

## Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 407 – Say Ye To Your Brethren Through Mercy (Hosea 2:1-23)

1. What was Hosea supposed to say to his brethren and his sisters?

*“Say ye unto your brethren, Ammi; and to your sisters, Ruhamah” (Hosea 2:1).*

- Ammi meant: “a people (as a congregated unit); specifically, a tribe (as those of Israel); hence (collectively) troops or attendants; figuratively, a flock: — folk, men, nation, people. Nation, people; people, nation persons, members of one's people, compatriots, country-men; kinsman, kindred” (Strong's # 5971).
- Ruhamah meant: “to fondle; by implication, to love, especially to compassionate: — have compassion (on, upon), love, (find, have, obtain, shew) mercy(-iful, on, upon), (have) pity, Ruhamah, x surely. To love, love deeply, have mercy, be compassionate, have tender affection, have compassion” (Strong's # 7355).
- Therefore, God is saying “my people” and “beloved”. This is consistent with how he viewed Israel (**I Kings 10:9** and **Malachi 1:1-3**).
- They were His chosen, loved people (**Deuteronomy 4:37**, **Deuteronomy 7:1-9**, and **Isaiah 43:1-4**).

2. Who was Hosea supposed to plead with?

His mother: *“Plead with your mother, plead: for she is not my wife, neither am I her husband: let her therefore put away her whoredoms out of her sight, and her adulteries from between her breasts” (Hosea 2:2).*

- Plead [contend; rebuke] (**Nehemiah 13:10-27**, **Proverbs 28:4**, **Isaiah 58:1**, and **Jeremiah 2:9**).
- The end of the relationship was not the Lord's doing (**Isaiah 50:1**). This changes after the days of Hosea (**Jeremiah 3:6-8**).
- Israel was guilty of spiritual harlotry [more on that when we discuss 2:5].
- Restoration required the putting away of her whoredoms out of her sight (**Joshua 24:23**, **Isaiah 1:10-20**, **Jeremiah 4:1**, and **Ezekiel 43:9**).
- You cannot wear the name of the Lord and also be joined to these abominations (**II Corinthians 6:14-7:1** and **II Timothy 2:19**).
- The imagery of mother, wife, etc. are all terms of endearment regarding the people of Israel. Hosea would understand this seeing as how he married the harlot in chapter 1.

3. If Hosea's pleading didn't work, what was the Lord going to do?

Strip her naked, make her as a wilderness, slay her with thirst, have no mercy on her children, expose her to her lovers, etc.: *“(3) Lest I strip her naked, and set her as in the day that she was born, and make her as a wilderness, and set her like a dry land, and slay her with thirst. (4) And I will not have mercy upon her children; for they be the children of whoredoms. (5) For their mother hath played the harlot: she that conceived them hath done shamefully: for she said, I will go after my lovers, that give me my bread and my water, my wool and my*

flax, mine oil and my drink. (6) Therefore, behold, I will hedge up thy way with thorns, and make a wall, that she shall not find her paths. (7) And she shall follow after her lovers, but she shall not overtake them; and she shall seek them, but shall not find them: then shall she say, I will go and return to my first husband; for then was it better with me than now. (8) For she did not know that I gave her corn, and wine, and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold, which they prepared for Baal. (9) Therefore will I return, and take away my corn in the time thereof, and my wine in the season thereof, and will recover my wool and my flax given to cover her nakedness. (10) And now will I discover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and none shall deliver her out of mine hand. (11) I will also cause all her mirth to cease, her feast days, her new moons, and her sabbaths, and all her solemn feasts. (12) And I will destroy her vines and her fig trees, whereof she hath said, These are my rewards that my lovers have given me: and I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall eat them. (13) And I will visit upon her the days of Baalim, wherein she burned incense to them, and she decked herself with her earrings and her jewels, and she went after her lovers, and forgot me, saith the LORD" (**Hosea 2:3-13**).

