

Hosea: The Husband and the Harlot Covenant Love

Biblical marriage is a covenant, not a contract...

It is because the LORD is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant.
(Mal. 2:14)

In Hosea, God models the Husband's role in covenant love...

- ***Leads her to intimacy*** – “Therefore I am now going to allure her; I will lead her into the desert and speak tenderly to her.” (Hosea 2:14)
- ***Leads her to hope*** – “There I will give her back her vineyards, and will make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. There she will sing as in the days of her youth, as in the day she came up out of Egypt.” (Hosea 2:15)
- ***Leads her to holiness*** – “‘In that day,’ declares the LORD, ‘you will call me ‘my husband’; you will no longer call me ‘my master.’ I will remove the names of the Baals from her lips; no longer will their names be invoked.” (Hosea 2:16-17)

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy... (Eph. 5:25-26a)

- ***Provides her with security*** – “I will betroth you to me forever; I will betroth you in righteousness and justice, in love and compassion. I will betroth you in faithfulness, and you will acknowledge the LORD.” (Hosea 2:19-20)

I will show my love to the one I called “Not my loved one.” I will say to those called “Not my people,” “You are my people;” and they will say, “You are my God.” (Hosea 2:23b)

Hosea: God's grace to Gomer...

The LORD said to me, “Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another and is an adulteress. Love her as the LORD loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes.” So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley. 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 live with you.” (Hosea 3:1-3)

Jesus: God's grace to humanity...

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. (Hosea 3:5)

But now He has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, without blemish and free from accusation... (Col. 1:22)