

The Minor Prophets

OBADIAH

MICAH

JOEL

HOSEA

AMOS

NAHUM

ZEPHANIAH

JONAH

HABAKKUK

ZECHARIAH

HAGGAI

MALACHI



The Mi

OBADIAH

MICAH

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HOSEA

God Goes
to Trial

HOSEA

God Goes to Trial

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The City-Gate (The Late Bronze Period)

בתקופת הברונזה המאוחרת (1550-1150 לפסה"ס) שלטה מצרים בכנען. מנידו היתה אז אחת מערי-המדינה החשובות, ומלכה היה נסאל-נאמן של מלך מצרים. מן העיר של תקופת הברונזה המאוחרת מוכרים בעיקר השער והארמון המפואר שנבנה בסמוך לו. השער שולב, ככל הנראה, בביצורי העיר של תקופת הברונזה התיכונה (1550-2000 לפסה"ס).

The Late Bronze period (1550-1150 B.C.) is marked by Egyptian rule of Canaan. At that time, Megiddo was one of the country's major city-states and its king a loyal vassal of the Egyptian pharaoh. The city-gate and the elaborate palace located just inside the gate are the best-known remains of this period. The city-gate was apparently incorporated into the Middle Bronze (2000-1550 B.C.) fortifications that were still in use at the time.

שער העיר (תקופת הברונזה המאוחרת)

לשער שלושה פגיונות של אשלת, נותרו אופי באבניזיות חלקן מבזלת.
The three-entry city-gate was faced with ashlar blocks, some made of basalt.

השער במהלך חפירות אוניברסיטת שיקגו (1925-39).
The gate at the time of the University of Chicago excavations (1925-39).

העיר מתקופת הברונזה המאוחרת במאה ה-14 לפסה"ס.
The Late Bronze City, in the 14th c. B.C.

"אל המלך אדוני ושמי, אמרו בה דבר בירידה, עבד נאמן למלך. (...) עשה לבאיו, ומלך שבם, פגשי-איבה נגדי (...) ולא נוכל לעאת את שער העיר (...) חלואי שייתן המלך כאח אנשי-משמר לשמור על עירו, סדם שילבדה לבאיו (...) לבאיו את העיר בגידו הוא מבקש להחריב" (קטע ממכתבו של מנידו מלך כנען במאה ה-14 לפסה"ס, אל אדונו, מלך מצרים, ארכיון אל-עמרנה)
"Labayu (king of shechem) has waged war against me, (...) and we are unable to go out of the city-gate (...) so may the king give a garrison of 100 men to guard his city lest Labayu seize it" (he seeks simply the seizure of 'Megiddo')
archive: extract of a 14th c. B.C. letter from the king of Megiddo to the Egyptian pharaoh

THE LATE BRONZE PERIOD

בתקופת הברונזה המאוחרת (1550-1150 לפסה"ג) שלטה מצרים על האזור. מגידו הייתה אז אחת מערי-החשובות, ומלכה היה וסאל-מצרים. מן העיר של תקופת הברונזה המאוחרת מוכרים בעיקר השמורים שנבנו בסמוך לו. השמורים הנראים, בביצור העיר של תקופת הברונזה המאוחרת (1550-2000) התיכונה.

The period (1550-1150 B.C.) of Egyptian rule of Canaan. Megiddo was one of the important city-states and its king a vassal of the Egyptian pharaoh. The gate and the elaborate palace at the top of the gate are the best-preserved of this period. The city was later incorporated into the Iron Age (2000-1550 B.C.) city walls that were still standing at the time.


לשער שלוש-הערים של אומנת
קירותיו צופו באבני גזית חלקן מבולטות
The three-entry city-gate was faced with
ashlar blocks, some made of basalt.



גשר חפירות אוניברסיטת
ט (1925-39)
The gate at the time of
the Chicago excavation



מאחורי
ג
The Late

The background image shows ancient stone ruins, likely from the Bible, with a semi-transparent text box overlaid. The ruins consist of walls made of large, irregular stones. A palm tree is visible in the distance behind the walls. The sky is blue with some clouds. The ground is covered in smaller stones and some moss. A small wooden bench is visible on the right side of the image.

