

Thanksgiving : for God's redemptive love

11/26/2019

A. Commentary on Hosea 3

v 1 hx: God commands Hosea to go get Gomer despite her unfaithfulness of adultery and strange children out of wedlock.

spir: My people Israel have been unfaithful to me.

their sin : idolatry - forbidden Exodus 20:3-5

alcoholism - " Leviticus 10:9 Prov. 20:1, 23:29-35

doctrinal : God's Love is the moving force in all redemption.

v 2 *So I bought her*

hx : Gomer had sold herself into slavery.

Brothels bought 'down & out' women and used them for sin.

spir: We have all sold ourselves into some sin that has used (& abused) us.

doctr: **1 Peter 1:18-21**

"The picture is not very pretty and therefore is not preached in many churches today. We were all **lost sinners**, *sold under sin* (Rom 7:14) who needed to come to God on our knees in repentance.

today in many "churches"....*religious, conservative* "churches" e.g.

Amish, Anglican, Baptist, Catholic, Jehovah's Witness, Lutheran, Mormon, Prebyterian, Seventh Day Adventist, etc.....

The problem is we hear message after message about 'allow the Lord to run your life', 'make a commitment', 'dedication to the faith', 'giving and tithes', 'service to fellowman', 'pray more' 'live better' etc ...

But, my friend, the first thing one needs to do is:

Come as a sinner unto **God** and acknowledge and accept the truth that **Jesus redeemed you thru his death, burial and resurrection.**

Just as Hosea paid a price to redeem the harlot, Gomer;

God paid an precious price to redeem an unworthy sinner: i.e. **you** (and me).

Gomer wasn't worth itand we are not worth it.

God doesn't love us because we are worthy...

rather, we are worthy because **God so loved us** and loves us.

Sure : we ought to serve God, and obey God , and live for God.

But that is not where we begin.

You might as well go to a graveyard and and say :

“Listen folks, let’s all start doing better and commit our lives to the Lord. Let’s get up get going!”

The problem is: They are dead ! They can’t do anything

And we are *spiritually dead* until we are **born again**.

The new birth is the starting point. And until we come to God in repentance we *are dead in trespasses and sins*. We have no life to commit unto God.

Until we come unto God in *faith*, get born again, and receive a *new nature*, we can do nothing that is pleasing to God. *Without faith it is impossible to please him.*”

J. Vernon McGee (paraphrase)

v 3 *Thou shalt not play the harlot*

hist : Gomer had left her husband and home for what she perceived to be “greener grass”. When Hosea bought her back he set conditions on the new relationship.

spir: “If a so-called “church” has a man (or woman) in the pulpit who alters, waters down or ignores the *doctrine of Christ* (2 John 9), belittles the inspiration of God’s Holy Bible, denies Christ’s deity, minimizes His death for **sinners**... it is not a church, it’s a brothel !! It’s full of harlots...both in the pulpit and the pews. God says so.

This is strong rebuke. You can see why Hosea and God’s prophets were never elected “Man of the Year”. They didn’t win popularity contests.” J.Vernon McGee (paraphrase)

v 4 -5 These Dr. Charles Feinberg (a Messianic Jew) says “these two verses are among the greatest prophecies in the revelation of God.”

review: Paul wrote of this prophecy in Romans chapters 9 -11.

The children of Israel shall abide many days without...

first : The children of Israel were told three times that they would be put out of the land (i.e. *without*).

(1) God told Abraham *know of a surety that thy seed shall be afflicted four hundred years... in Egypt*. [Genesis 15]

(2) God told Jeremiah : *the Jews shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years* . Jer 25

(3) Hosea is told here that *Israel shall abide many days without*

But Hosea is not given a time frame because the church will take up the New Testament. And the church is a mystery to the Old Testament nation of Israel. Sadly, just as the northern kingdom ignored Hosea’s warning, the southern kingdom ignored their prophets and denied their Messiah. So *blindness in part is happened to Israel , until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in*. Romans 11:25

The prophecy to Hosea has a number of specifics:

For the children of Israel shall abide many days without :

- a. a king = 2 Kings 17:6 ~ 726 B.C. King Hoshea carried off captive to Assyria and Israel began it's *many days without a king*...continuing till the present.
- b. a prince = 2 Kings 25:7 ~ 606 B.C. When Zedekiah was taken hostage to Babylon, *they slew his sons before his eyes*...and the Jews have had no prince to this day.
- c. a sacrifice = in 70 AD The Roman army led by Titus besieged and conquered Jerusalem and destroyed the Temple ending Jewish sacrifice. As foretold by our Lord in Luke 21:24.

Jerusalem today is occupied by Jews, Muslims, Catholics, Armenians, Greeks and all forms of 'religions' with churches, cathedrals, mosques, and synagogues but no sacrifice. They have a Wailing Wall, but no *sacrifice*.

- d. an image = religious drawings they learned from the heathen from the days of Babel
Today's synagogues have no religious images of God.
- e. an ephod = the sacred garment worn by the high priest was destroyed in 70 AD.
- f. a teraphim = religious statues (or idols) first noted in Judges 17/18

v 6 *Afterward ... in the process of time, when their chastisement is passed and they have been provoked to jealousy by the Gentiles ... the children of Israel shall return to the Lord their God.*

They shall seek the Lord Deu 4:29

They shall fear the Lord Deu 10:12

...and his goodness Psalm 23:6 Temple worship is re-established in the Millennium

B. Sermon : God's Redemptive Love

text: Hosea 3

- v 1 1. motivates to action *Go*
2. is personal *beloved ...friend*
3. overlooks sin *...adultery, idolatry, addiction*
- v 2 4. willing to pay a price... *silver, ('bread')*
- v 3 5. abides faithful
- v 4 6. separates from the old
- v 5 7. promises an eternal future of bliss, comfort and peace

ref: *Thru the Bible*, vol. 3 - J. Vernon McGee, 1982, Thomas Nelson publ.