

Hosea

Marriage is ordained by the Creator God, [Genesis 2:24] and depicts the relationship between the Creator God and His people [Revelation 19:7-9]. Thus, there is perhaps no greater tragedy than the violation of the sacred vows of a marriage relationship.

The life of Hosea was used by the Creator God to illustrate how Israel had broken her vows to her God and gone after other gods and idols.

This is not just part of the history of ancient Israel but is a lesson for every generation of human beings.

The Book of Hosea is a love story, real, tragic and true. A story that transcends the lives of Hosea and his wife Gomer, for it tells of the Creator God's love for his people and their response as His bride.

A covenant had been made by the Creator God through Abraham with Israel and God had been faithful to that covenant; **but Israel, like Hosea's wife Gomer, was adulterous and unfaithful, spurning God's love and turning to false gods.**

The background to Hosea's prophecy is the end of Israel's prosperity and the declining morality during the reign of Jeroboam II.

Israel's idolatry was like adultery, they sought illicit relationships with Assyria and Egypt in pursuit of military might and they mixed Baal worship with the worship of the True Creator God.

Like Gomer, we can chase after other loves, love of power, pleasure, money or recognition. The temptation of this Godless world can be very seductive. Are we loyal to the true loving Creator God, remaining completely faithful, or have other loves, along with pagan practices, taken the place of the True Creator God?

Throughout the Book of Hosea, Israel is described as ignorant of God, with no desire to please Him.

We see this in today's society that has accepted the delusion of evolution that there is no need for a Creator God.

This lie is prompted by Satan, the present ruler of this world, [2 Corinthians 4:4; 1 John 5:19] and his false ministers, [2 Corinthians 11:14-15].

So the warning of God's judgement of Ancient Israel applies also to this present generation. Israel went into captivity in Assyria in 722BC.

Jesus Christ predicted the great tribulation for all godless humanity in **Matthew 24:21-22** just prior to His Second Coming, [Matthew 24:3].

[Please download and study the article on this website with the title '*A Life That Has Left God Out Of The Reckoning*' listed under main heading '*Human Nature*.' Also, '*Is This The Generation That Will Experience The Second Coming Of Jesus Christ*' listed under main heading '*World Tomorrow*.']

Just as Hosea went after his unfaithful wife to bring her back, [Hosea 3:1] so God pursues us with His love, [John 3:16]. His love is tender, loyal, unchanging and undying. No matter what, God still loves us.

Hebrews 12:5-11 [New King James] *“And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: ‘My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; for whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives.’ If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.”*

Although God will discipline His people for sin, He encourages and restores those who have repented. True repentance, [**2 Corinthians 7:9-11**] opens the way to a new beginning. **God forgives and restores. No matter how far you have strayed from God’s way of life as expounded in His Word, the Christian Bible, God is willing to bring you back to Him.**

It is difficult to imagine Hosea’s feelings when God told him to marry a woman who would be unfaithful to him. Hosea may not have wanted to do this but he obeyed.

God may ask you to do something difficult and extraordinary. If He does, how will you respond? Will you obey, accepting the fact that the pain involved may benefit those whom God wants you to serve and not you personally, as we see it was with Hosea?