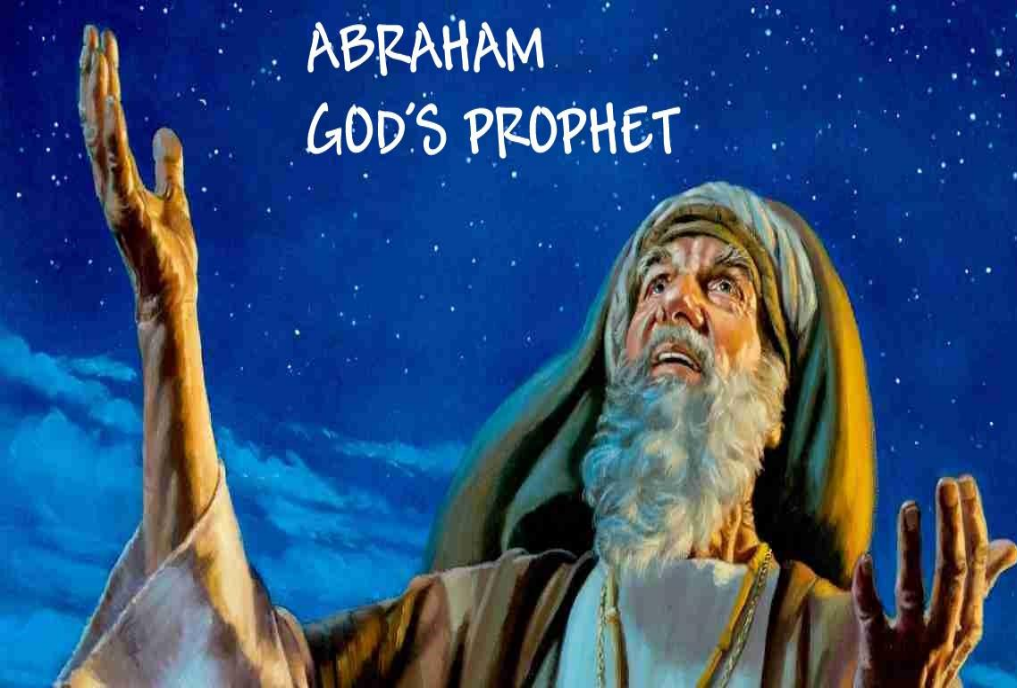


The Prophetic Wisdom of Hosea

An Introduction to Hosea

- Important to know God's Torah before studying Hosea
- Nowhere in the Book of Hosea is he called "Prophet"
- Prophet = Someone who has a special connection with the divine that is beyond the ordinary
- Pagan religions also had prophets
- Prophet meant several different things: a good relationship with the divine; a god's earthly mouth-piece; one who can see the future... and more

