel's Sins (4–13)
 - a. Israel's Apostacy (4–5)
 - b. A Call to Repentance (6–7)
 - c. Israel's Impending Judgment (8–9:9)
 - d. Figurative Descriptions of Israel's Unfaithfulness
 - i. Grapes in the Wilderness (9:10–17)
 - ii. The Destructive Vine (10:1–10)
 - iii. The Trained Heifer (10:11–15)
 - iv. The Beloved Son (11)
 - e. Yahweh's Contention with Judah (12)
 - f. Ephraim's Rebellion (13)
- E. Promise of Future Blessing (14)

Major Themes

- A. Pictures of Spiritual Failure
 - a. Unfaithful Wife (2:1–13)
 - b. Obstinate Heifer (4:16)
 - c. Grapes in the Wilderness (9:10)
- B. Pictures of Mercy
 - a. Merciful Husband (2:6–7)
 - b. Forgiving God (6:1–3)
 - c. Restoring Father (14:1–9)

Key Text

Hosea 2:7 *She shall pursue her lovers but not overtake them, and she shall seek them but shall not find them.*

Then she shall say, 'I will go and return to my first husband, for it was better for me then than now.'