

HOSEA

ORDER IN OLD TESTAMENT

28

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

14

TYPE

PROPHECY, MINOR



OVERVIEW

Hosea was the only prophet from the northern kingdom of Israel to have a written record. The Lord commanded Hosea to marry a harlot, and God used this as a symbol of His relationship with His covenant people. This fueled the prophet to understand God's feelings about Israel's unfaithfulness and His promise of redemption.



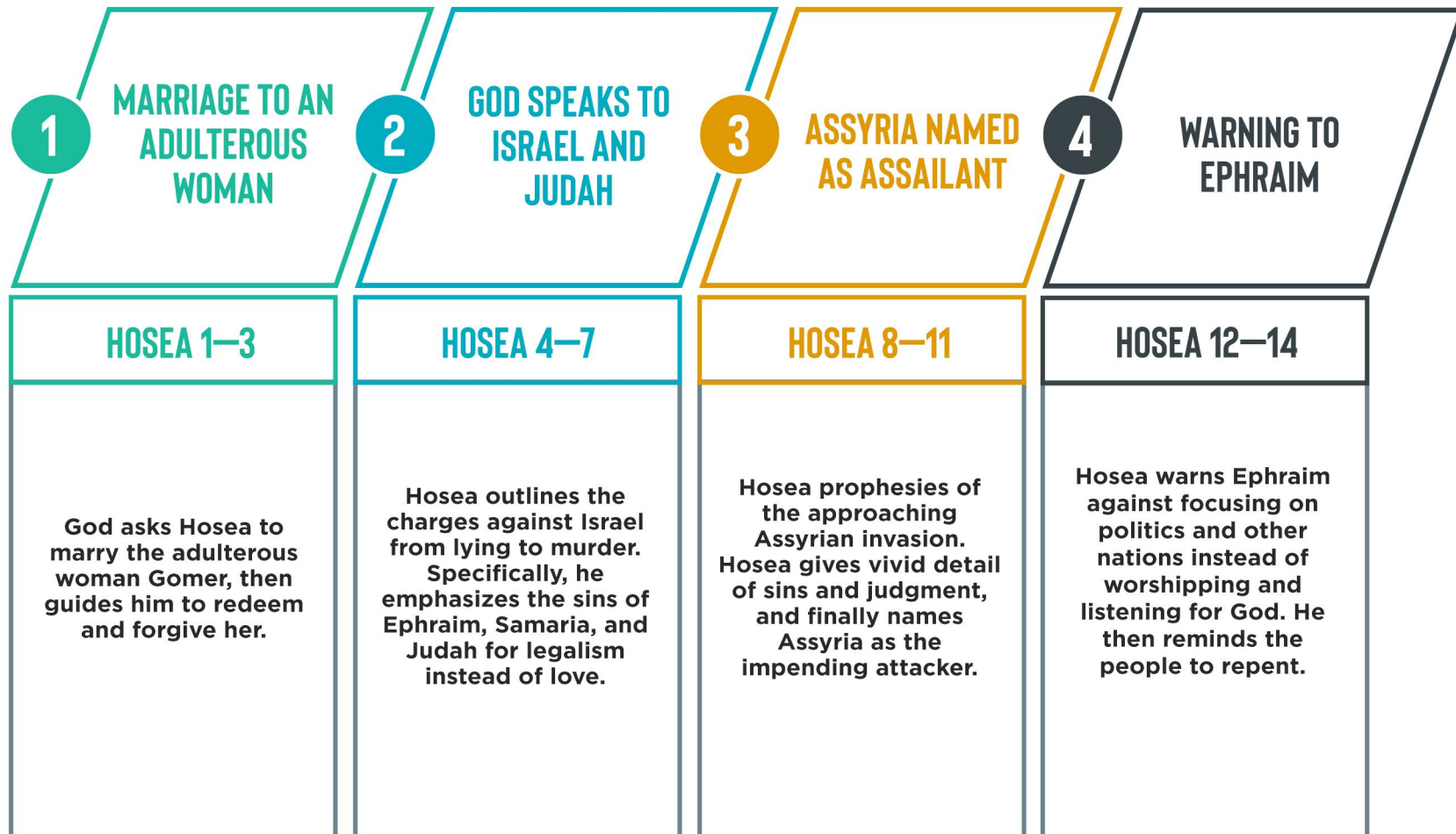
WRITTEN
750-710 BC



TIME PERIOD COVERED
750-6 BC



AUTHOR
Hosea the Prophet



HOSEA

AT-A-GLANCE

BOOK(S) WRITTEN:

Hosea

TYPE OF BOOK(S):

Minor Prophecy; Hosea was the first of 12 Minor Prophets)

PROBABLE DATES OF WRITING:

536-530 BC



AUTHOR BACKGROUND:

Nothing is known about Hosea's childhood. He comes into play when God told him to marry a woman who was an unfaithful prostitute, so that people could see what it was like for God to be "married" to the nation of Israel.