ABRAHAM
GOD'S PROPHET

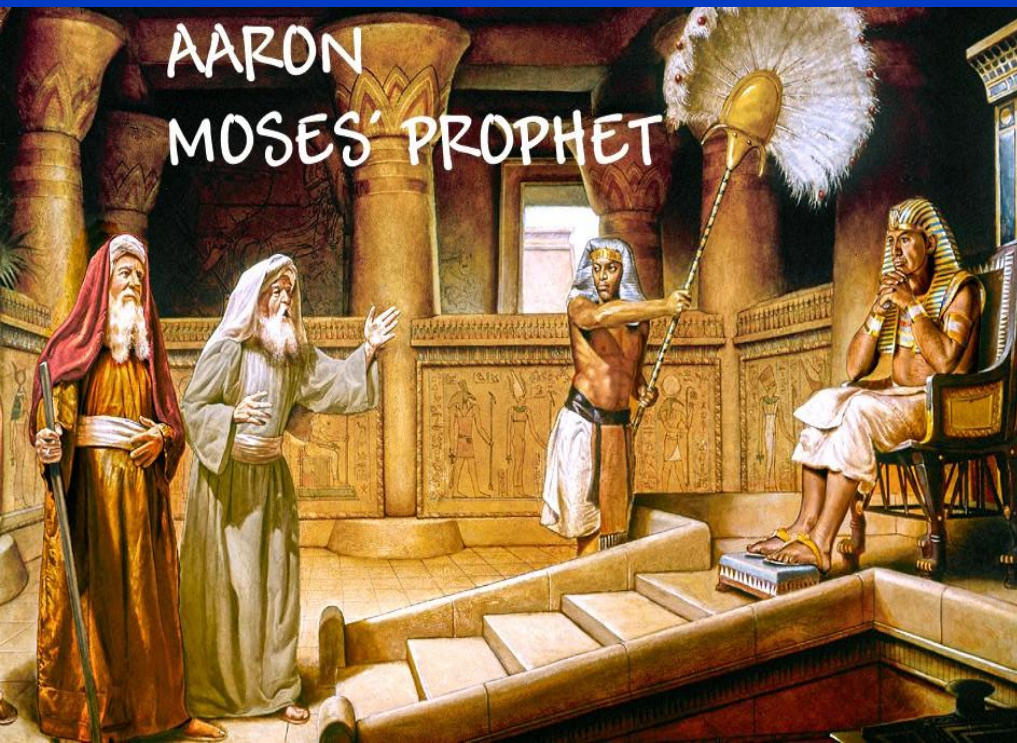


FIRST PROPHET

ABRAHAM

- Gen.20:1 – 7
- Prophet here means a close one-on-one relationship with God
- Exodus 7:1 – 2
- Aaron receives God's messages by indirect means
- Moses is Mediator
- Aaron passes along whatever Moses tells him

AARON
MOSES' PROPHET



SAMUEL

PRIEST & PROPHET

- Deut. 13:2 – 4
- General instructions from God about all kinds of Prophets
- Samuel transitions Israel from Judges to Kings
- 1Sam. 3:20 – 21
- *Nevi'im* a strange new group of prophets
- No direct connection between God and them
- 1Sam. 10:5 - 8



- After David's then Solomon's deaths, civil war split Israel
- Northern Kingdom = 10 tribes
- Southern Kingdom = 2 tribes
- Elijah different from any prophet before him
- Elijah's job was to tell Israel that God wasn't happy with them!
- Later came the "writing prophets" like Jonah, Amos, Isaiah, Ezekiel and Hosea



OUR ERA IS LIKE HOSEA'S

TWO SPHERES OF JUDGMENT



OUR GROUP
ASSOCIATIONS

INDIVIDUAL
LIVES

- Christians often believe that God will always strive with us
- The End will come in some hazy future, just not yet
- On a corporate level God's wrath is not going to be turned away
- On an individual level, it can be turned away
- God's judgment is not based on human standards

