

GOD'S SCANDALOUS LOVE FOR HIS PEOPLE

Sunday, January 27, 2019 — Hosea: Scandalous Love series — Pastor Andrew Coleman

Hosea 1:1-3

English Standard Version (ESV)

1 The word of the Lord that came to Hosea, the son of Beerī, in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.

2 When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, “Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord.” **3** So he went and took Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

BACKGROUND & SETTING OF HOSEA:

| | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|
| | Adam |
| | Noah (to Terah) |
| 2000BC | Abraham |
| | Isaac |
| | Jacob |
| | Joseph (to Egypt) |
| 1500BC | Moses (out of Egypt) |
| | The Judges (promised land) |
| | Saul |
| 1000BC | David |
| | Solomon |
| | Kingdom Divided |
| | [Israel (north) Judah (south)] |
| | The Major & Minor Prophets |
| 931BC | Return to Jerusalem |
| 400BC | Intertestamental period begins |
| 0BC | Birth of Christ Jesus |

Hosea is the first of the ‘minor prophets’.
(message was only shorter, not less important)

Hosea was a real preacher sent by God to Israel with a real life illustration and message.

Israel had been betrothed to God as His people.

Israel had repeatedly relied on pagan kingdoms for security and help.

Israel had repeatedly worshipped pagan deities (namely Baals) in all sorts of distorted sexual perversions.

God was revealing his unrelenting love that forgives, corrects and restores his people to himself.

CHAPTERS 1-3 Hosea's real life illustration: Marriage to promiscuous Gomer

1) As preachers, parents and God's people, very often, more is caught from our lives than taught by our mouths. God's message process is COSTLY.

Abel, Joseph, Zechariah, Jeremiah, John the Baptist, Stephen, all the Apostles and Jesus!

Hebrews 11:37 *They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword.*

They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated—

James 3:1 *Not many of you should become teachers... stricter judgment.*

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2 When the Lord first spoke through Hosea, the Lord said to Hosea, “Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom, for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord.” **3** So he went and took Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

2) Hosea’s real-life illustration would vividly expose Israel’s great unfaithfulness and injury to the Lord.

Hosea 1:2

“Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and for the land commits great whoredom by forsaking the Lord.

Hosea 3:1

And the LORD said to me, “Go again, love a woman who is loved by another man and is an adulteress, even as the LORD loves the children of Israel, though they turn to other gods...”

3) The imagery of matrimony (the marriage of God’s people to God Himself) is found throughout the Old and New Testaments.

This is as deep and profound as any human experience can be to illustrate the intended relationship that God has designed between himself and His people.

Ephesians 5:31 is a quotation of Genesis 2:24, “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one.”

Then Paul adds in Eph 5:32 “This is a great mystery, and I take it to mean Christ and the church.”

Revelation 19:6-9 is the final climatic scene in heaven when Christ will finally be wedded to His bride, the Church.

4) The gross adultery of Gomer mirrors our gross unfaithfulness to God.

Gomer goes whoring, Israel goes whoring, we go whoring.

• _____ • _____ • _____

The sinful act is painful, but what it reveals about the heart is devastating.

Hosea 11:8

Oh, how can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I let you go, O Israel? How can I destroy you like Admah or demolish you like Zeboiim? My heart is torn within me, and my compassion overflows.

5) We will see God’s corrective judgment ultimately flows from unrelenting love.

His judgment is real and it is intense, but it is also corrective and redemptive.

Hosea 14:4

I will heal their apostasy; I will love them freely, for my anger has turned from them.