1Thess #57

Virtue love is a powerful problem-solving skill.

Let us open back up today in our study of Hosea – chapter two.

We will do the Lord’s supper this Sunday.

Please keep the ladies of Wyoming in prayer – Trista, Nancy and Tylee need our prayers.

That area has been pounded by ice and snow for nearly 10 weeks…non-stop. Cattle and animals are dying, people have been injured or have died in huge 10 and 12 foot snow drifts.

Please keep that area and those ladies in your prayers.

/What we have seen within this current study of Hosea and Gomer is several typologies and analogies that we in the CA, should learn from. Gomer going back into the cosmic system is a very common occurrence in the life of Bels from every dispensation. One typology is related to Gomer and the northern tribe of Israel, yet also CA Bels are called to learn from this as well. \

Gomer had begun to mentally and physically separate from not only God but her husband Hosea. God was allowing Gomer to reap what she sowed for a period of time first.

/Prov 26:11 Like a dog that returns to its vomit, **So is a fool who repeats his foolishness.** 12 Do you see **a person wise in his own eyes**? There is more hope for a fool than for him.

Many times, the Bel thinks they can dabble or even control their journey back into the cosmic system, yet GOD calls it the way of a fool! \

{***reminder*** - *Tell the story of the guy who went back into drugs and alcohol after 18 years of sobriety…*}

Hos 2:11 “I will also put an end to all her joy, Her feasts, her new moons, her Sabbaths, And all her festivals.

Israel enjoyed great prosperity during the time of Jeroboam II.

But she used her prosperity for idolatry and the pursuit of ungodly pleasures, so God would take away her prosperity.

The same was happening to Gomer as well.

/Hos 2:11 – *her feasts, her new moons and all her festivals* –

Points us to that which God had set in stone as HIS rituals, sacrifices and celebrations. They had distorted what God created and commanded, into a melting pot of celebrations, alongside worshipping BAAL.\

Bels do this all the time by blending in cosmic viewpoint into their Christian walk.

Many religious organizations do this by adding to the word of GOD through works programs and twisted scripture.

Some even hang rainbow flags outside of the church.

I can tell you they are not celebrating God’s covenant with Noah after the flood!

/[Hos 2:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/12/s_864012) “And **I will destroy her vines and fig trees**, Of which she said, ‘**They are my wages for prostitution**
Which my lovers have given me.’
And I will turn them into a forest,
And **the animals of the field will devour them**.

This is the point of blessings falling by the wayside which is usually the end of self-induced misery and the beginning of Divine Discipline.\

We begin to destroy our own blessings and we lose capacity to be grateful or enjoy God’s blessings.

This usually takes place after several years of misery and warnings being ignored by the Bel.

Remember God already warned Gomer (Israel) back in verses 2 & 3 - that she would be stripped naked. Nothing would be hidden not even those secrets between her breasts, which speaks to her full exposure.

When the OSN is in full control it doesn’t matter if it is a Bel or Unbel - God will make sure you are stumbling around in the dark.

There is a blindness of heart and mind just like a blindness of physical sight.

God will see to that you are fumbling around until you are exhausted, your plans go right out the window!

/Gen 19:10 But **the men reached out their hands and brought Lot** into the house with them, and shut the door. 11 Then **they struck the men who were at the doorway of the house with blindness**, from the small to the great, so that they became **weary of *trying* to find the doorway**.

These two angels under the power of God, made sure the evil plans of lust were squashed when they entered Sodom and Gomorrah. \

Gomer just like the northern tribe of Israel was at a point of frustration and stumbling around attempting to try and push their own agenda inside the plan of God.

Notice God is coming in to remind them all their profits and crops come from HIS hand - not our own works and efforts.

/[Hos 2:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/13/s_864013) “**I will punish her for the days of the Baals** When she used to offer sacrifices to them And **adorn herself with her nose ring and jewelry**, And **follow her lovers**, so that she forgot Me,” declares the LORD.

Gomer like the majority of the northern tribe had pushed away from God and accepted the BAAL system. She was now heading back into her same routine! \

The nose ring and jewelry are what the temple prostitutes would use to decorate themselves for their lovers.

What this also speaks to is the generations of neglect and disrespect toward the GOD of Israel.

This blatant idol worship went on for several generations.

When you have a whole nation or generation that rejects GOD and then you have a few who pull themselves out of that, God will acknowledge those few positive Bels.

Yet when those same Bels go backward into their sins of the forefathers, GOD will be pushed into allowing the curse or problems to fall back upon that generation. REPEAT

/God’s love and grace is always ready to pour down upon us in abundance. Sometimes it is just a small pivot of Bels who bring the protection or stop the curse. Yet when those few Bels turn back toward the devil’s world, God will often times re-engage the curse or discipline. Impersonal, unconditional, virtue love does not resemble a doormat! \

Gomer like the nation of Israel kept testing God and pushed HIS grace and love which is foolish.

