

January 6, 2019

# CHURCH *of* CHRIST



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## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### SUNDAY:

Bible Classes.....9:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship.....6:30 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes.....7 p.m.

*Minister, John Keith*

*(304) 266-9027*

## WELCOME!

We of the Cambridge church of Christ  
invite you to all our services.

*"...the churches of Christ salute you" (Romans 16:16).*

# HOSEA: LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Hosea 1:1-2

## INTRODUCTION:

1. The story of Hosea and Gomer begins in a very unsavory way as God tells Hosea to marry a prostitute so that some of her children will have been born from other men. Why?
2. To illustrate the way God's people have been untrue to Him. Then, even when Hosea's wife goes and sins again, Hosea is able to take her back and love her—demonstrating God's never-failing love for His people.

## **I. CASE STUDY: ORIGINAL SITUATION**

### **A. An Unusual Command**

1. God instructed Hosea to marry a prostitute (1:2a)...
2. Because the land has committed great harlotry (1:2b).
3. The fruit of this marriage:
  - a. Jezreel (son)- "God Scatters" (4-5).
  - b. Lo-ruhamah (daughter)- "not loved" (6).
  - c. Lo-ammi (son)- "not my people" (9).

### **B. An Unfaithful Wife**

1. Despite Hosea's love for Gomer, she committed adultery and left him
2. God Instructs Hosea to "go again, love a woman who is loved by a lover and is committing adultery" (3:1).
3. If it seemed unusual the 1<sup>st</sup> time, how much more so the second time? Yet, Hosea obeyed.
4. Gomer had evidently become another man's slave/concubine and to get her back, Hosea paid the price of a common slave (3:2).
5. He took her home ordering her to remain faithful (3:3).

### **C. Not your typical love story**

1. Usually, two meet, fall in love, are kept apart for a while, overcome obstacles, get married and live happily ever after.
2. Hosea and Gomer
  - a. Did not fall in love; he was commanded to marry her;
  - b. Did not live happily ever after; she was unfaithful
  - c. Amazingly, he took her back; sought her out and at great expense, took her back.

[Why did this situation happen? why included in the Bible? To teach; prophet's lives often a visual lesson to those who saw/heard/read]

## **II. CASE STUDY: ANCIENT APPLICATION.**

### **A. Typifies God's Relationship with Israel (Chs. 1 & 3).**

1. "take a wife of harlotry . . . the land has committed great harlotry...departing from the Lord" (1:2).
2. Names of Gomer's 3 children are Hosea's message to Israel:
  - a. Jezreel (son)- "God Scatters"= judgment/punishment(4-5).
  - b. Lo-ruhamah (daughter)- "not loved" = no more compassion (6).
  - c. Lo-ammi (son)- "not my people" (9).
3. "Go again, love a woman who is . . . committing adultery" (3:1a).
  - a. Just like Israel was turning to other gods (1:3b).

- b. God made it clear that Hosea/Gomer re: God/Israel.
- B. To Show that God Still Loved Israel.
  - 1. God did not call Israel to Himself because of her innate righteousness—they were impure.
  - 2. Hosea's experience showed that God still loved them- wanted them back.
- C. To Show that God Wanted Israel to Return.
  - 1. The Contention (2:1-2).
    - a. The children were to rebuke their mother; "take her to court" (2a).
    - b. Adulteress is disowned (2b).
    - c. Put away the attire of prostitutes (clothing, jewelry, make-up, etc.).
  - 2. The Chastisement (2:3-13).
    - a. Shaming Israel (3a).
      - 1) As when Adam & Eve sinned ; knew they were naked and thus, ashamed (Gen. 2:25).
      - 2) By thus exposing her, he brings the highest shame and strongest possible rebuke cf. (**Ezk. 16:36**).
    - b. Send a drought (3b): the false god they served (Baal), was thought to bring prosperous harvests, thus an indictment against him.
    - c. No compassion on the children (4-5).
      - 1) The children of the harlot will have the hardened heart of a harlot.
      - 2) Despite her degradation, she will continue to pursue her lovers.
    - d. Preclude worship to idols (6-7): as a farmer puts his animals in a fenced area, the harlot will be fenced in.
    - e. Crop failure (8-9): this will teach her from whence her blessings have come—God—no her lovers.
    - f. Exposing her sins (10): she would be seen as cheap and dirty and even the vilest of men wouldn't have her.
    - g. Preventing occasions of rejoicing (11).
      - 1) Namely, feasts instituted by God.
      - 2) Assyrian invasion would end such for Israel.
    - h. Destroy vines and fig trees (12): any remaining source of sustenance.
    - i. Punishing Israel (13): not specified, but would not be pleasant; likely the Assyrian captivity.
  - 3. The Courtship (2:14-23).
    - a. He courts her (14-15) courts her that she might return willingly.
    - b. She returns to him forever (16-19).

