

for God sooo Loved

I. Slide1 Announce:

- A. Slide2-6 Larry: Children's Ministry. Closed July 4. VBS. Men's Breakfast. Baptism.
- B. Slide7 *Sun Night of Prayer* Tonight, 6:30-7:30.
- C. Slide8 CARE Ministry. note in bulletin web site to sign up w/trade/gifting.
- D. Slide9 Priceless Movie Night. Sunday July 15th 5pm in sanctuary. *Children at Risk*

II. Slide10 Intro: for God sooo Loved

- A. This chapter is perhaps the greatest chapter in the entire bible. Why? Because it tells/illustrates the *greatest story* in the entire bible.
 - 1. Slide11a It defines the word **so** in *for God so loved the world*.
- B. Slide11b Outline: *Love Chasing. Loves Checkbook. Loves Chastity. Loves Chaff. Love Charted.*

III. Slide12a LOVE CHASING (1)

- A. Recap: Remember from the 1st chapter, Hosea the prophet was told to marry a prostitute named Gomer. They had 3 children, the 1st he knew was his...the other 2, probably not. Chapter 2 she took off again seeing other men. This was all an illustration of a **tragic** yet **accurate dramatization** of the unfaithfulness of *God's people* in Hosea's day.
 - 1. Slide12b **Christians who love the world and live for sin are false to their Savior and break His heart.** Wiersbe
- B. Slide12c Go again! Again?
 - 1. **Where** do you go to look for your wife, who has gone back to the **sex-slave industry**, back to *the life*? How **messy** is that search? How **painful** is that pursuit?
 - 2. So you walk the **streets**, the **track**. You find yourself in the **red-light-district**.
 - a) It's where everyone tells you not to go into those neighborhoods. Men of God shouldn't be seen there.
- C. What else would Hosea have to give up to get her back? *Pride, resentment, any unforgiveness, grudges, & any self-righteousness on his part.*
- D. Just like the love of the Lord for the children of Israel - the *analogy* is spelled out clearly: Hosea is to **redeem his unfaithful wife**, just as Yahweh will **redeem His idolatrous people**.

- E. Note the word **love** appears *in some form* **5 times** in **this 1 verse**.
- F. **Love the raisin cakes** - delicacies used in feasts associated with Baal worship. It's just *Societies Stuff*, possessions.

IV. Slide13a **LOVES CHECKBOOK (2)**

- A. **So I bought her for myself** - But Hosea she's your wife? But she is found here in some sort of debt-slavery, debt-bondage.
- B. We know quite a bit about the *selling of slaves in antiquity* because much has been written about it.
 - 1. **Slaves were always sold naked**. That way they could see muscle tone for the young men, & the of course the bodies of the women.
 - 2. The price of a female slave was 30 shekels. *If the ox gores a male or female servant, he shall give to their master **thirty shekels of silver**, and the ox shall be stoned.* Ex.21:32
 - 3. **Jesus was sold for ____ of silver? 30...the price of a slave/servant.**
- C. What was the expression on Gomer's face when **hearing** her husbands voice...when she had the nerve to **look up** & see...*him...there?*
 - 1. *Other men* sought to buy her to **use her**. **Hosea** sought to buy her to **heal her**.
- D. **Hosea paid half in money & half in grain** [grain prob equalled the *other 15 pieces* of silver]
 - 1. **Why didn't he pay for it all in cash?** maybe because he *couldn't* pay it all in cash. Maybe he is giving his **all** to purchase her back.
 - 2. **Is Christlike love always costly?**
 - a) David said, *Then the king said to Araunah, No, but **I will surely buy it from you for a price; nor** will I offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God with **that which costs me nothing**. So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.* 2 Sam.24:24
- E. Slide13b **Hosea bids for Gomer. AUCTION**
 - 1. I'm at **10 pieces silver**, n I wan **12, 12**, bid on **12**. I'm at 10, who'd go 12,12,12?
 - 2. The 1st bidder calls out **12 pieces of silver...so** Hosea bids **13**.

3. Next bidder calls out **14...so** Hosea bids **15 + all my barley**.
4. **Going once, twice, sold.** 15 pieces of silver & a bushel of barley.
 - a) And so Hosea took her off the streets, clothed her, led her back home, & back to his heart.
 - b) I guess you could say, Hosea *which means Salvation*, **caught her** (being unfaithful), **sought her** (vs.1) & **bought her** (vs.2).