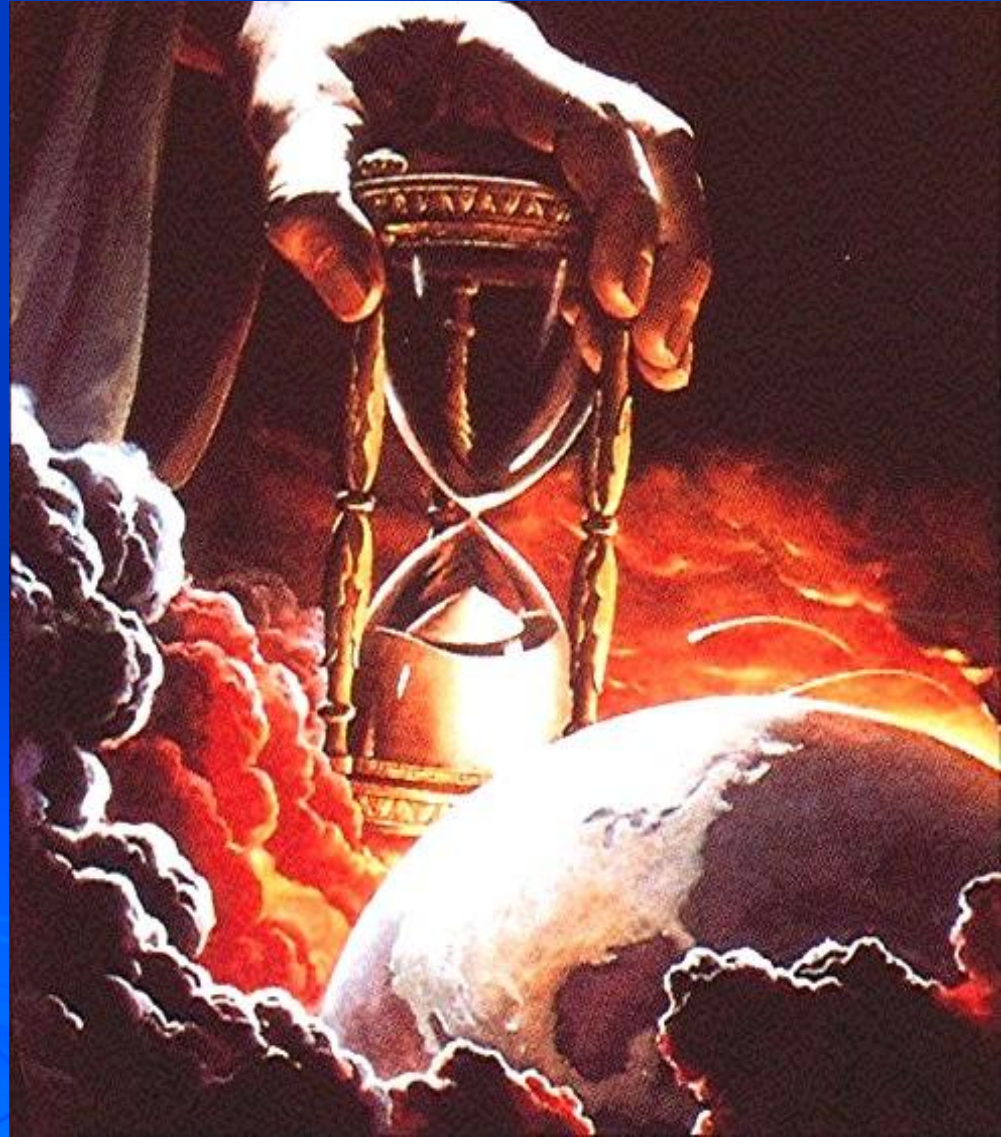
SELF
DECEPTION



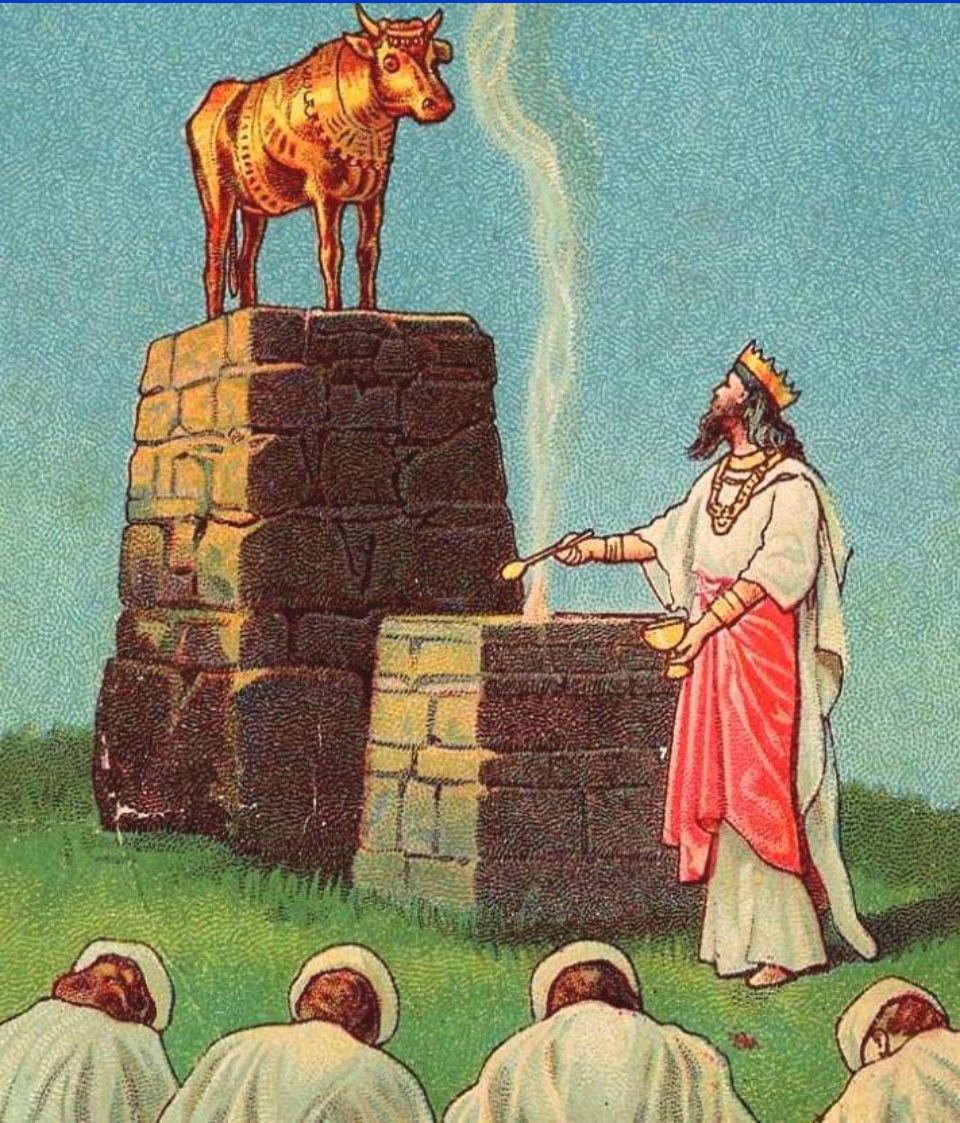
- The Israelite community of 10 tribes had deceived themselves, thinking they were in good stead with God
- The 2 main branches of Judeo-Christianity operate primarily on manmade doctrines
- In Hosea idolatry is the primary offense of Israel against Yehoveh
- Idolatry is far more than worshipping wooden idols
- Setting aside biblical commands for evolving cultural demands is what Israel did, and what is happening to our faith, today

