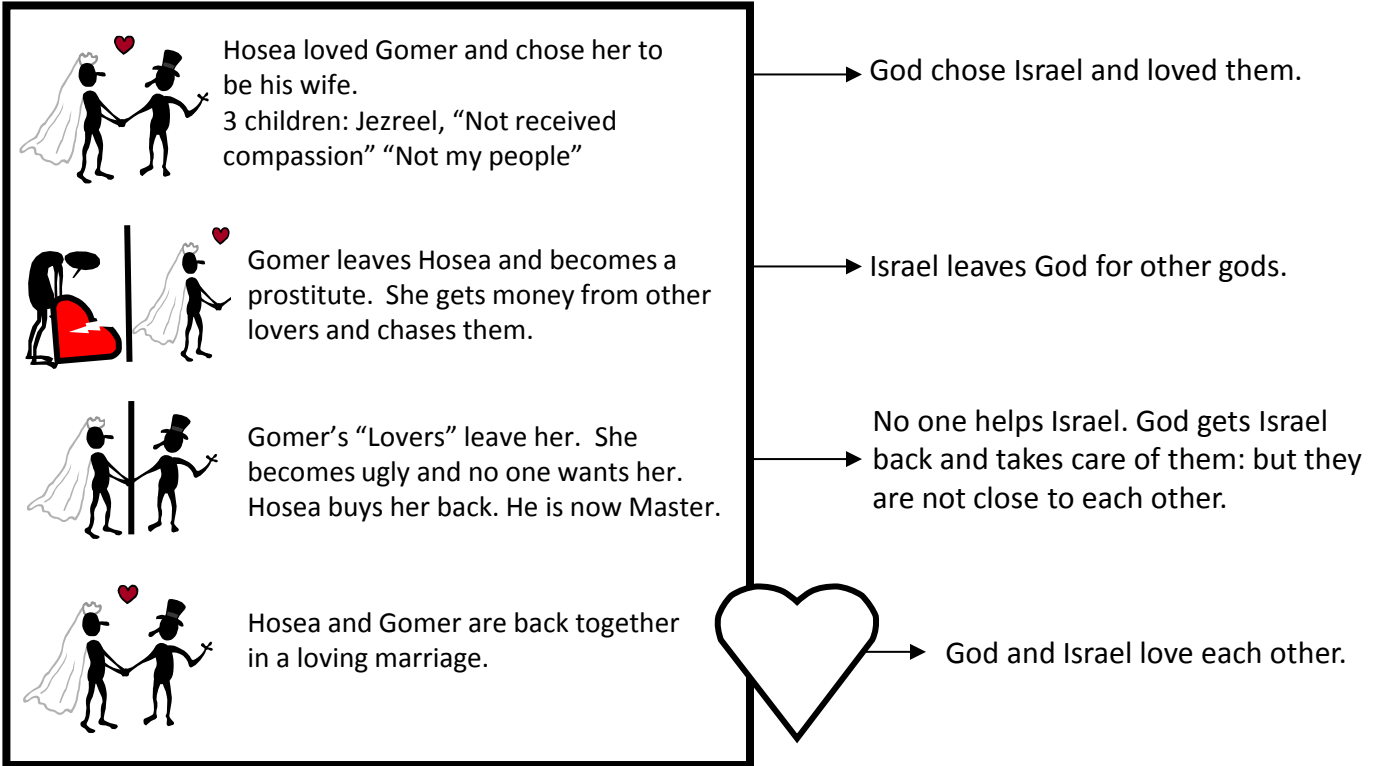


Turning the Hearts: Hosea, the Man

Hosea and Gomer

God and Israel



Descriptions of Israel's relationship:

1. Like a stubborn heifer 4:16
2. Like a morning cloud 6:4
3. Like a silly dove 7:11

CHEAT

1. To act dishonestly; practice fraud.
2. To violate rules deliberately.
3. To be sexually unfaithful.

FAITHFUL

1. steadfast in affection or allegiance : [LOYAL](#)
2. firm in adherence to promises or in observance of duty
3. given with strong assurance
4. true to the facts, to a standard, or to an original

I will betroth you to Me forever; Yes, I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and in justice, In lovingkindness and in compassion, and I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness. Then you will know the LORD. Hosea 2:19-20

My heart is turned over within Me, all My compassions are kindled. Hosea 11:8

Turning the Hearts: Hosea, the Message

<p>“For she does not know that it was I who gave her the grain, the new wine and the oil, And lavished on her silver and gold, which they used for Baal. I will punish her for the days she burned incense to the Baals; she decked herself with rings and jewelry, and went after her lovers, but me she forgot,” declares the LORD. Hosea 2:8,13</p>	<p>What don't they know? <i>God is the one who gave them everything they enjoyed. They spent it on themselves for their own pleasure.</i></p>
<p>Listen to the word of the LORD, O sons of Israel, for the LORD has a case against the inhabitants of the land, Because there is no faithfulness or kindness or knowledge of God in the land. Hosea 4:1</p>	<p><i>They were cheating on God—going around His rules. They didn't even know what they were.</i></p>
<p>My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being My priest. Since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children. Hosea 4:6</p>	<p><i>They didn't know God's laws. They would follow whatever the priests and false prophets said was true.</i></p>
<p>For the men themselves go apart with harlots and offer sacrifices with temple prostitutes; so the people without understanding are ruined. Hosea 4:14</p>	<p><i>Engaging in illicit sexual practices is destroying them.</i></p>
<p>Their deeds will not allow them to return to their God. For a spirit of prostitution is within them, and they do not know the LORD. Hosea 5:4</p>	<p><i>Their sexual practices and chasing after other things is killing their desire for God.</i></p>
<p>For I delight in loyalty rather than sacrifice, and in the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings. Hosea 6:6</p>	<p><i>Going through the right rituals while continuing in the same lifestyle is useless. God wants intimacy of heart reflected in actions.</i></p>
<p>Strangers devour his strength, yet he does not know it; Gray hairs also are sprinkled on him, yet he does not know it. Though the pride of Israel testifies against him, yet they have not returned to the LORD their God, nor have they sought Him, for all this. Hosea 7:9-10</p>	<p><i>Their true spiritual condition and what is about to happen is far worse than they imagine. They think they are doing pretty good.</i></p>
<p>They cry out to Me, “My God, we of Israel know You!” Hosea 8:2</p>	<p><i>They use the right words and have no idea what they mean.</i></p>
<p>Yet it is I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them in My arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of a man, with bonds of love, and I became to them as one who lifts the yoke from their jaws; and I bent down and fed them. Hosea 11:3</p>	<p><i>God had been incredibly tender and loving to them all along the way. He was the one taking care of them.</i></p>
<p><i>“I cared for you in the desert, in the land of burning heat. When I fed them, they were satisfied; when they were satisfied, they became proud; then they forgot me.”</i> Hosea 13:5,6</p>	<p><i>Their prosperity wasn't a result of their own doing.</i></p>
<p>Whoever is wise, let him understand these things; Whoever is discerning, let him know them. Hosea 14:9</p>	<p><i>Knowledge must lead to understanding and then to action between right/wrong.</i></p>

Why don't people KNOW the Lord?

1. Lack of access.
2. Lack of interest.
3. Lack of understanding.
4. Lack of doing it.

*“So let us know, let us press on to know the LORD.
 His going forth is as certain as the dawn; and He will come to us like the rain, like the spring rain watering the earth. Hosea 6:3*”