Hosea began to prophesy during the reign of King Jeroboam II, the 13th king of Israel, around 750 BC. Israel was full of idolatry. God planned to allow Assyria to invade if people didn't repent. They refused to listen to Hosea.

He prophesied at the same time as the major prophet Isaiah. He obeyed God and married a woman who would not be faithful to him.

The book contains warnings about both pending invasions—the Assyrian invasion of the northern kingdom of Israel, and the Babylonian invasion of the southern kingdom of Judah. They happened almost 200 years apart, but nobody from either era listened to Hosea or heeded his writings.

Hosea wrote the famous prophecy about Jesus living for a while in Egypt as a child. Some 500 years later, Jesus' parents took him there when he was a baby, as his father Joseph had been warned in a dream that Herod would try to him.



UNUSUAL PLACES THIS AUTHOR WROTE:

Hosea was the first prophet to write from the northern kingdom of Israel rather than the southern kingdom of Judah.



UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH THIS AUTHOR WROTE:

He is one of the few prophets God asked to do something symbolic. Hosea's marriage to the prostitute Gomer was a great deal of heartache for him and a personal disaster, but he was thus able to communicate God's heartache over Israel with great personal zeal.

AMOS

ORDER IN OLD TESTAMENT

30

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

9

TYPE

PROPHECY, MINOR



OVERVIEW

Amos was a shepherd from Tekoa, a small town 10 miles south of Jerusalem. This was unusual, as most prophets did not have previous occupations. Amos predicted the overthrow of the Kingdom of Israel by the Assyrians, which happened in 722 BC. He also predicted the doom of Judah and many surrounding nations.



WRITTEN
750 BC



TIME PERIOD COVERED
722-516 BC



AUTHOR
The Prophet Amos

1	AMOS' CALLING AND JUDGMENT AGAINST MANY NATIONS	2	JUDGMENTS AGAINST ISRAEL	3	AMOS IS ATTACKED PERSONALLY	4	THE PEOPLE ARE COMPARED TO RIPE FRUIT	5	THE DESTRUCTION OF ISRAEL
AMOS 1—2		AMOS 3—6		AMOS 7		AMOS 8		AMOS 9	
<p>Amos is called to be a prophet and declare God's Word to Israel. Damascus, Gaza, Tyre, Edom, Ammon, Moab, Judah, and Israel are specifically named for their transgressions and warned that they will fall under God's judgment.</p>		<p>Amos preaches about the judgment that the people are inflicting upon themselves because of their wickedness. Amos tells the people that they are obstinate because they have wealth and are successful.</p>		<p>Amos asks God to end the planned plagues to give the people more time to repent. The people curse Amos, accuse him of being evil, and demand that he leave. Amos responds by recalling his mission as a prophet and the Lord's command to prophesy to Israel.</p>		<p>Amos declares the downfall of the people. He reprimands the country for proclaiming to be righteous while neglecting its poor and needy, and taking advantage of the weak. Amos prophesies of future famine.</p>		<p>Amos warns of God's promise to destroy the people and land, which eventually comes to pass when the Assyrians invade. Amos closes with promises of restoration in the end days.</p>	

AMOS

AT-A-GLANCE

BOOK(S) WRITTEN:

Book of Amos

TYPE OF BOOK(S):

Minor Prophecy (Amos is the third of 12 Minor Prophets)

PROBABLE DATES OF WRITING:

760 BC



AUTHOR BACKGROUND:

Amos was a shepherd and not from a family of trained priests or prophets. He lived with a group of shepherds in Tekoa, a small town 10 miles south of Jerusalem.

Amos prophesied while Uzziah was king of Judah, and Jeroboam II was king of Israel. He predicted the overthrow of the Kingdom of Israel by the Assyrians, which happened in 722 BC, 40 years after his prophecy.

He also predicted the doom of Judah and the doom of many surrounding nations. He had a short ministry, though his book contains nine chapters.



UNUSUAL PLACES THIS AUTHOR WROTE:

Amos was born in the southern kingdom of Judah but prophesied in the northern kingdom of Israel.



UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH THIS AUTHOR WROTE:

Because most prophets were from a lineage of royalty and prestige, it is likely Amos had even greater troubles than his fellow prophets in getting people to listen to him. He had been a shepherd in the southern kingdom when his gift surfaced.

MICAH

ORDER IN OLD TESTAMENT

33

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

7

TYPE

PROPHECY, MINOR



OVERVIEW

Micah prophesied at the same time as Isaiah and Hosea, during the tragic years surrounding the Assyrian invasion of Israel. Micah's earlier prophecies concern judgment of the kingdoms of Israel and Judah for idolatry. His later prophecies concern the future kingdom Jesus speaks of during His ministry.



