

HOSEA

– THE PROPHET OF GOD'S HEART –

The Crime Scene

HOSEA 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me; seeing thou has forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

HOSEA 4:1 Hear the word of the LORD,
you children of Israel, for the LORD
brings a charge against the inhabitants
of the land: “There is no truth or mercy
or knowledge of God in the land.”

CRIMINAL TWO: GOD'S PRIESTS

They were restraining God's Word.

2 CORINTHIANS 2:14 Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place.¹⁵ For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.¹⁶ To the one we are the aroma of death leading to death, and to the other the aroma of life leading to life. And who is sufficient for these things?¹⁷ For we are not, as so many, peddling the word of God; but as of sincerity, but as from God, we speak in the sight of God in Christ.

CRIMINAL TWO: GOD'S PRIESTS

**They were restraining God's Word
by ignoring their own development.**

HOSEA 4:6a “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me;”

ACTS 20:28 “Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.”

CRIMINAL TWO: GOD'S PRIESTS

**They were restraining God's Word
by forgetting God's Word.**

HOSEA 4:6b “Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children. The more they increased, the more they sinned against Me; I will change their glory into shame.”

ACTS 20:27 “For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God.”

CRIMINAL TWO: GOD'S PRIESTS

**They were restraining God's Word
by forgetting God's Word.**

2 TIMOTHY 4:2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.³For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers;⁴and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

CRIMINAL TWO: GOD'S PRIESTS

**They were restraining God's Word
by being drawn into the sins of the people.**

HOSEA 4:8 “They eat up the sin of My people; They set their heart on their iniquity.⁹ And it shall be: like people, like priest. So I will punish them for their ways, and reward them for their deeds.¹⁰ For they shall eat, but not have enough; they shall commit harlotry, but not increase; because they have ceased obeying the LORD.”

HOSEA 4:11 “Harlotry, wine, and new wine enslave the heart.”

HOSEA 4:11 (LB) “Wine, women, and song have robbed my people of their brains.”

HOSEA 4:17 “Ephraim is joined to idols: let him alone.”

1 PETER 2:4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious,⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.