

HOSEA – LESSON TWO

- I. GOD’S LOVE TOWARD AN UNFAITHFUL ISRAEL IS DEPICTED IN HOSEA’S REPSONSE TO AN UNFAITHFUL GOMER (2:2-3:5)**
- A. God forces Israel to face her unfaithfulness (2:2-13).
1. Children exhorted to confront their unfaithful mother- Israel (v.2-8).
 - a. God is not longer her husband – Israel is no longer God’s wife – she must put away her idolatry.
 - b. Children will not benefit from husband’s mercy because their mother has gone after her lovers.
 - c. God will force Israel to face the consequences of her sin till she sees that it is better to come back to her first husband.
 2. Israel fails to recognize that God had been the supplier of their blessings (v. 9-13).
 - a. God had blessed Israel with grain, new wine, oil, silver and gold only to see it used to create images to the honor of Baal
 - b. God will take away his blessings and uncover her shame to her lovers.
 - c. God will cause joy to cease in Israel.
 - d. God will lay waste the vines and fig trees which Israel saw as a blessing from Baal.
 - e. God will punish unfaithful Israel for her worship of Baal.
- B. God allures Israel from servitude to Baal unto a “new wilderness” where discipline and God’s blessings connected with a new covenant will be found (2:14-23).
1. God’s people will first endure her “valley of Achor”.
 2. God’s people will forget Baalim and call God her husband.
 3. God’s people will enjoy the peace found in a “new covenant”
 - a. Betrothed forever to God.
 - b. Betrothed in righteousness, justice, lovingkindness, mercies and faithfulness – will know Jehovah.
 - c. A “Jezreel” that was “scattered” will be a “Jezreel” that is “sowed” unto God.
 - d. Again God’s people - again their God.
- C. God’s love for Israel manifested in Hosea buying back his adulterous wife (3:1-5).
1. Hosea buys her back for fifteen pieces of silver and 1 ½ homers of barley – wounded slave price and/or what would be provided for her live on until she is restored as a wife.
 2. Israel will abide many days without king and worship before being again God’s wife- picture of circumstances in captivity.
 3. In the latter days, the children of Israel will return to seek after God and David their king – prophecy looking towards the days of the kingly descendent of David: Jesus Christ.

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1. How are members of a family used by God to help Israel see her sin of unfaithfulness towards God?

2. How will God help Israel to conclude that it is better to return to God?

3. What was so thoughtless of Israel as they were blessed with gold and silver?

Does this thought make you sober and more conscientious in how you are using your blessings from God?

4. When God takes away his blessings upon Israel, describe the consequences?

5. What was Israel's two-fold sin?

6. Why is God's calling his people into a wilderness connected with "allurement" and "speaking comfortably" to his people?

7. Why does Hosea refer to the "valley of Achor"?

8. What is the significance in Jehovah no longer being called "Baali" but called "Ishi"?

9. What is signified in God making a covenant for Israel with the beasts of the field, birds, and creeping things and breaking the bow and the sword?

10. Describe the five-fold characteristics of God's betrothal with Israel.

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11. How is “Jezreel” used in a sense connected with blessing when before it was connected with judgment? (cf. 2:22-23, 1:4) ?

12. When was Hosea 2:23 fulfilled?

13. Is Hosea commanded to love Gomer, his former wife, or another adulterous woman? What is the basis for your answer?

14. What is significant about the price paid to buy the woman of Hosea 3:1?

15. Does the woman immediately become Hosea’ wife when he buys her?

16. From examining what the children of Israel will be without, what kind of wife has Israel been to God?

17. After many days, how will Israel return to seek after David their king?