1Thess #56

GOD is faithful even when we are faithless!

Open up today in Hosea chapter two where we left off last lesson.

Our study in 1Thessalonians has led us to look at the grace plan of God and now the virtue love of GOD, that was given to Bels to operate in a hostile world.

/The foundation of God’s grace plan opens up the ability for Godly Love (virtue – impersonal, unconditional) to be available for all Bels to live in. The example of Hosea and Gomer show us several analogies and even a typology of our relationship with God. Christ is our faithful and protective husband yet often times we (bride) are unfaithful.\

These are just some of the typologies and analogies we can look at while studying the marriage of Hosea and Gomer.

/Hosea was a good, Godly man, who was called to love and marry a known prostitute. Gomer did nothing to earn or deserve a husband like Hosea – that is the analogy of God’s grace and love in action. HE invites Unbels who are born into depravity, completely separated from divine righteousness into HIS Royal Family. God invited us into intimacy with HIM and to share in HIS righteousness. Offering us a whole new nature, which gives us eternal security and pulls us out from the Lake of Fire!\

Now Hosea chapter two opens up after some time has passed and the children of Gomer are beginning to grow up.

God is speaking to Hosea through his own life. His own family becomes the example for lessons and prophecy.

Hos 2:1 Say to your brothers, “Ammi,” and to your sisters, “Ruhamah.”

/[Hos 2:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/2/s_864002) “Dispute with your mother, dispute, Because **she is not my wife**, and I am not her husband; But **she must remove her infidelit**y from her face
And **her adultery from between her breasts**,

When adultery occurs in a marriage, it is not only blatant unfaithfulness, but a proclamation of separation. \

One of the parties in the marriage is making a statement by actions if not words, that they seek to end the sacred union.

This sacred union is now in jeopardy and GOD makes the statement to the nation of Israel - *But she must remove her infidelity from her face*

She has to turn herself around from her direction of adultery.

/Hos 2:2 -  ***she must remove her infidelit****y from her face And* ***her******adultery from between her breasts****,*

The Bel like the unfaithful spouse, exposes themselves. They willingly lay themselves open in very intimate fashion that was reserved for the marriage only.\

This is why Christian husbands and Christian wives should always be careful with close friendships of the opposite sex. Also, how they dress and act outside of their marriage matters a great deal.

In our relationship with God, we should be very careful of how much of the devil’s world we allow ourselves to indulge in. We have to live in this cosmic system yet we are called to not become part of it!

**/**[Hos 2:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/3/s_864003) Otherwise, **I will strip her naked And expose her** as on the day she was born. I will also make her like a wilderness, Make her like desert land,
And **put her to death with thirst.**

Israel (Bel) had become accustomed to worshipping BAAL alongside of Yahweh. Many of the Israelites assumed rituals or acknowledgement of these false gods were acceptable because they still worshipped Yahweh.\

God is giving HIS people a warning that they cannot continue in this double-minded lifestyle.

God is long suffering and He had tolerated the infidelities long enough.

To strip her naked and leave her dry speaks to divine discipline.

[Hos 2:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/4/s_864004) “Also, I will take no pity on her children, Because they are children of infidelity.

/Whatever we produce from our flesh or anything that is a result of cosmic system influence, will never fit into the plan of GOD. It will eventually be rejected and many times it becomes a source of self-induced misery before God finally steps in to deal with it in some form of discipline. The analogy was that Gomer’s children were brought forth in sin, she had turned back to prostitution.\

God does not punish the children for the sins of the parents - and the parents are not punished from the sins of the children.

God takes into account everyone’s free will decisions. I can tell you the Bible warns that a family history of evil and sinful choices needs to be broken at some point.

If it appears each generation repeats the sins of the parents God will strike that generation with curses and problems.

[Hos 2:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/5/s_864005) “For their mother has committed prostitution; She who
conceived them has acted shamefully.
For she said, ‘I will go after my lovers,
Who give *me* my bread and my water,
My wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.’

/Hos 2:5 – *committed prostitution*;

*Has acted shamefully*;

*Zānâ-* to perform as a harlot. It covers adultery, cult prostitution, sex for favors or multiple acts of immortality.

*yāḇēš****-*** to dry up or pull away. To be exposed as shameful. A plant or tree that lacks water, looks weak, it begins to dry up. \

YAH-VACE, means to dry up or wither away, it points to pulling backward away from something…shrinking away. Looking weak and useless.

ZON-NAH – means the full spectrum of harlotry. This points to a lifestyle of cult prostitution and encompasses many aspects of sexual perversions.

A life that is drying up and being destroyed.

/Gomer – representing the nation of Israel (northern tribe) also highlights the Bel who enjoys the pleasures of the cosmic system. The Bel who seeks wealth, power or logistical blessings from Satan’s system is rejecting the plan of God. Gomer was attractive and popular, she had experienced attention and gifts from multiple men and that is what she went back into.\

Proverbs 26:11 tells us the Bel who returns to the cosmic system and reliance upon the flesh – is like the dog returning to its vomit!

The fool returning back to a place of misery…it points us to the way our flesh keeps repeating its foolish mistakes.

The definition of insanity is – repeating the same behaviors over and over again and expecting different results!

 REPEAT

Gomer was missing all the gifts and attention. She was missing the pleasures of the flesh.

Yet she had forgotten how empty and lost she truly was when she lived a life away from GOD.

