



LOVE
BECKONS,
MERCY
PURSUES

The Book of Hosea

How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure

That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure

How great the pain of searing loss
The Father turns His face away

As wounds which mar
The Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross
My sin upon His shoulders

Ashamed I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers

It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished

His dying breath has
brought me life
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no power, no wisdom

But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection

Why should I gain from His reward
I cannot give an answer

But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us” words and music Stuart Townend
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We bow our hearts

We bend our knees

Oh Spirit come make us humble

We turn our eyes from evil things

Oh Lord we cast down our idols

Give us clean hands
give us pure hearts

Let us not lift
our souls to another

Give us clean hands
give us pure hearts

Let us not lift
our souls to another

And oh God let us be
a generation that seeks

That seeks Your face
oh God of Jacob

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“Give Us Clean Hands” words and music Charlie Hall
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Kresic Family





Question

How would you describe your view of GOD?

Full (Robust, Rich, Whole)

Starving (Narrow, Partial, Incomplete)

Hosea 6:4-5 (ESV)

⁴ What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?

What shall I do with you, O Judah?

Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that **goes early away**.

⁵ Therefore

I have hewn them by the prophets;
I have slain them by the words of my mouth,
and my judgment goes forth as the light.



Hosea 6:6 (ESV)

⁶ For **I desire** steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the **knowledge of God** rather than burnt offerings.

Question – What does God Desire?

Go and learn what this means: **'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.'**

Matt 9:13

And if you had known what this means, **'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.'** ...

Matt 12:7

To **do righteousness and justice** is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

Prov 21:3

Behold, to **obey** is better than sacrifice

1 Sam 15:22

To **draw near to listen** is better than to offer the sacrifice of fools

Ecc. 5:1

What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? **remove the evil** of your deeds.

Isa 1:11

I hate, I despise your feasts but **let justice** roll down like waters

Amos 5:21

With what shall I come before the LORD... .. and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to **love kindness**, and to **walk humbly with your God?**

Mic 6,8

ESV

Hosea 6:6 (ESV)

⁶ For **I desire** steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the **knowledge of God** rather than burnt offerings.

Hosea 6:7-11 (ESV)

- ⁷ But like Adam they **transgressed the covenant**;
there they dealt faithlessly with me.
- ⁸ **Gilead is a city of evildoers**,
tracked with blood.
- ⁹ As robbers lie in wait for a man,
so the priests band together;
they **murder on the way to Shechem**;
they commit villainy.
- ¹⁰ In the house of Israel I have seen a horrible thing;
Ephraim's whoredom is there; Israel is defiled.
- ¹¹ For you also, O Judah, a harvest is appointed.

Hosea 6:11-7:2 (ESV)

When I restore the fortunes of my people,

When I would heal Israel,

the iniquity of Ephraim is revealed,

and the evil deeds of Samaria,

for they deal falsely;

the thief breaks in,

and the bandits raid outside.

² But they do not consider

that I remember all their evil.

Now their deeds surround them;

they are before my face.

ESV	CSB	NET
For you also, O Judah, a harvest is appointed.	A harvest is also appointed for you, Judah.	I have appointed a time to reap judgement for you also, O Judah!
When I restore the fortunes of my people,	When I return my people from captivity.	Whenever I want to restore the fortunes of my people.
When I would heal Israel	When I heal Israel	Whenever I want to heal Israel
The iniquity of Ephraim is revealed, and the evil deeds of Samaria	The Iniquity of Ephraim and the crimes of Samaria will be exposed.	The sin of Ephraim is revealed, and the evil deeds of Samaria are exposed.
For they deal falsely; the thief breaks in, and the bandits raid outside.	For they practice fraud; a thief breaks in; a raiding party pillages outside.	For they do what is wrong; thieves break into houses, and gangs rob people out in the streets.

Hosea 7:3-4 (ESV)

- ³ By **their evil** they make the king glad,
and the princes by their treachery.
- ⁴ They **are all adulterers**;
they are like a **heated oven**
whose baker ceases to stir the fire,
from the kneading of the dough
until it is leavened.





Hosea 7:5-6 (ESV)

⁵ On the day of our king, the princes
became sick with the heat of wine;
he stretched out his hand with mockers.

⁶ For with **hearts like an oven**
they approach their intrigue;
all night their anger smolders;
in the morning it **blazes like a flaming fire**.

⁷ All of them are **hot as an oven**,
and they devour their rulers.
All their kings have fallen,
and none of them calls upon me.

Hosea 7:8-10 (ESV)

- ⁸ Ephraim **mixes himself** with the peoples;
Ephraim **is a cake not turned**.
- ⁹ Strangers devour his strength,
and he knows it not;
gray hairs are sprinkled upon him,
and he knows it not.
- ¹⁰ The pride of Israel testifies to his face;
yet **they do not return to the LORD their God,**
nor seek him, for all this.





Hosea 7:11-13 (ESV)

- 11 Ephraim is **like a dove,**
silly and without sense,
calling to Egypt, going to Assyria.
- 12 As they go, I will spread over them my net;
I will bring them down like birds of the heavens;
I will discipline them according
to the report made to their congregation.
- 13 Woe to them, for they have strayed from me!
Destruction to them, for they have rebelled against me!
I would redeem them,
but they speak lies against me.

**“I would redeem them,
but they speak lies against me.”**

Hosea 7:13 (ESV)

Hosea 7:14-16 (ESV)

- ¹⁴ **They do not cry to me** from the heart,
but they wail upon their beds;
for grain and wine they gash themselves;
they rebel against me.
- ¹⁵ Although I trained and strengthened their arms,
yet they **devise evil against me.**
- ¹⁶ They return, but not upward;
they are **like a treacherous bow**;
their princes shall fall by the sword
because of the insolence of their tongue.
This shall be their derision in the land of Egypt.



Psalm 32 (ESV)

1 Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

2 Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

3 For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

4 For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

~Selah~

5 I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

~Selah~

6 Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;
surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

7 You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

~Selah~

Psalm 32 (ESV)

- 8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
- 9 **Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,**
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,
or it will not stay near you.
- 10 Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.
- 11 **Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice,** O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

Beliefs → Actions

What do my actions reveal about my beliefs?

How do my actions (and prayers)
reveal what is lacking/incomplete
in my knowledge of God?



Group Time