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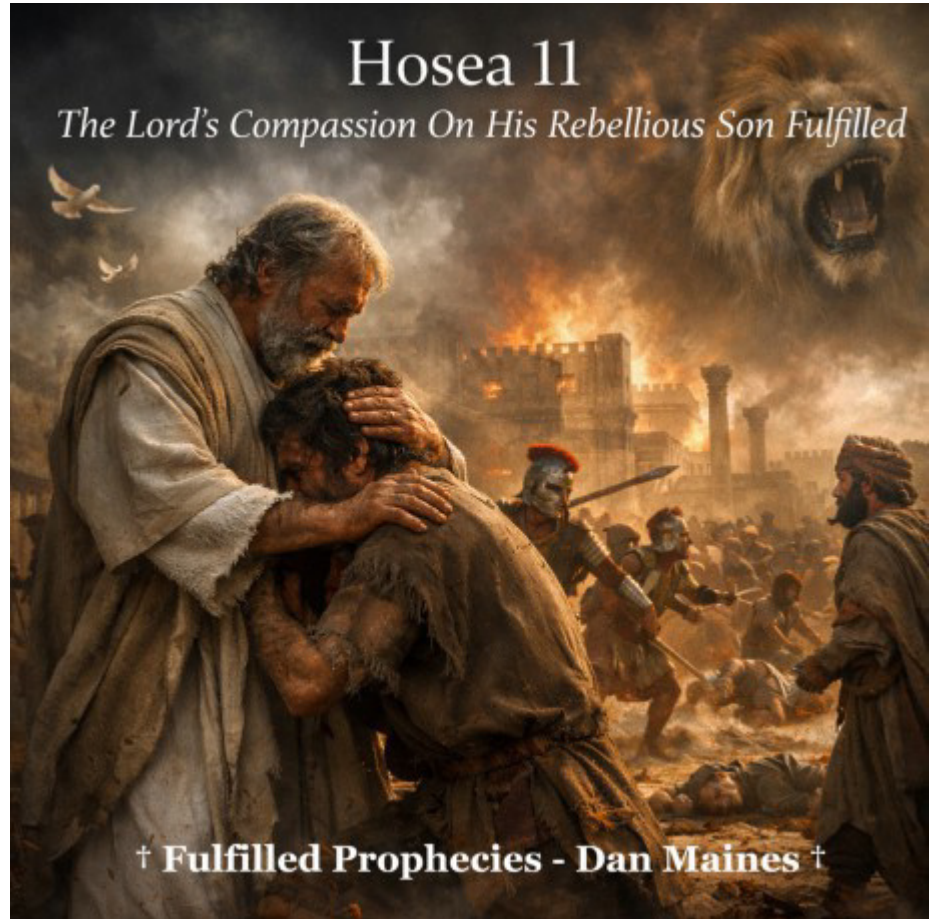
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Hosea 11 The Lord's Compassion On His Rebellious Son Fulfilled



By Dan Maines

Hosea 11 The Lord's Compassion On His Rebellious Son Fulfilled

Introduction

† Hosea 11 shows the heart of God toward Israel, not just His judgment but His deep compassion, even after their rebellion.

† This chapter reveals that Israel was called as a son, but they turned away, and yet God still showed mercy within their generation.

† From the fulfilled perspective, this points directly to Christ and

the final dealings with Israel leading up to AD 70, where both judgment and mercy were completed.

Hosea 11:1

When Israel was a youth I loved him,
And out of Egypt I called My son.

† This verse is fulfilled in Christ, as seen in Matthew 2:15, showing that Jesus represents Israel as the true Son.

† Israel failed as God's son, but Christ fulfilled what Israel could not, bringing the story to completion.

† This shows continuity, God wasn't changing plans, He was fulfilling what He started from the beginning.

Hosea 11:2

The more they called them,
The more they went from them;
They kept sacrificing to the Baals
And burning incense to idols.

† Israel continually rejected the prophets, turning instead to idols, showing their covenant unfaithfulness.

† This same rejection is seen in the first century when they rejected Christ and His apostles.

† Their pattern of rebellion reached its fullness before the destruction of Jerusalem.

Hosea 11:3

Yet it is I who taught Ephraim to walk,
I took them in My arms;
But they did not know that I healed them.

† God cared for Israel like a father teaching a child, but they refused to recognize Him.

† This mirrors Christ healing and teaching in Israel, yet they still didn't acknowledge Him.

† Their blindness wasn't due to lack of evidence, it was willful

rejection.