Too many sexual partners destroy our capacity for true love. It takes a long period of time for a person to cleanse themselves of evil lifestyles and wickedness.

Addictions and wickedness that were not present in our younger life arise from consistent negative choices.

/Reliance or indulgence in the cosmic system takes people on pathways not designed by GOD and therefore they become spiritually and physically lost. Their expectations are twisted and their capacity for life and love are damaged. Lust patterns are stretched and often driven into demonic temptations or lifestyles of evil.\

Lust patterns given full control actually change the person from within!

It is a slow, methodical change of norms and standards and psychological patterns, then comes the physical changes.

Gomer was going backward into her old lifestyle which was a life reliant upon her flesh and the cosmic system.

Your OSN will always attempt to pull you backward away from God. Satan uses your weak areas to entice you.

/Phlp 4:6 **Do not be anxious about anything**, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving **let your requests be made known to God**.

Bels have tendencies to go backward during times of adversity when GOD is calling you closer to HIM during those times.\

The nation of Israel and Gomer were displaying very similar behaviors.

Reliance upon the devil’s world – allowing idols and false gods to drag them into lust patterns and choices away from the plan of God.

God wants us to return to HIM and He awaits our return. God continues to love us with virtue love even while we reject HIM.

Every one is tempted by the cosmic system and our flesh – we are given the power to stand up to that temptation;

/1Cor 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. **God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability**, but with the temptation he will also provide **the way of escape**, that you may be able **to endure it**.

God within HIS grace plan will always love us and gives us guidance from God the Hs and HIS word. \

You will either be given the strength to endure the adversity and temptation, or GOD will open the avenue for you to escape that temptation.

Gomer had everything she needed to grow in God’s grace and knowledge as did the northern tribe of Israel.

It came down to personal responsibility, free will once again was on display.

/Rom 12:2 **Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind**, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Each day we make choices to be conformed to the devil’s world or God’s plan. \

Virtue love motivated by God’s grace will not force itself upon anyone.

Virtue love motivated by God’s grace will offer compassion, empathy and guidance, yet it will not become a tyrant.

 REPEAT

/[Hos 2:6](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/6/s_864006) “Therefore, behold, **I will obstruct her way with thorns**, And **I will build a stone wall against** her so that she cannot find her paths.

This speaks to self-induced misery, reaping what we sow. Part of self-induced misery is GOD attempts to gain your attention with stumbling blocks.\

They are stumbling blocks that are factored in from the Divine Decree, into self-induced misery.

When the gambler begins to fall behind on their bills…or the alcoholic gets into a car accident.

These are stumbling blocks of self-induced misery. God allowed those stumbling blocks or problems from eternity past to help wake us up.

[Hos 2:7](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/7/s_864007) “And she will pursue her lovers, but she will not reach them; And she will seek them, but will not find *them.*
Then she will say, ‘I will go back to my first husband, Because it was better for me then than now!’

That which you continually chase in the cosmic system will become a greater anchor and problem within your life.

You pursue yet there is no satisfaction…there is nothing in it, it is a hollow and miserable result each time.

/Hos 2:7 – *I will go back to my first husband;*

When the passing pleasures of sin are finished, then we see how good it was to follow the LORD. Sometimes the grass can seem greener away from God. Our idols seem attractive until God exposes them. \

Sin brings death – that meaning for the Bel points to the temporal death of our spiritual life on earth. The death of having God’s highest and best is what happens, we still end up in heaven (eternal security). Yet we lost out in time on greater grace and blessings.

[Hos 2:8](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/8/s_864008) “Yet she does not know that it was I myself who gave her the grain, the new wine, and the oil, And lavished on her silver and gold, *Which* they used for Baal.

God is the one who supplies the very air we all breath and the food we eat.

Even Unbels are blessed by God’s logistical grace on a basic level.

God allowed Gomer to have some prosperity as a temple prostitute.

[Hos 2:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/9/s_864009) “Therefore, I will take back My grain at harvest time And My new
wine in its season. I will also take away My wool and My flax *That I gave* to cover her nakedness.

/[Hos 2:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/10/s_864010) “So now **I will uncover her lewdness** (*naḇlûṯ*) **Before the eyes of her lovers**, And no one will rescue her from My hand.

Obvious foolishness, shamelessness, someone who openly looks like a fool though they either don’t care or don’t realize it! \

NAH-BLUT, speaks to foolishness, open or blatant shameful behavior. This is when a person is either ignorant as to their own foolishness or they simply don’t care.

Which is the height of arrogance and pride.

God will expose us when we reject HIS call to come back. After a period of time we will be laid bare in front of those who once thought highly of us.

God has a way of exposing foolishness, exposing arrogance. Even friends who we thought respected us, but once we fall in front them they quickly leave us.

God puts all of these things on display as part of our own painful wake-up call within self induced misery.

 REPEAT

I will close today reading into verse 13 and we will come back to this chapter for greater details next lesson.

[/Hos 2:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/hos/2/11/s_864011) “**I will also put an end to all her joy**, Her feasts, her new moons, her Sabbaths, And **all her festivals**.

The cosmic system has many avenues of counterfeits as well as many avenues of self-indulgence that tickle our lust patterns. They are distractions that lead to destruction! \

[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.

Everything gained from our flesh within the cosmic system, means nothing in the plan of God - they are chains that drag us down.

[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.