

Hosea: The Husband and the Harlot Introduction

But as for you, the LORD took you and brought you out of the iron-smelting furnace, out of Egypt, to be the people of His inheritance, as you now are. (Deut. 4:20)

The setting: a divided kingom with a divided heart...

The word of the LORD that came to Hosea son of Beeri during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the reign of Jeroboam son of Jehoash king of Israel: (Hosea 1:1)

After seeking advice, the king made two golden calves. He said to the people, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, O Israel, who brought you out of Egypt." One he set up in Bethel, and the other in Dan. (1 Kings 12:28-29)



The husband: an irrational life of love for an unfaithful wife...

When the LORD began to speak through Hosea, the LORD said to him, "Go, take to yourself an adulterous wife and children of unfaithfulness, because the land is guilty of the vilest adultery in departing from the LORD." (v. 2)

♀ When God calls you to a hard thing...

- ***Some choose to quit on God*** – "His wife said to him, 'Are you still holding on to your integrity? Curse God and die!'" (Job 2:9)
- ***Hosea trusted the love of God*** – "I will heal their waywardness and love them freely, for my anger has turned away from them." (Hos. 14:4)

The harlot: an irrational life of sin over a faithful husband...

She said, "I will go after my lovers, who give me my food and my water, my wool and my linen, my oil and my drink." (Hosea 2:5)

The gospel: the Husband's love outweighs the harlot's sin...

"In that day," declares the LORD, "you will call me 'my husband'...I will betroth you to me forever; I will betroth you in righteousness and justice, in love and compassion. I will betroth you in faithfulness, and you will acknowledge the LORD." (Hosea 2:16, 19-20)

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. (Eph. 2:13)