

that cover her body.

- ¹⁰ Then I'll strip her naked
in the sight of her lovers.¹
No one can rescue her.

- ¹¹ I'll stop Israel's celebrations—
no more New Moon Festivals,
Sabbaths, or other feasts.

- ¹² She said, "My lovers gave me
vineyards and fig trees
as payment^m for sex."

Now I, the LORD, will ruin
her vineyards and fig trees;
they will become clumps of weeds
eaten by wild animals.

- ¹³ I'll punish her for the days
she worshiped Baal
and burned incense to him.
I'll punish her for the times
she forgot about me
and wore jewelry and rings
to attract her lovers.
I, the LORD, have spoken!

The LORD Will Help Israel

- ¹⁴ Israel, I, the LORD,
will lure you into the desert
and speak gently to you.
¹⁵ I will return your vineyards,
and then Trouble Valleyⁿ
will become Hopeful Valley.
You will say "Yes" to me
as you did in your youth,
when leaving Egypt.

¹⁶ I promise that from that day on,
you will call me your husband instead
of your master.^o ¹⁷ I will no longer even
let you mention the names of those pa-
gan gods that you called "Master."
¹⁸ And I will agree to let you live in
peace—you will no longer be attacked
by wild animals and birds or by weap-

^{2.10} I'll strip . . . lovers: Or "I'll show her lovers how disgusting she is." ^{m2.12} fig trees . . . payment: Hosea uses an unusual word for "fig tree," which is spelled something like the word for "payment." ^{n2.15} Trouble Valley: Or "Achor Valley." The exact location of the valley is unknown, but in Hebrew "Achor" sounds like "Achan," who brought trouble on Israel by disobeying the Lord (see Joshua 7.24-26). ^{o2.16} husband . . . master: In Hebrew the word "master" is the same as the name of the god Baal. But the LORD promises that his people will have a deep personal relationship with him (like a devoted wife and husband) rather than merely a legal tie (like a wife and her "master"). ^{p2.19} bride price: It was the custom for the husband to pay his wife's parents a bride price. Instead of money, the LORD will give much better benefits to Israel. ^{q2.23} Lo-Ruhamah: See the note at 1.6. ^{r2.23} Lo-Ammi: See the note at 1.9. ^{s3.1} unfaithful woman: This may refer to Gomer, the woman Hosea married (see 1.3), or it may refer to another woman.

Alimony is a part of "Legal Lies" marriages that God has nothing to do with. Alimony is prostitution which is "fornication" which is sinning against yourself! I COR. C. 7 V. 15-20

ons of war. ¹⁹ I will accept you as my wife forever, and instead of a bride price^p I will give you justice, fairness, love, kindness, ²⁰ and faithfulness. Then you will truly know who I am.

²¹ I will command the sky to send rain on the earth, ²² and it will produce grain, grapes, and olives in Jezreel Valley. ²³ I will scatter the seeds and show mercy to Lo-Ruhamah.^q I will say to Lo-Ammi,^r "You are my people," and they will answer, "You are our God."

God's Love Offers Hope

3 Once again the LORD spoke to me. And this time he said, "Hosea, fall in love with an unfaithful woman^s who has a lover. Do this to show that I love the people of Israel, even though they worship idols and enjoy the offering cakes made with fruit."

² So I paid fifteen pieces of silver and about ten bushels of grain for such a woman. ³ Then I said, "Now you are mine! You will have to remain faithful to me, though it will be a long time before we sleep together."

⁴ It will also be a long time before Israel has a king or before sacrifices are offered at the temple or before there is any way to get guidance from God. ⁵ But later, Israel will turn back to the LORD their God and to David their king. At that time they will come to the LORD with fear and trembling, and he will be good to them.

Israel Is Unfaithful

4 Israel, listen
as the LORD accuses
everyone in the land!

Gongle Asherah, Ashtaroth & Baal the pump of the Goddesses of Temple Prostitution