“You shall appoint judges and officers in all your towns that the LORD your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous judgment” (Dt. 16:18)

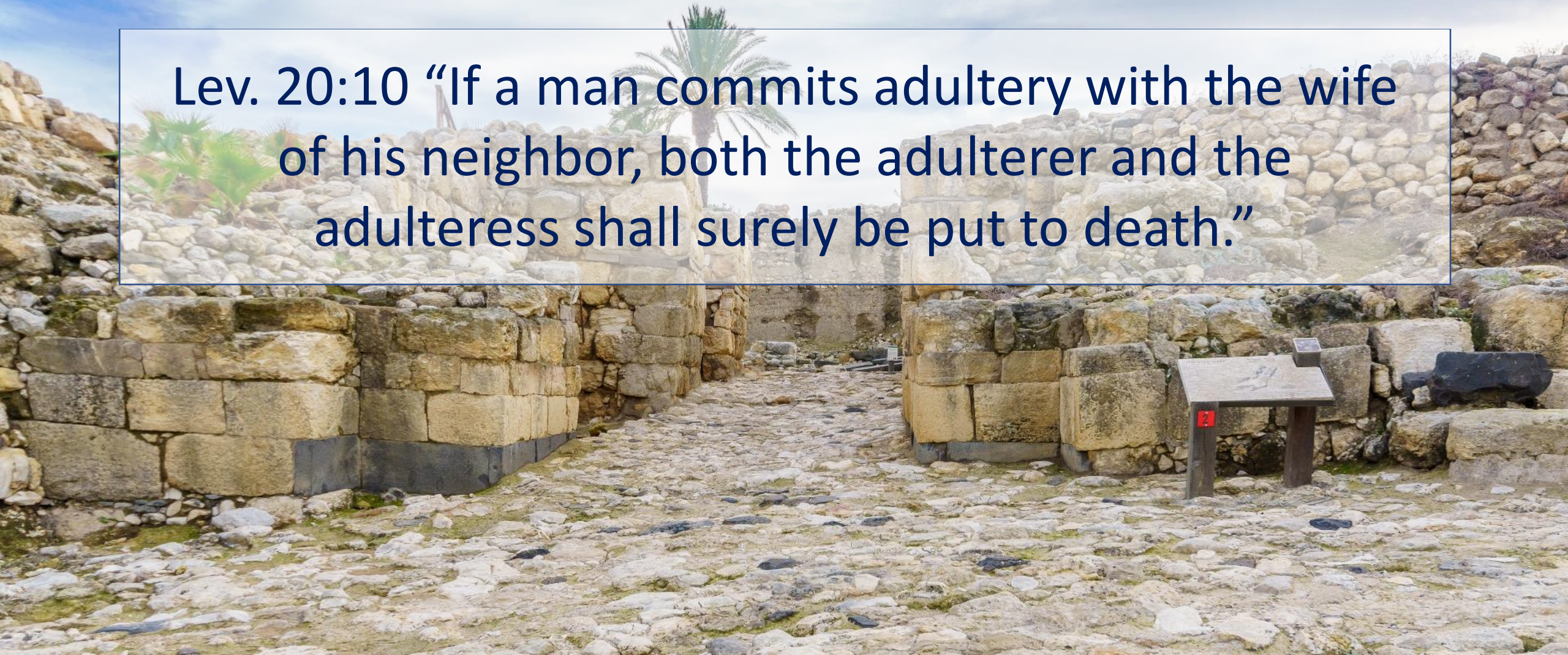
Capital Offenses: Breaking Covenant

A photograph of ancient stone ruins, likely a city wall or fortification, made of large, irregular stone blocks. The ruins are situated on a hillside. In the background, a single palm tree stands against a cloudy sky. A black rectangular box with white text is overlaid on the center of the image. The ground is covered in small, light-colored stones and patches of moss.