F. **Slide13c God bids for helpless sinful slaves.** [we were in chains, naked & sinful]

1. **We are Gomer.** Standing on the auction block of **sin**. The world bids **fame, wealth, prestige, influence, power...**all of which are **the world's currency**.
2. **When all seemed lost** God sent His **only Son** to the marketplace to **bid** for us.
3. **He** steps into the marketplace of **sin & buys us** out of sin's bondage **by** His own life.
 - a) For it was in history long ago, God the Father was **the auctioneer**. He said, *What will you bid for these poor, hopeless, enslaved sinners?* Jesus said, *I bid the price of my blood.* The Father said, **Sold to the Lord Jesus Christ for the price of His blood.**

G. **Slide13d Today the World bids for Your Marriage.**

1. The world bids you to **cheat on your spouse**. The bid is: **fun, thrills, excitement, adventure, delight, ecstasy, kicks...**& yet they don't realize all of those can be had within **a marriage of 1 man, 1 woman, 1 union, for 1 lifetime**.
2. Would God ever call any husband or wife **today**, to **love a woman or man again who has loved another lover?** **Absolutely!** [Jesus gives the **permission** or **exception** for adultery, **but** it is a **permission**, not a **mandate**]
 - a) We are called like Hosea in vs.1 to **love as God loves**.
 - b) **But I don't feel I can do that!...**You **can't...****but** God can help you, guide you, & empower you...so you **can**. **It's God love.**

H. **Slide13e Redemption - so I bought her for myself**

1. Redemption is dealt with in **150 texts** of scripture, where a **dozen** Heb & Gk words are used.

2. The term means, *to deliver by paying a price, to sever from bondage.*

I. Slide13f 3 important words in the NT:

1. **Agorazo** – *to buy in the market. For you were **bought** at a price.* 1 Cor. 6:20
2. **Exagorazo** [ex=out of] - *to buy out of the market* [so as not to be sold again]
*Christ has **redeemed** us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us.* Gal.3:13
3. **Lutroo** – *to set free.* To **release** on receipt of ransom. *Vines.*
*Knowing that you were not **redeemed** with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with **the precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.* 1 Pet.1:18,19

V. Slide14 **LOVES CHASTITY (3)**

- A. He expects **purity** from her & vows to live by the same standard.
- B. **Nor shall you have a man** – you've seen the **unity candle** in a wedding (3 candles, 2 are lit on outside representing each of them. They light the middle together & then blow out their individual candles) **representing** the 2 becoming one.
 1. **But** at 1 wedding, a mother sitting next her **young teenage son** asked him, **do you know what that represents?** He replied, **sure, it means your blowing out all old flames.** *Exactly! :)*

VI. Slide15 **LOVES CHAFF (4)**

- A. As **Hosea's** experience with **Gomer**, **so God** w/Israel...**while they are being purified from...**
 1. Israel would be separated *for a time* from **a king & prince** (loss of national sov).
 2. Separated from **a sacrifice** (cessation of formal religious activity).
 3. Separated from their **sacred pillar** (this **cult object** was used in pagan worship, **forbidden in Deut.16:22** but Israel was contaminated w/Baal worship).
 4. Separated from **ephod** (Method's of divination. **Not the ephod worn by priest in this context.** Means **overlay**. In Gideon's time it was an **idol**. **Probably made of wood & overlaid** w/precious metal.
 5. Separated from **teraphim** (their household idols/gods).

- a) **The exile** would be a time where *the cult objects* would be **removed**.

VII.Slide16a **LOVE CHARTED (5)**

- A. **Return** – A key word, found **22 times** in Hosea.
- B. Hosea prophesied about *a new world order. A new day. A new covenant.*
1. **Where** there will be a Messianic King in those days. **Where** people will be in awe of His goodness. That *goodness of God leads to repentance*.
- C. **Slide16b God is Love** - 1 Jn.4:8 says, *God is love* - it's one of the most profound statements in the bible. *Perhaps the fullest meaning could never be completely explained.*
1. You can't say, *love is God*, because love doesn't completely describe God, **but God completely defines love**.
 2. **He is love**. His **nature** is loving & love can never be absent from His being **or** any of His actions.
 3. **Everything God does** He does in love because **He is love**. He is the **source & origin** of love.
 4. **The climatic demonstration of His love came** when He **sent** His own Son to **die** for us on the cross.
 5. **Love must have an object of its affection**. How can one say he loves, when there is nothing to love, there must be an object of your love.
 - a) *You are the object of His love!!!*
 - b) **Hosea** = salvation. **Gomer** = completion.
- D. **Slide16c Like Gomer, we didn't seek Him but He sought us**. We didn't join ourselves to Him but He joined Himself to us. *He courted us, He woo'd us, He won our love. Then we stood w/Him before the Father & recited those spiritual vows that made us His for eternity.*
1. **1st He took His vows: I Jesus, take thee, sinner, to be my wedded wife. And I do promise & covenant before God & these witnesses, to be thy loving & faithful Savior & Bridegroom. In plenty & in want, in joy & in sorrow, in sickness & in health, for this life & for eternity.**

2. Then we looked up into His face & said: *I, **sinner**, take thee, **Jesus**, to be my Savior & Lord. And I do promise & covenant before God & these witnesses, **to** be thy loving & faithful bride. In plenty & in want, in joy & in sorrow, in sickness & in health, for this life & for eternity.*

a) Don't continue ***dating*** God and continuing *relationships with this world*.
Become His ***betrothed bride*** today.

E. Communion:

1. The **bread** and **cup** of **Communion** is remembered and celebrated when
We look back to **Jesus' life, death, burial, and resurrection**.
We look inward by examining our own heart in light of the cross.
We look forward to drinking the cup new with Him in His Father's Kingdom.