Virtue love does not mean you continue to allow evil and attacks to come against you and simply lay down and accept it!

/God’s grace and love can not supersede HIS justice, righteousness and veracity. God did not call HIS children to become doormats for arrogant or evil people (Bel or Unbel). God loves even during times of self-induced misery or discipline. HE will never stop loving and operating from grace, yet HE will not allow HIS divine essence to be trampled under- foot and played with like a spiritual yo-yo. \

So, the Bel needs to understand how to continue in grace and virtue love when someone repeatedly betrays them or mistreats them.

Virtue love and grace does not mean you allow the friend who has stolen money from you more than once, back into your home.

Virtue love and grace does not give people a license to wipe their feet on you every chance they get.

 REPEAT

Now comes the restoration of Israel. God always has a heart of reconciliation yet there is a protocol for reconciliation and restoration.

It begins by adjusting to the justice of God.

[Hos 2:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/14/s_864014) “Therefore, behold, I am going to persuade her, Bring her *into* the wilderness, And speak kindly to her.

God is always attempting to restore the lost Bel – to lead us or guide us back toward HIM.

The prophecy wrapped up in this is that GOD was going to supply the teaching and teachers of HIS word for the nation of Israel.

God always supplies HIS word, God always brings forth the teachers of HIS word.

/[Hos 2:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/15/s_864015)“Then I will give her her vineyards from there, And the Valley of Achor as a door of hope. **And she will respond** (*ānâ*)**there as in the days of her youth**, As in the day **when she went up from the land of Egypt**.

She will pay attention and then respond, to answer or joyfully witness and testify to the truth of my words.\

ANN-NAH, was used for a term to sing in the form of worship. To proclaim publicly.

Israel followed the word of GOD from Moses out of Egyptian slavery because they believed upon GOD.

The Exodus generation all sang a song of rejoicing to Yahweh after they marched through the Red Sea (Exo 15:1).

They proclaimed their belief and faith in GOD.

They had listened and obeyed – the right thing was done in the right way. They had slaughtered the lamb and painted the blood on their doorposts, which is symbolic for adjusting to the justice of GOD.

All the Exodus generation who participated in the PASSOVER accepted TLJC as savior.

Achor was a valley near Jericho. It was called the valley of trouble or sin, it was related to the sin of Achan from Joshua chapter seven.

The Jewish soldier who took some of the spoils of war when GOD command them to leave or destroy all the enemies’ treasures and valuables.

Achan stole some of the trinkets and treasures which put a curse on the Jewish military in their next battle.

A valley of disobedience will become a place of hope.

 REPEAT

God is saying I will open up the rivers of mercy and forgiveness in the future, the valley which brought forth a problem or curse, will now be a doorway to blessing.

Much of this points to the coming Cross of Jesus Christ and the Apostles, who would go forward to teach the gospel.

Teaching first to the lost house of Israel, then to the Gentiles.

/Hos 2:16 “And it will come about on that day,” declares the LORD, “That you will
**call Me my husband** And **no longer call Me my Baal**.”

BAAL – was a term for master, lord or leader, also used for deity in reference to false gods. \

In the CA we now know we are the bride of Christ and HE is our future husband.

Many Bels have smaller gods in their life while they still attempt to have the one true GOD available for them to worship.

This is a root of many forms of frustration or confusion and even misery within Christianity.

/BAAL today is still a worship system and still deceptive within the life of many people (Bels & Unbels). Satan does not discourage the worship of gods, just not the one true GOD (Trinity). Satan does not want you to come to know Jesus Christ.

Jas 2:19 You believe that God is one. You do well; **the demons also believe**, and shudder. \

Fallen angels and demons know about GOD - they have a fear of the Trinity.

They had an opportunity to believe upon TLJC and they refused.

The issue is Jesus Christ – what do you believe about the person and work of Jesus Christ.

That is the issue Satan wants to distract you from!

/BAAL today exists in the form of power and wealth or financial greed. BAAL exists within addictions, pornography, adultery, drunkenness and religion. BAAL exists in political and social agendas as much as it does within inordinate lifestyles and negative relationships or distractions that pull us away from truth.\

We can make little gods out of almost anything – for some teenagers their cell phone or Gameboy become like a god to them.

Worship is a system of the application of your time, talent and treasure.

/God in HIS grace plan gives us all 24 hours a day – what you do with that time, is show GOD what you truly believe and who you worship.

God has given all of us different skills and talents. What you do with that talent and who it elevates or promotes speaks volumes to who you worship.

God has given us an ability to earn an income. How and where you spend that income points to your priorities, which in turn points to your level of worship. \

Jhn 4:23 “But a time is coming, and even now has arrived, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks *to be* His worshipers. 24 “God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

The two power options…the filling power of the HS and the truth of BD.