

**I. Obedience Demonstrated - Hosea 1:2-7**

1. Go marry a promiscuous woman (**verse 2**)
  - have children with her
2. The comparison - illustration/ analogy - just as God had “married” Israel so Hosea was to “marry” this woman
  - the nation of Israel was guilty of unfaithfulness - turning to idols
3. He married Gomer (**verse 3**)
  - specific names shows that this is not a made up story
- Rea -at seminary I was taught that the Lord’s Supper and baptism serve as an acted sermon
4. Probably not a prostitute - Hosea would have used a different word for that
5. The son is Jezreel - the name of a valley and town - “may God make fertile” is the meaning of the name (**verse 4**)
  - Jezreel represents the judgement that God would send on Israel
6. Israel will have their “bow” broken - so they will not be able to defend themselves (**verse 5**)
  - when God’s judgment falls no nation’s military might will be enough
- Rea
7. Gomer has a girl named Lo-Ruhamah - meaning “not loved” (**verse 6**)
  - an awful name
  - in the name God is announcing what He will do to Israel - He will disavow them
  - but... He will show love to Judah (**verse 7**)
- Rea
8. Israel is the northern kingdom
  - Judah is the southern kingdom
9. I will save them (Judah) - through divine intervention
10. Why save Judah but not Israel?
  - Israel had reached a point of no return - but not Judah
- Rea
- God’s judgment separates between goats and sheep (ex) because God sees the heart not which one is Israel and which one is not
- Rea
- Ideas and Questions:**
  1. The life of Hosea mirrors the relationship between Israel and God
  2. Discuss the whole idea of “relationship” not just “worship”
    - we tend to think that if the “worship” is good that’s all we can shoot for - not so
  3. Jesus is the “bride” of the New Testament church - same analogy

**II. Unfaithfulness Seen - Hosea 1:8-9**

1. A third child comes - another son - named “Lo-Ammi” - meaning not my people (**verse 8**)
2. Not your God, not my people (**verse 9**)
- Rea -relationship lingo again
3. Not my people reminds them of their “chosen” status
  - they had rejected the covenant
- Rea -by their actions
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**

1. Discuss how this merges with He will never leave us nor forsake us
2. In the Old Testament we are told that God will not always hear our prayers - discuss why
3. Hosea's life and marriage are a drama to portray God's relationship with "His people"
4. Discuss "why" do we become unfaithful even though God has done us no wrong

### **III. Restoration Sought - Hosea 3:1-5**

1. Show your love to your wife (**verse 1**)
  - to mimic God's love for Israel
- Rea        -the New Testament teaches that God loved us while we were still in our sin
2. Called here an adulteress
  - Gomer went after other men
  - Israel went after other gods
  - “raisin cakes” was part of idolatrous worship
3. Purchase her back (**verse 2**)
  - a temple prostitute or a temple slave
4. Verse shows that the price was costly
- Rea        -our “purchase” cost God His son - the blood of Jesus is our purchase price
5. She comes back but must live in abstinence from Hosea for many days (**verse 3**)
  - A. God would let Israel go without a priest or king for many days
  - B. Probation (**verse 4**)
- Rea        -discuss the value of this probation
6. After probation is over they will return and seek God (**verse 5**)
- Rea        -they will come “trembling” - in contrition and repentance
- restoration will be complete
- Rea        -discuss the idea (with this in mind) so many have that we can “just forgive” - forgiveness is never easy
- Rea        **Ideas and Questions:**
  1. Note that it was God who initiated the restoration and laid down the rules
  2. It cost God to get us back
  3. He never stops loving us though we often stop loving Him

TJ Betts - SS Lesson for 10-16-22