

will avenge the blood of Jezreel upon the ~~xxx~~ house of Jehu, and will cause the kingdom to cease, the kingdom of the house of Israel--two distinct predictions--the house of Jehu was destroyed, the kingdom lasted a few years longer, and then the kingdom of the house of Israel ceased. So the book of Hosea is a declaration of God's dissatisfaction with the way things were going in Israel and of his determination that the kingdom of Israel would come to an end and that God would labor on with real blessing to his people.

Now this other book that I mentioned is also dated in the reign of Jeroboam and has a little more specific connection with events of the reign of Jeroboam itself than the book of Hosea has. In fact, it actually mentions Jeroboam in it as one who is connected with the ~~xxxx~~ events related. Amos was not like Hosea, a man who was himself a citizen of the northern kingdom. Amos was a man from the southern kingdom. He was a herdsman and a keeper of ~~xxxx~~ sycamore trees, an agricultural worker, who was at the ~~town~~ town of Takoah, a few miles from Bethlehem, southeast of Jerusalem. In those days Takoah was evidently of some importance where sycamore trees and streets around it and doubtless fairly decent houses there. Today, or at least twenty years ago when I was there, its inhabitants lived in caves. So we have the evolution and the advance civilization of the time of Amos to the cave dwellers of today. I went into one of the caves and in there there were four women and about a dozen children including little tots and tiny little wooden cradles and children up to this ~~xxxx~~ size who were running around and having a good time. They all seemed very happy. A man came dashing up on the back of a donkey to see what was happening. While I couldn't talk with him the fellow ~~xxxxix~~ who was with me and I took his hand and showed a friendly attitude and were kind and looked around and departed with good greetings even though we could not actually talk with them. I thought, what a change! At the time of Amos to the present!

(Question) Of course, I don't know what happened since the war or in the last two or three years. But at this time --you see this is fairly near Bethlehem,