## **Hosea, the prophet who reveals God’s character. 5 November 2023**

## **Last week we finished with Hosea buying Gomer back after she was no longer worth anything to anyone.**

## ***Hos 3:1 Then the LORD said to me, “Go again, love a woman who is loved by a lover and is committing adultery, just like the love of the LORD for the children of Israel, who look to other gods and love the raisin cakes of the pagans.”***



## ***Hos 3:2 So I bought her for myself for fifteen shekels of silver, and one and one-half homers of barley.***



## ***Exodus 21:32 “If the ox gores a male or female servant, he shall give to their master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned.***

## **The price of a dead slave was 30 pieces of silver. It was to reveal to Israel this truth of themselves and of God:**



## ***Jer 3:20 Surely, as a wife treacherously departs from her husband, So have you dealt treacherously with Me, O house of Israel,” says the LORD.***



## ***21 A voice was heard on the desolate heights, Weeping and supplications of the children of Israel. For they have perverted their way; They have forgotten the LORD their God.***



## ***22 “Return, you backsliding children, And I will heal your backslidings.” “Indeed we do come to You, For You are the LORD our God. 23 Truly, in vain is salvation hoped for from the hills, And from the multitude of mountains; Truly, in the LORD our God Is the salvation of Israel.***

## ***24 For shame has devoured The labor of our fathers from our youth– Their flocks and their herds, Their sons and their daughters.***



## ***25 We lie down in our shame, And our reproach covers us. For we have sinned against the LORD our God, We and our fathers, From our youth even to this day, And have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God.”***



## **Only God wants someone who nobody else wants anymore.**



## ***Luke 7:37 And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee’s house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil,***

## ***38 and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil. 39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying,***

## ***“This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner.” 40 And Jesus answered and said to him, “Simon, I have something to say to you.” So he said, “Teacher, say it.”***

## ***41 “There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 “And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?”***

## ***43 Simon answered and said, “I suppose the one whom he forgave more.” And He said to him, “You have rightly judged.”***

## ***44 Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. 45 “You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in.***

## ***46 “You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. 47 “Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little.” 48 Then He said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.”***

## ***49 And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?” 50 Then He said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.”***



## **Hosea is now instructed to be celibate towards her for a time, and it is to reveal this prophecy:**

## ***Hos 3:4 For the children of Israel shall abide many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred pillar, without ephod or teraphim.***



## **So far, it’s been almost 2000 years for this prophecy!**



## **But there is still a coming day!**

## ***Hos 3:5 Afterward the children of Israel shall return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They shall fear the LORD and His goodness in the latter days.***



## ***Jer 30:7 Alas! For that day is great, So that none is like it; And it is the time of Jacob’s trouble, But he shall be saved out of it. 8 ‘For it shall come to pass in that day,’ Says the LORD of hosts, ‘That I will break his yoke from your neck, And will burst your bonds; Foreigners shall no more enslave them.***

## ***9 But they shall serve the LORD their God, And David their king, Whom I will raise up for them.***



## **In Chapter 4 God judges the people**



## ***Hos 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.***



## **In Chapter 5 He judges the Priests**

## ***Hos 5:1 “Hear this, O priests! Take heed, O house of Israel!***

## ***Give ear, O house of the king! For yours is the judgment, Because you have been a snare to Mizpah And a net spread on Tabor.***



## **They are judged and broken because:**

## ***Hosea 5:11 Ephraim is oppressed and broken in judgment, Because he willingly walked by human precept.***



## **Going back to Egypt!**

## ***Hos 9:3 They shall not dwell in the LORD’s land, But Ephraim shall return to Egypt, And shall eat unclean things in Assyria.***

## **Assyria will conquer the northern Kingdom, but Babylon will conquer Assyria and the Southern Kingdom. They willing return to Egypt just has God prophesied, even though in Jeremiah he says don’t do it.**



## ***Jer 43:7 So they went to the land of Egypt, for they did not obey the voice of the LORD. And they went as far as Tahpanhes.***



## ***44:11 “Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: ‘Behold, I will set My face against you for catastrophe and for cutting off all Judah.***



## ***12 ‘And I will take the remnant of Judah who have set their faces to go into the land of Egypt to dwell there, and they shall all be consumed and fall in the land of Egypt. They shall be consumed by the sword and by famine. They shall die, from the least to the greatest, by the sword and by famine; and they shall be an oath, an astonishment, a curse and a reproach!***



## ***13 ‘For I will punish those who dwell in the land of Egypt, as I have punished Jerusalem, by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence,***

## ***14 ‘so that none of the remnant of Judah who have gone into the land of Egypt to dwell there shall escape or survive, lest they return to the land of Judah, to which they desire to return and dwell. For none shall return except those who escape.’ ”***



## **Next week: Hosea and God’s promise**