



**Series:** Hosea, The Scandalous Love of God

**Passage:** Hosea Chapters 4 and 5

**Title:** God Indicts Israel

**Speaker:** Pastor JC 10/8/2023

**Discussion Starter** – What are some of the things that God is revealing to you in this study of Hosea in Chapters 4 and 5?

### **Read Hosea 4:1-3**

- 1) What three indictments does God charge the nation Israel? Israel knew what God's word said, so where was the problem? How does this also relate to His church today?
  - a. In Hosea we see that God's love does and says hard things to build and restore his people. How do we model God's love of saying and doing hard things to believers in a way that speaks of building and restoration?
- 2) Read Exodus 19:5-6: What do you think got in the way of Israel to follow God's calling and plan for them? What calling and responsibilities do we have as Christians that are similar to God called Israel to do? Explain.
- 3) What was the real problem that caused God to say "There is no knowledge of God in the land"? Read Jeremiah 4:22. How can this problem also exist in His church today?
  - b. Describe in your own words what it means to know God?
- 4) How are truth and mercy linked to knowledge of God?
  - c. Israel thought they were fine, how do you think that this happened to them? What are some modern day things that are happening to the Church that God would have this same charged indictment? Is there anything in your own life that God is speaking to you to get right?

### **Read Hosea 4:4-10**

- 5) What was the indictment against the leaders/priests in Israel? What is the duty of spiritual leaders?
- 6) Read Matthew 23:13-15; 23-27. How do you think this happened to these spiritual leaders?
  - d. Describe how God is growing you as a spiritual leader. What are some of the areas in your leadership that you consider strong and what are some areas you think God wants you to grow more in?

### **Read Hosea 4:11-19**

- 7) What are the three counterfeit spirits that are described in verses 11 and 12 and how do they "enslave the heart"? How do counterfeit spirits take our affection away from God? Read Ephesians 5:18.
  - e. Which of these three areas: alcohol, sexual sin or materialism have you been impacted by most in your life, keeping you from the role and plan God desires for you? What would you do differently?
- 8) Read Psalm 1:1. As a follower of Christ, how are we to interpret this passage?

### **Read Hosea 5:1-15**

- 9) Read Hosea 5:11-14: Describe in your own words God's issue with Ephraim in the way they reacted to the sickness that was upon them?
- 10) According to Hosea 5:15, what is the time frame and condition for this to come to pass before Israel is restored to a relationship with Him?
  - f. What are some of the reasons God uses affliction to restore us back to Him? What types of affliction has God used in your life to draw you back to Him?