Example: 1 Kings 21

Capital Offenses: Adultery

Lev. 20:10 “If a man commits adultery with the wife of his neighbor, both the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death.”



God Goes to Trial

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God Goes to Trial

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Ch. 1 Trials in Israel

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Ch. 3 Points for home

Trial No: 1
Hosea 2:2-15

Israel Has Committed Adultery

- Call to Court



Hosea 2:2

Make an accusation against your mother. Make the accusation that she is not my wife, and I am not her husband...

Hosea 2:2

גְּרִיבוּ בְּאִמְכֶם יְיָבוּ
כִּי־הִיא לֹא אִשְׁתִּי
וְאֲנֹכִי לֹא אִישָׁהּ

Hosea 2:2

Plead with your mother,
plead—for she is not my
wife, and I am not her
husband—

Hosea 2:2

רִיבוּ בְּאִמְכֶם רִיבוּ
כִּי־הִיא לֹא אִשְׁתִּי
וְאֲנֹכִי לֹא אִישָׁהּ

Riv (ריב): Quarrel, plead/bring a
lawsuit, contest a lawsuit

Trial No: 1

Hosea 2:2-15

Israel Has Committed Adultery

- Call to Court
- God's desire
- The capital crime's punishment
- Evidence and judgment
- The surprise final judgment



Hosea 2:2

...and that she must remove
her signs of prostitution from
her face, and her signs of
adultery from between her
breasts.

Hosea 2:2

וְתִסֶּר זְנוּתָהּ מִפָּנֶיהָ
וְנִאֲפֹכֶיהָ מֵגִיד שְׂדֵיהָ:

Trial No: 1

Hosea 2:2-15

Israel Has Committed Adultery

- Call to Court
- God's desire
- The capital crime's punishment



Hosea 2:3

lest I strip her naked and
make her as in the day she
was born, and make her
like a wilderness, and
make her like a parched
land, and kill her with
thirst.

Hosea 2:3

פֶּן־אֶפְשִׁיטָנָה עֲרֹמָה
וְהַצַּגְתִּיהָ כְּיוֹם הַוָּלָדָה
וְשִׁמַּתִּיהָ כַּמִּדְבָּר וְשִׂתְהָ
כַּאֲרֵץ צִיָּה וְהַמַּתִּיהָ
בַּצָּמָא:

Trial No: 1

Hosea 2:2-15

Israel Has Committed Adultery

- Call to Court
- God's desire
- The capital crime's punishment
- Evidence and judgment



Hosea 2:4-5

Upon her children also I will have no mercy, because they are children of whoredom. For their mother has played the whore; she who conceived them has acted shamefully. For she said, 'I will go after my lovers, who give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.'

Hosea 2:4-5

וְאֶת-בְּנֶיהָ לֹא אֲרַחֵם
כִּי-בָנִי זְנוּנִים הֵמָּה: כִּי
זָנְתָה אִמָּם הַבִּישָׁה
הוֹרֵתָם כִּי אִמָּה אֶלְכָּה
אֶחְרִי מֵאֲהָבִי נִתְּנִי לַחֲמִי
וּמִיָּמִי צִמְרִי וּפִשְׁתִּי שִׁמְנִי
וְשִׁקּוּנִי:

Hosea 2:6-7

Therefore I will hedge up her way with thorns, and I will build a wall against her, so that she cannot find her paths. She shall pursue her lovers but not overtake them, and she shall seek them but shall not find them. Then she shall say, 'I will go and return to my first husband, for it was better for me then than now.'

Hosea 2:6-7

לָכֵן הִנְנִי-שׂוֹךְ אֶת-דֶּרֶכָּהּ
בַּסִּירִים וְגִדְרֹתַי אֶת-גְּדֻרָּהּ
וְנִתְיבֹתֶיהָ לֹא תִמָּצָא:
וְרִדְפָהּ אֶת-מְאַהֲבֶיהָ
וְלֹא-תִשָּׁיג אֹתָם וּבְקִשָּׁתָם
וְלֹא תִמָּצָא וְאַמָּרָה אֶלְכָּה
וְאַשׁוּבָה אֶל-אִישִׁי הָרִאשׁוֹן
כִּי טוֹב לִי אָז מֵעַתָּה:

Hosea 2:8

And she did not know
that it was I who gave her
the grain, the wine, and the
oil, and who lavished on her
silver and gold, which they
used for Baal.