DIFFERENT OUTCOMES

- A prophet's warnings fall on deaf ears
- We sin because we like to sin
- God intended to purify Israel from Ba'al worship by removing them from the Land and then returning them later
- In the End Times, God will purify the earth from evil by destroying mankind; no return
- The spiritually faithful will be redeemed on a spiritual level



THE ERA OF HOSEA



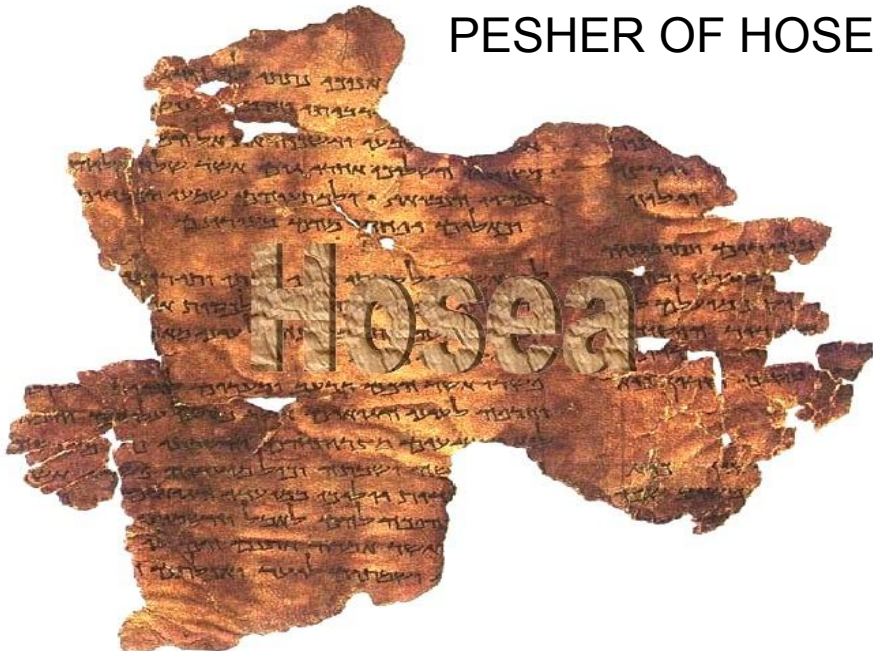
- When have we asked ourselves why we believe what we believe?
- Hosea lived in the 8th century B.C.
- It was a peaceful and prosperous time for Israel due to treaties with their neighbors
- Israel a united nation for only 70 years!
- Judah kept their neighbors at arm's length
- Israel embraced their neighbors



ISRAEL AND EPHRAIM

- Jeroboam died 753 BC
- Zechariah became the new king
- 6 kings ruled over Israel over the next 30 year period, all murdered
- Chaos and instability resulted, and the economy sank
- Hosea prophesied over several decades

PESHER OF HOSEA



WHICH CAME FIRST?

- Some scholars believe Hosea was written before the Law of Moses
- The notion is that it was out of Hosea that the IDEA for the Covenant of Moses came
- This belief comes from thinking the Scriptures are myth and fiction and not historically accurate
- Hosea bases his prophecies on the fact that Israel and Yehoveh already had a covenant
- Israel broke the covenant