Hosea 11:4

I led them with cords of a man, with bonds of love,
And I became to them as one who lifts the yoke from their jaws;
And I bent down and fed them.

† God led them gently, not harshly, providing for them in every way.

† This reflects Christ's ministry, inviting rather than forcing, calling them to repentance.

† Even with kindness, they refused, proving their hearts were hardened.

Hosea 11:5

They will not return to the land of Egypt;
But Assyria, he will be their king
Because they refused to return to Me.

† This shows judgment coming through a foreign power due to their refusal to repent.

† In the fulfilled sense, this pattern points forward to Rome, which became their instrument of judgment.

† Their refusal to return to God sealed their fate within that generation.

Hosea 11:6

The sword will whirl against their cities,
And will demolish their gate bars
And consume them because of their counsels.

† The destruction described here finds its ultimate fulfillment in the Roman siege of Jerusalem.

† Josephus records the devastation, showing how complete the judgment was.

† Their own decisions led to their downfall, just as Hosea

warned.

Hosea 11:7

So My people are bent on turning from Me.
Though they call them to the One on high,
None at all exalts Him.

† Israel had a persistent tendency to turn away, even when called back repeatedly.

† This is seen in the Gospels where they rejected Christ despite clear truth.

† Their refusal to exalt God revealed the condition of their hearts.

Hosea 11:8

How can I give you up, Ephraim?
How can I surrender you, Israel?
How can I make you like Admah?
How can I treat you like Zeboiim?
My heart is turned over within Me,
All My compassions are kindled.

† This verse reveals God's compassion, He wasn't eager to destroy, but justice required it.

† Admah and Zeboiim were cities destroyed like Sodom, showing the severity of judgment.

† Even in judgment, God's mercy is seen, preserving a remnant.

Hosea 11:9

I will not execute My fierce anger;
I will not destroy Ephraim again.
For I am God and not a man, the Holy One in your midst,
And I will not come in wrath.

† God restrains total destruction, showing mercy within judgment.

† This is fulfilled in the preservation of believers before Jerusalem fell.

† God's holiness means He judges rightly, but also keeps His promises.

Hosea 11:10

They will walk after the LORD,
He will roar like a lion;
Indeed He will roar,
And His sons will come trembling from the west.

† This points to the gathering of God's people beyond Israel.

† After judgment, the gospel spread to the nations, fulfilling this call.

† The roar represents authority and power in Christ's reign.

Hosea 11:11

They will come trembling like birds from Egypt
And like doves from the land of Assyria;
And I will settle them in their houses, declares the LORD.

† This shows restoration, not to physical land, but into God's dwelling, His kingdom.

† The nations coming in fulfill the inclusion always intended.

† This is the completed gathering of God's people in Christ.

Hosea 11:12

Ephraim surrounds Me with lies
And the house of Israel with deceit;
Judah is also unruly against God,
Even against the Holy One who is faithful.

† Israel's deception continued, but a faithful remnant remained.

† This remnant is seen in the early church, those who believed in Christ.

† God always preserved those who were truly His.

Historical References

- † Josephus, Wars of the Jews, describes the destruction of Jerusalem and the suffering that matches Hosea's warnings.
- † Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, records that believers fled Jerusalem before its fall, showing God's mercy in preservation.
- † Tacitus, Histories, confirms the devastation under Rome, aligning with the prophetic judgment described.

How It Applies To Us Today

- † God's patience doesn't mean He's ignoring sin, it means He's giving time to respond.
- † Just like Israel, people can experience God's kindness and still reject Him, which leads to judgment.
- † Christ has fulfilled everything, and now we live in the reality of His kingdom, not waiting for it.
- † We're called to walk faithfully, not repeating Israel's pattern of knowing truth but turning away.
- † God's compassion is real, but so is His justice, and both were fully revealed in that generation.

Q & A Appendix

Q How is Hosea 11 fulfilled in Christ?

A Matthew 2:15 shows Jesus as the true Son called out of Egypt, fulfilling Hosea 11:1.

Q Who is the judgment in Hosea pointing to?

A Luke 21:20-22 shows Jerusalem surrounded by armies, fulfilling the judgment described.

Q What does the roaring lion represent?

A Revelation 5:5 identifies Christ as the Lion, showing His authority and fulfillment.

Q Who are those coming from the west?

A Isaiah 49:6 shows the nations being brought in, fulfilled through the gospel.

Q Was God's mercy still present in judgment?

A Luke 21:18 shows preservation of believers, proving mercy within judgment.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Hosea 11

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History; Tacitus, Histories

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