Hosea 2:8

וְהִיא לֹא יָדְעָה כִּי אֲנֹכִי
נָתַתִּי לָהּ הַדָּגָן וְהַתִּירוֹשׁ
וְהַיֶּצֶקֶר וְכֶסֶף הַרְבֵּיתִי
לָהּ וְזָהָב עָשׂוּ לַבַּעַל:

Hosea 2:9-13

Therefore I will take back
my grain in its time, and
my wine in its season, and
I will take away my wool
and my flax, which were to
cover her nakedness.

Hosea 2:9-13

לִכְּנֹ אָשׁוּב וְלִקְחֹתִי
דָגְנִי בְּעֵתוֹ וְתִירוֹשִׁי
בְּמֹועֶדוֹ וְהֵצַלְתִּי צִמְרִי
וּפְנֵתִי לְכִסּוֹת
אֶת-עֲרוֹתֶיהָ:

Hosea 2:9-13

Now I will uncover her
lewdness in the sight of
her lovers, and no one
shall rescue her out of my
hand.

Hosea 2:9-13

וְעִתָּהּ אֶגְלֶה
אֶת־נִבְלָתָהּ לְעֵינַי
מֵאֵהָבֶיהָ וְאִישׁ
לֹא־יִצִּילָנָה מִיָּדִי:

Hosea 2:9-13

And I will put an end to all
her mirth, her feasts, her
new moons, her Sabbaths,
and all her appointed
feasts.

Hosea 2:9-13

וְהִשְׁבַּתִּי כָּל-מְשׁוֹשֶׁהָ
חֲגֵה חֹדֶשׁ וְשַׁבָּתָהּ
וְכָל מוֹעֵדָהּ:

Hosea 2:9-13

And I will lay waste her vines and her fig trees, of which she said, 'These are my wages, which my lovers have given me.' I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall devour them.

Hosea 2:9-13

וְהַשְׁמַחְתִּי גִפְנֶיהָ וְתַאֲנֶתָהּ
אֲשֶׁר אָמְרָה אֶתְנָה
הִמָּה לִי אֲשֶׁר נָתַנוּ-לִי
מֵאֵהָבִי וּשְׂמֹתַיִם לְיַעַר
וְאֶכְלָתָם תֵּיֵת הַשָּׂדֶה:

Hosea 2:9-13

And I will punish her for the feast days of the Baals when she burned offerings to them and adorned herself with her ring and jewelry, and went after her lovers and forgot me, declares the LORD.

Hosea 2:9-13

וּפָקַדְתִּי עָלֶיהָ אֶת-יְמֵי
הַבָּעָלִים אֲשֶׁר תִּקְטִיר
לָהֶם וּבַתֵּעַד בְּזִמָּה
וְחִלְיָתָהּ וּבַתְּלָךְ אֶתְרִי
מֵאֵהָבֶיהָ וְאֹתִי שָׁכַחָה
נְאֻם-יְהוָה:

Trial No: 1

Hosea 2:2-15

Israel Has Committed Adultery

- Call to Court
- God's desire
- The capital crime's punishment
- Evidence and judgment
- The surprise final judgment



Hosea 2:14-15

“Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her.

Hosea 2:14-15

לָכֵן הִנֵּה אֶנְכִּי מְפַתֶּיָּהּ
וְהִלַכְתִּיהָ הַמִדְבָּר
וְדִבַרְתִּי עַל-לִבָּהּ:

Hosea 2:14-15

And there I will give her
her vineyards and make
the Valley of Achor a door
of hope. And there she
shall answer as in the days
of her youth, as at the time
when she came out of the
land of Egypt.

