

## **Hosea: The Husband and the Harlot Ignorance of God**

---

---

**Charge against the Nation: They have turned from a God focus to self-focus.**

*Hear the word of the Lord, you Israelites, because the Lord has a charge to bring against you who live in the land: (Hosea 4:1a)*

*There is no faithfulness, no love, no acknowledgment of God in the land. (Hosea 4:1b)*

*There is only cursing, lying and murder, stealing and adultery; they break all bounds, and bloodshed follows bloodshed. (Hosea 4:2)*

*Because of this the land mourns, and all who live in it waste away; the beasts of the field and the birds of the air and the fish of the sea are dying. (Hosea 4:3)*

**Truth: Self-autonomy replacing God's authority results in national/personal bankruptcy.**

**Question: Who is your authority?**

*But let no man bring a charge, let no man accuse another, for your people are like those who bring charges against a priest. You stumble day and night, and the prophets stumble with you. So I will destroy your mother— my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. (Hosea 4:4-6a)*

**Charge against the citizens: Failed personal responsibility**

**Truth: God holds each person responsible for his or her actions.**

*Since you call on a Father who judges each man's work impartially, live your lives as strangers here in reverent fear. (1 Peter 1:17)*

**Remedy: Seek forgiveness and change**

**Charge against the spiritual leaders: Ignoring the law of God**

*Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children. The more the priests increased, the more they sinned against me; they exchanged their Glory for something disgraceful. They feed on the sins of my people and relish their wickedness. And it will be: Like people, like priests. I will punish both of them for their ways and repay them for their deeds. They will eat but not have enough... (Hosea 4:6b-10)*

**Truth: To whom much has been given, much will be required.**

**Remedy: Take charge of your spiritual life.**