

Messianic Prophecy #33: Hosea: I

Historical situation that Hosea was preaching to:

I. _____ : false security

Apathy because of many diversions of wealth

II. _____ : false security

They insist on trusting what they can see (Assyria, Egypt), not the God they cannot see

III. _____ : false security

They go to the LORD for their spiritual needs, but to the baals for their practical needs

They had what I call Everglades Evangelicalism: religion that is miles wide and a foot deep

Critical that he awaken the people to their self-deception!

So also with American evangelicalism! US? YOU?

Egs: Barna surveys

Ron Sider *The Scandal of the Evangelical Conscience*

Hos 8:14: forgotten their Maker!

Interesting to see how God responds—and this what points to Messiah.

Tension bet His Holiness/Justice and Love/Faithfulness:

Tension of God's Heart

Holiness & Justice: 9:7,9; 10:8, 13-15

13:1-2 → therefore 3-16: punish!

Love & Faithfulness: 11:8-9

Two Images of God's Love

A. _____ to _____ : 11:1-4 → 8.

So His call to return: 14:1-3. (v3: Assyria = Mid East to America; our independence of foreign oil)

Then the promise: 14:4-6

That Day will come. But since they did not repent then, they were carried off and scattered by Assyria. You cannot trace any Jew fr N to this day. Only fr S (Judah). Gone.

But notice particularly one word in v4: love them **FREELY**.

Greek OT translated w a word that means "no payment": free

Also "no reason": only derived from the Lover.

Same wd used in **Rom 3:24**. Read 3:19-25a. **FREELY** by His grace.

Hos 14:4.

For you and me.

That is Good News!

That grace in us frees us not only from the penalty of sin, but also from living as slaves to sin (Rom 6; 12:1-2)

Do you see that evidence in your heart of His free love for you?

There a second image God used to describe His relationship w Israel. It the one almost universally associated with the name, Hosea. It is:

B. _____ to _____ : ch 1-3

In this case what it like to be married to a prostitute as an illustration of grace. Next week.