Hosea 2:14-15

וְנָתַתִּי לָהּ אֶת-כָּרְמֶיהָ
מִנְשֶׁם וְאֶת-עֵמֶק עָכֹור
לְפֶתַח תְּקוּוּהָ וְעֲנִתָּה שְׁלֵמָה
כִּי־יָמִי נְעוּרָיָהּ וְכִי־וָם
עָלְתָה מִמִּצְרָיִם:

Hosea 2:14-15

And there I will give her her vineyards and make the Valley of **Achor** a door of hope. And there she shall answer as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.

Hosea 2:14-15

וְנָתַתִּי לָהּ אֶת-כָּרְמֶיהָ
מִנֶּשֶׁם וְאֶת-עֵמֶק **עָכֹר**

Achor (עָכֹר): Trouble

כִּי־יָמִי נְעוּרֶיהָ וְכִי־וָאֵם
עָלְתָה מִמִּצְרָיִם:

Don't miss the interweaving of law and grace



Trial No: 1

Hosea 2:2-15

Israel Has Committed Adultery

- Call to Court
- God's desire
- The capital crime's punishment
- Evidence and judgment
- The surprise final judgment



Trial No: 2
Hosea 4:1-19

Israel Has Broken Covenant

- Call to Court



Hosea 4:1

Hear the word of the
LORD, O children of Israel,
for the LORD has a
controversy with the
inhabitants of the land...

Hosea 4:1

שִׁמְעוּ דְבַר-יְהוָה בְּנֵי
יִשְׂרָאֵל כִּי גָרִיב לַיהוָה
עַם-יּוֹשְׁבֵי הָאָרֶץ

Trial No: 2

Hosea 4:1-19

Israel Has Broken Covenant

- Call to Court
- Three general covenant breaks



Hosea 4:1

... There is no faithfulness or steadfast love, and no knowledge of God in the land;

Hosea 4:1

כִּי אֵין-אַמֶּת וְאֵין-תֵּסֵד
וְאֵין-יָדַעַת אֱלֹהִים
בְּאֶרֶץ:

Dt. 5:21 – “But you, stand here by me, and I will tell you the whole commandment and the statutes and the rules that you shall teach them, that they may do them in the land that I am giving them to possess.”

Trial No: 2

Hosea 4:1-19

Israel Has Broken Covenant

- Call to Court
- Three general covenant breaks
- Six specific covenant breaks



Hosea 4:2

there is swearing, lying,
murder, stealing, and
committing adultery;
they break all bounds, and
bloodshed follows
bloodshed.

Hosea 4:2

אֶלֶּה וְכַחֲשׁ וְרָצַח וְגָנֹב
וְנִאֲף פִּרְצוֹ וְדָמִים
בְּדָמִים נִגָּעוּ:

Hosea 4:2

there is **swearing**, lying,
murder, stealing, and
committing adultery;
they break all bounds, and
bloodshed follows
bloodshed.