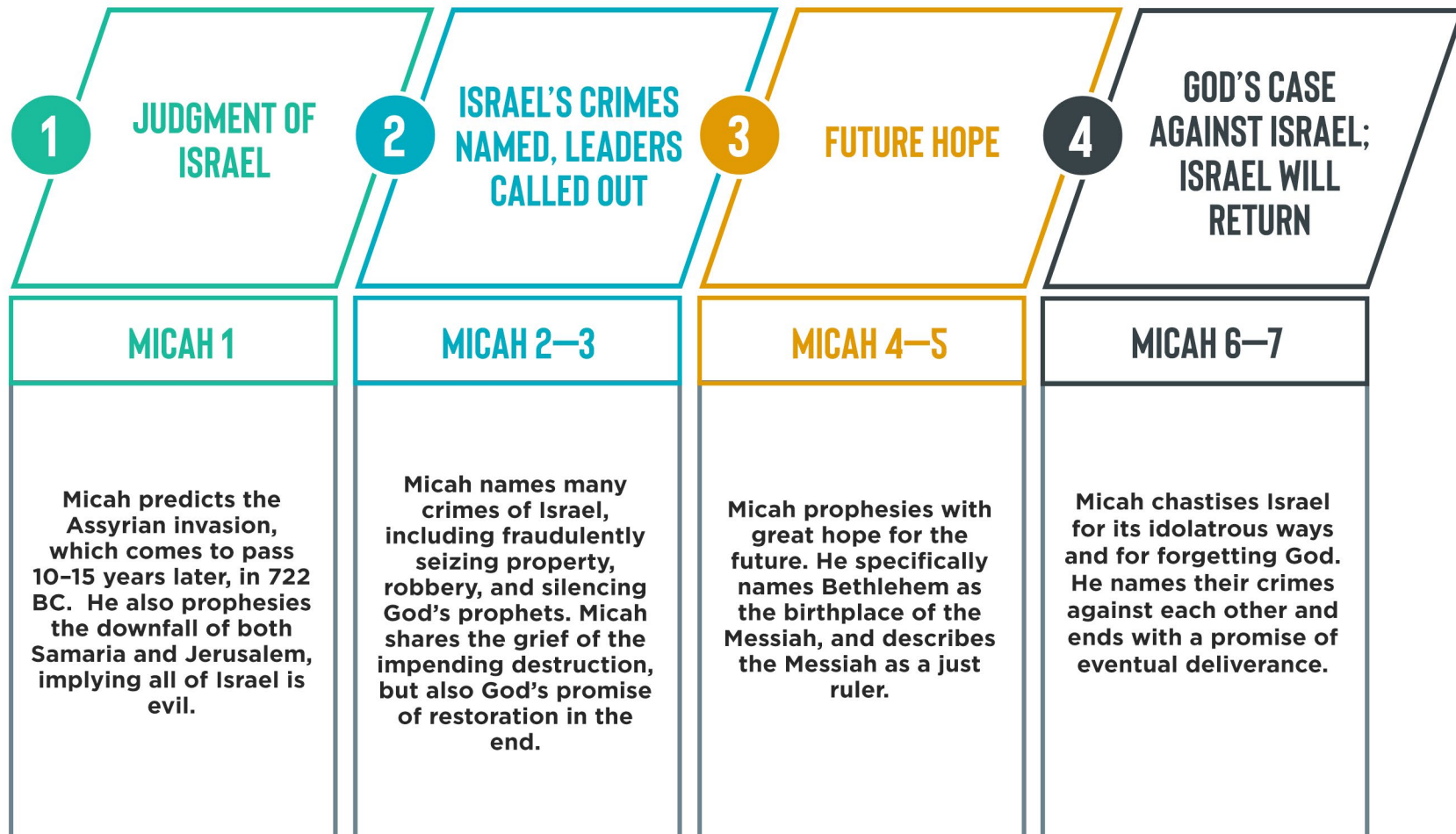
WRITTEN
735-710 BC



TIME PERIOD COVERED
722 BC to the End of Days



AUTHOR
The Prophet Micah



MICAH

AT-A-GLANCE

BOOK(S) WRITTEN:

Book of Micah

TYPE OF BOOK(S):

Minor Prophecy (Micah is the sixth of 12 Minor Prophets)

PROBABLE DATES OF WRITING:

735-710 BC



AUTHOR BACKGROUND:

Nothing is known about the prophet Micah's background. He prophesied at the same time as Isaiah and Hosea, during the tragic years surrounding the Assyrian invasion of the northern kingdom of Israel. Micah predicted the invasion in Micah 1:6. It came to pass 10 or 15 years later, in 722 BC.

Micah's earlier prophecies concern judgment on the kingdoms of Israel and Judah for idolatry. His later prophecies concern the future kingdom that Jesus also spoke of—the Kingdom of Heaven.



UNUSUAL PLACES THIS AUTHOR WROTE:

This author wrote from the northern kingdom of Israel during the Assyrian invasion that would take away many people from the 10 Tribes and absorb them into foreign cultures. He predicted and then saw the fall of the northern kingdom of Israel.



UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH THIS AUTHOR WROTE:

Micah's prophecies were not exclusively about the Kingdom of Israel. He also made the famous prediction of Christ's birth being in Bethlehem:

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." Micah 5:2