### III. CASE STUDY: MODERN APPLICATION.

- A. Hosea offered marriage to Gomer—God offered it to man.
- B. Gomer was unfaithful to Hosea—Man was unfaithful to God.
- C. Hosea offered to redeem Gomer—God offered to redeem man.
- D. Hosea redeemed Gomer at great cost—God redeemed man at great cost.

### CONCLUSION:

- 1. God hurts when His people are unfaithful.
- 2. God cannot condone/tolerate sin.
- 3. God still loves the sinner.
- 4. God seeks to restore the sinner

### ***IN OUR PRAYERS:***

Jerry & Erma Endly, Mary Lou  
Huprich, Gary & Debbie Jones,  
Verna Miller

### ***SHUT-INS:***

Audrey Burns, Flavil Miller, Jack Mitchell,  
Shirley Patterson and Marge Rothwell

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** **Alec Blake** (grandson of Wilma Roe), Weston Boulet, (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), **(Larry Chips** (friend of the Starrett's, **Kenneth Crookshank** (son of Dannelle Gilmore), **Vickie Dillion** (Erma Endly's cousin), **Dan Doudna** (Wilma Roe's relative), **Bob & Patty Eddy**, **Tom Foster**, (JC Foster's grandfather), **Carmie Green** (Flavil Miller's sister), **Doris Hall**, **Herb Hamilton** (friend of the Starrett's), **Joshua Hetrick**, **Donna Henthorn** (Laura Jamiel's mother), **Collene Keister**, (Mo Smith's sister), **Scout Kirkland** (Deb McGath's great-nephew), **Erica Rich**, **Rita Roff**, **Mitch Vick**, and remember to pray for **one another**.

We encourage our visitors to please fill out one of the blue cards and place it in the collection plate.

- **John Smith** will be having a biopsy on January 10<sup>th</sup>; prayers are requested.
- **John Starrett** had a successful, cardiac ablation on Friday at *Genesis* in Zanesville and will be there until tomorrow.
- **Kedra Wyatt** is scheduled for surgery on January 17<sup>th</sup>; her daughter **Brittney** will have surgery on the 9<sup>th</sup>.
- We will host services at *The Cardinal House* this afternoon at 2 pm.
- The *Guernsey County Right-to-Life* is once again taking up a collection for their signature ad in the Sunday Jeffersonian. Please fill out the requested information and place your donation in the white envelope on the table in the rear of the auditorium.

### **REMINDERS:**

- ✓ ~~WORDWATCHERS~~ will meet tomorrow.
- ✓ If anyone would like to take a turn creating a bulletin board for the entry way, please sign up on the board in the foyer.

### **TODAY'S LESSONS**

**AM:** Hosea-A Case Study in Love & Forgiveness (Hosea 1:1-2).

**PM:** Don't Kill the Messenger (Gal. 4:13-16).

<b><i>Bible Class</i></b>	<b><i>Sun A.M.</i></b>	<b><i>Sun. P.M.</i></b>	<b><i>Wed.</i></b>	<b><i>Collection</i></b>
<b><i>47</i></b>	<b><i>78</i></b>	<b><i>36</i></b>	<b><i>31</i></b>	<b><i>\$2347</i></b>