Hosea 4:2

אֱלֹהִים וְרַחֲמָיו וְרַעְיָה וְנוֹר

Thou shalt
have no other
gods before me

Thou shalt not
make unto thee
any graven image

Thou shalt not take
the name of the Lord
thy God in vain

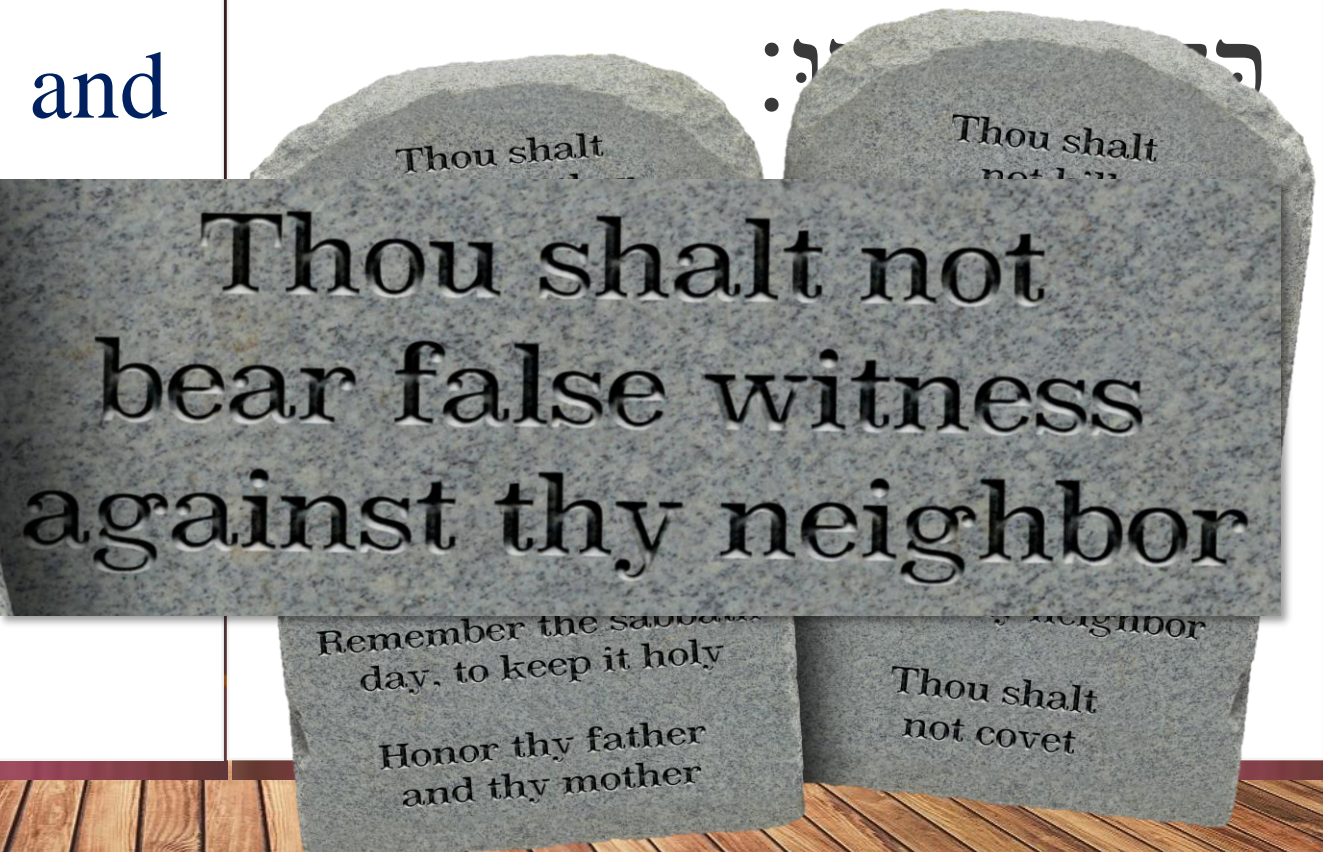
and thy mother

Hosea 4:2

there is swearing, **lying**,
murder, stealing, and
committing adultery;
they break all bounds, and
bloodshed follows
bloodshed.

Hosea 4:2

אֵלֶּה וְכִחָשׁ וְרָצַח וְגָנוֹב
וְנִאֲף פָּרְצוּ וְדָמִים



Hosea 4:2

there is swearing, lying,
murder, stealing, and
committing adultery;
they break all bounds, and
bloodshed follows
bloodshed.

Hosea 4:2

אֶלֶּה וְכַחֲשׁ וּרְצִיחַ וּגְנוֹב
וְנֹאֵם חֲלִיטִי וְדַמִּים

Thou shalt
not kill

Honor thy father
and thy mother

not covet

Hosea 4:2

there is swearing, lying,
murder, **stealing**, and
committing adultery;
they break all bounds, and
bloodshed follows
bloodshed.

Hosea 4:2

אֶלֶּה וְכַחַשׁ וְרָצַח וְגָנֹב
וְנִאָּף פָּרְצוּ וְדָמִים



Hosea 4:2

there is swearing, lying,
murder, stealing, and
committing adultery;
they break all bounds, and
bloodshed follows
bloodshed.

