

-HOSEA-

THE OUTRAGEOUS, HEARTBREAKING, AND COMPLETELY UNEXPECTED LOVE OF GOD.

YES, NO & MAYBE

1. The people sitting around me are more superstitious than you might think.

2. If the person sitting next to me found a magical object that could tell the future, they would use it for sure!

3. Most people spend more time talking about God than talking to God.

4. Once you come to God, you no longer have to live in silence.

5. God speaks through magical objects.

DIVE DEEPER

∞ Have you, or someone you know, purchased something and then realized that you overpaid?

°READ Hosea 3 (NIV)

1 The Lord said to me, “Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress. Love her as the Lord loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes.”
2 So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley. 3 Then I told her, “You are to live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will behave the same way toward you.” 4 For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods. 5 Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the Lord their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the Lord and to his blessings in the last days.

~In the first verse, God asks Hosea to do something. He doesn’t say, “Take or drag your wife back,” He says something different. How is this different from the God that most people associate with the Old Testament?

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» What are these “raisin cakes” that are obviously so addictive?

~Hosea reports that he bought Gomer back. Why do you think he did that? He was her husband. Who do you think he had to pay?

» THE PRICE (v. 2):

° Fifteen shekels of silver -

° A homer and a lethek of barley -

~How does this price tie in with how God has bought us back?

» THE ROAD AHEAD (v. 4):

° no king -

° no prince -

° no sacrifice -

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NOTES

° no sacred stones -

° no ephod -

° no household gods -

« There are six things listed here. To the Israelites, this number symbolized incompleteness. Why do you think that after redeeming the people back to Himself, God let them go through a long period of incomplete relationship?

» AFTERWARD (v. 5):

° Seeking God and David? Why would they still be seeking David?

° What does this say about God's character?

MY PRAYER

1. Do I really believe God wants to love me or to control me?

2. What are my personal struggles during this road of mostly silence?

3. How do I see God's character better now?



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