

SERMON NOTES
March 25, 2012
Bryan Richardson, preaching

*Live With Me Many Days:
Hope for the World in the Heartbreak of Hosea*
Hosea 1:2-8; 2:16-23; 3:1-5

The society that has lost God can - if it will listen - hear the voice of the God who has not lost them.

- Where God acts in human society, there is great heaviness and great pain.
- He can speak to us in no other way because we could not understand.
- He will sustain the soul in the heavy and painful time of the speaking of his word.
- Some will hear, and they will turn to God, and he will live with them.

Hosea 1:2-8; 2:16-23; 3:1-5 (NIV)

2 When the Lord began to speak through Hosea, the Lord said to him, "Go, marry a promiscuous woman and have children with her, for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the Lord." **3** So he married Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

4 Then the Lord said to Hosea, "Call him Jezreel, because I will soon punish the house of Jehu for the massacre at Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of Israel. **5** In that day I will break Israel's bow in the Valley of Jezreel."

6 Gomer conceived again and gave birth to a daughter. Then the Lord said to Hosea, "Call her Lo-Ruhamah (which means "not loved"), for I will no longer show love to Israel, that I should at all forgive them. **7** Yet I will show love to Judah; and I will save them—not by bow, sword or battle, or by horses and horsemen, but I, the Lord their God, will save them."

8 After she had weaned Lo-Ruhamah, Gomer had another son. **9** Then the Lord said, "Call him Lo-Ammi (which means "not my people"), for you are not my people, and I am not your God.

16 "In that day," declares the Lord, "you will call me 'my husband'; you will no longer call me 'my master.'" **17** I will remove the names of the Baals from her lips; no longer will their names be invoked. **18** In that day I will make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, the birds in the sky and the creatures that move along the ground. Bow and sword and battle I will abolish from the land, so that all may lie down in safety. **19** I will betroth you to me forever; I will betroth you in righteousness and justice, in love and compassion. **20** I will betroth you in faithfulness, and you will acknowledge the Lord.

21 "In that day I will respond," declares the Lord—"I will respond to the skies, and they will respond to the earth; **22** and the earth will respond to the grain, the new wine and the olive oil, and they will respond to Jezreel. **23** I will plant her for myself in the land; 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.'"

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.