- Stripped of everything (**Isaiah 64:10**).
- No mercy on them or their children (**Jeremiah 13:14, Lamentations 2:21, and Ezekiel 9:10**).
- In light of **II Chronicles 25:4** and **Ezekiel 18:4; 18:20**; why are the children going to potentially suffer without mercy? Consider, **II Kings 21:15, Isaiah 57:1-13, Jeremiah 3:23-25, and Matthew 23:31-32**
- Playing the harlot (**Jeremiah 3:1-6, Ezekiel 16:1-58, and Ezekiel 23:1-49**) as they have done for many generations (**Psalms 106:34-40**).
- Hedged about with hinderances (**Lamentations 3:7-9**).
- Cant get back with the spiritual adultery with the other nations (**Jeremiah 30:12-15** and **Hosea 5:13**), so she'll settle for the one she is espoused to (**Nehemiah 9:28**).
- She was ignorant of her provider (**Isaiah 1:3**).
- She gave the things from God to her idol (**Hosea 8:4**).
- So, the Lord was going to take it away, strip her of her joy and feasts, etc. (**Isaiah 3:16-26** and **Isaiah 64:11**).

4. How did the Lord plan to bring her into the wilderness?

*"Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfortably unto her"* (**Hosea 2:14**).

- We have seen something like this in what God sent a lying spirit to do unto Ahab (**II Chronicles 18:1-34**).
- However, the difference between what happened to Ahab and what is going to happen going forward is different. Ahab had no hope when he was enticed. As we read forward, this is more like a husband trying to rekindle something lost.

5. In the wilderness, what day did the Lord liken this event unto?

The day she came out of Egypt: *“And I will give her her vineyards from thence, and the valley of Achor for a door of hope: and she shall sing there, as in the days of her youth, and as in the day when she came up out of the land of Egypt” (Hosea 2:15).*

- **Isaiah 65:1-10, Jeremiah 2:1-7, and Hosea 11:1**

6. What name did the Lord want called by and what names did He want out of her mouth?

He wanted called Ishi and wanted to take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth: *“(16) And it shall be at that day, saith the LORD, that thou shalt call me Ishi; and shalt call me no more Baali. (17) For I will take away the names of Baalim out of her mouth, and they shall no more be remembered by their name” (Hosea 2:16-17).*

- Ishi: “Husband” (**Isaiah 54:5-8**).
- No more “Baali” (**Jeremiah 2:23**) wherein they polluted His Holy name (**Ezekiel 20:39**).
- He just wanted the relationship restored aright (**Ezekiel 14:11**).

7. With whom was the Lord going to make a covenant with for them?

The beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground: *“And in that day will I make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground: and I will break the bow and the sword and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely” (Hosea 2:18).*

- He had given the beasts of the field, the fowls, etc.; the vineyards of His people (**Hosea 2:12**).
- That was going to cease in the reconstructed relationship between the Lord and His adulterous people (**Isaiah 65:17-25**).

8. What was the Lord going to do for ever in faithfulness?

Betroth them unto Him: *“(19) And I will betroth thee unto me for ever; yea, I will betroth thee unto me in righteousness, and in judgment, and in lovingkindness, and in mercies. (20) I will even betroth thee unto me in faithfulness: and thou shalt know the LORD” (Hosea 2:19-20).*

- **Isaiah 62:1-12, Jeremiah 3:14-15, Romans 7:1-6, II Corinthians 11:2, Ephesians 5:22-33, and Revelation 21:1-10**

9. In that day, what would be heard?

*“(21) And it shall come to pass in that day, I will hear, saith the LORD, I will hear the heavens, and they shall hear the earth; (22) And the earth shall hear the corn, and the wine, and the oil; and they shall hear Jezreel” (Hosea 2:21-22).*

- The Lord personifies the earth, skies, food sources, etc. crying forth. He had withheld them from His people (**Hosea 2:9**). Now He will open up these resources to His people again (**Zechariah 8:11-12** and **Amos 9:13-15**).

10. In that day, who did the Lord say He was going to have mercy upon?

*“And I will sow her unto me in the earth; and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to them which were not my people, Thou art my people; and they shall say, Thou art my God” (**Hosea 2:23**).*

- For God to fulfill His promises from the earlier days (**Genesis 12:1-3**, **Genesis 22:18**, and **Genesis 26:1-5**), the seed of Israel had to continue (**Isaiah 41:8** and **Acts 13:22-26**).
- This is looking forward (**Romans 9:18-26** and **Ephesians 2:1-17**).