Hosea 4:2

אֵלֶּה וְכֹחַשׁ וְרָצַח וְגָנֹב
וְנֶאֱדָר פְּרָצוּ וְדָמִים

Thou shalt not
commit adultery

the name of the Lord
thy God in vain

Remember the sabbath
day, to keep it holy

Honor thy father
and thy mother

Thou shalt not
bear false witness
against thy neighbor

Thou shalt
not covet

Hosea 4:2

there is swearing, lying,
murder, stealing, and
committing adultery;
they break all bounds, and
bloodshed follows
bloodshed.

Hosea 4:2

אֶלֶּה וְכֹחַשׁ וְרָצַח וְגָזֵב
וְנֶאֱדָר פִּרְצוֹ וְדָמִים
בְּדָמִים נִגָּעוּ:

Trial No: 2

Hosea 4:1-19

Israel Has Broken Covenant

- Call to Court
- Three general covenant breaks
- Six specific covenant breaks
- Consequences



Hosea 4:3

Therefore the land mourns,
and all who dwell in it
languish, and also the
beasts of the field and the
birds of the heavens, and
even the fish of the sea are
taken away.

Hosea 4:3

עַל־כֵּן | תֹּאבֵל הָאָרֶץ
וְאֵמֶלֶל כָּל־יֹשֵׁב בָּהָּ
בְּחַיַּת הַשָּׂדֶה וּבְעוֹף
הַשָּׁמַיִם וְגַם־דִּגְי הַיָּם
יֵאָסֹפוּ:

Trial No: 2

Hosea 4:1-19

Israel Has Broken Covenant

- Call to Court
- Three general covenant breaks
- Six specific covenant breaks
- Consequences
- Evidence and Judgment



Hosea 4:4*ff*

...

Hosea 4:4*ff*

...

Trial No: 3
Hosea 12:1-13:1

Israel's Fraud and Deceit

- Call to Court



Hosea 12:2

The LORD has an indictment against Judah and will punish Jacob according to his ways; he will repay him according to his deeds.

Hosea 12:2

וְרִיב לַיהוָה
עַם-יְהוּדָה וְלִפְקֹד
עַל-יַעֲקֹב כְּדַרְכָּיו
כְּמַעֲלָלָיו יָשִׁיב לוֹ:

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וְרִיב לַיהוָה
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Trial No: 3
Hosea 12:1-13:1

Israel's Fraud and Deceit

- Call to Court
- Israel's guilt



Hosea 12:3*ff*

...

Hosea 12:3*ff*

...

Trial No: 3
Hosea 12:1-13:1

Israel's Fraud and Deceit

- Call to Court
- Israel's guilt
- Judgment



Hosea 13:1

When Ephraim spoke,
there was trembling;
he was exalted in Israel,
but he incurred guilt
through Baal and died.

Hosea 13:1

כַּדְבָּר אֶפְרַיִם רָתַת
נִשְׁאַל הוּא בַּיִשְׂרָאֵל
וַיֵּאָשֶׁם בַּבַּעַל וַיָּמָת:

God Goes to Trial

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God Goes to Trial

Table of Contents

Ch. 1 Trials in Israel

Ch. 2 God in Trial

Ch. 3 Points for home

Point For Home



A man with dark hair, wearing a black and white vertically striped referee shirt, is blowing a whistle and making a 'stop' hand gesture with his right hand. He is looking directly at the camera.

Time out!

“she must remove her signs of prostitution from her face, and her signs of adultery from between her breasts” (Hos. 2:2)

God wants what's best for you



Point For Home





God isn't blind

“Hear the word of the LORD, O children of Israel, for the LORD has a controversy with the inhabitants of the land” (Hos. 4:1)

Point For Home



Don't miss the interweaving of law and grace

And there I will give her her vineyards and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. And there she shall answer as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.

(Hos. 2:14-15)

For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

(Jn. 1:16-17)

The Minor Prophets

OBADIAH

MICAH

JOEL

HOSEA

AMOS

NAHUM

ZEPHANIAH

JONAH

HABAKKUK

ZECHARIAH

HAGGAI

MALACHI