



VOICES THAT WAKE US UP: The God Who Won't Give Up

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Mount Paran North

¹ The LORD gave this message to Hosea son of Beeri during the years when Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah were kings of Judah, and Jeroboam son of Jehoash was king of Israel. ² When the LORD first began speaking to Israel through Hosea, he said to him, "Go and marry a prostitute, so that some of her children will be conceived in prostitution. This will illustrate how Israel has acted like a prostitute by turning against the LORD and worshiping other gods." ³ So Hosea married Gomer, the daughter of Diblaim, and she became pregnant and gave Hosea a son.

Hosea 1:1-3 NLT

Then the Lord said to me, "Go and love your wife again, even though she commits adultery with another lover. This will illustrate that the Lord still loves Israel, even though the people have turned to other gods and love to worship them."

Hosea 3:1 NLT

1. God's Heartbreak Revealed

¹ "When Israel was a child, I loved him, and I called my son out of Egypt. ² But the more I called to him, the farther he moved from me, offering sacrifices to the images of Baal and burning incense to idols. ³ I myself taught Israel how to walk, leading him along by the hand. But he doesn't know or even care that it was I who took care of him."

Hosea 11:1-3 NLT

We chase after what traps us, while forgetting that God is continually chasing after us.

2. God's Mercy Displayed

⁷ For my people are determined to desert me. They call me the Most High, but they don't truly honor me. ⁸ "Oh, how can I give you up, Israel? How can I let you go? How can I destroy you like Admah or demolish you like Zeboiim? My heart is torn within me, and my compassion overflows. ⁹ No, I will not unleash my fierce anger. I will not completely destroy Israel, for I am God and not a mere mortal. I am the Holy One living among you, and I will not come to destroy."

Hosea 11:7-9 NLT

Holiness demanded our execution, but God's heart chose substitution.

3. What God's Mercy Looks Like in Our Lives

For someday the people will follow me. I, the Lord, will roar like a lion. And when I roar, my people will return trembling from the west.

Hosea 11:10 NLT

God's mercy is not just a gift to be received; it is a mandate to be repeated!

¹⁵It seems you lost Onesimus for a little while so that you could have him back forever. ¹⁶He is no longer like a slave to you. He is more than a slave, for he is a beloved brother, especially to me. Now he will mean much more to you, both as a man and as a brother in the Lord. ¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge it to me.

Philemon 1:15-18 NLT

If grace removed you from the auction block of condemnation, don't keep others in the prison of your grudge.