



February 13, 2022

*“Love her as the Lord loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes.”*

Hosea 3:1b

## **I. The Character Love of God**

- A. “For God so loved the world” (John 3:16,17)? Why?
- B. It is not what God does it is WHO God is! (I John 4:7 – 21)
  - 1. “Love is FROM God” (vs. 7)
  - 2. “God IS love” (vs. 8, 16)
  - 3. God demonstrates his love (vs. 9, 10)
  - 4. God expects us to reflect His love toward others (vs. 7, 8, 11, 19, 21)
- C. Which love is God’s character? (*Agape* - 24 X in I John 4)

## **II. The Continued Crazy Love of God (Hosea 3:1 – 3)**

- A. God demonstrates His crazy love for Israel
  - 1. Gomer returns to her previous lifestyle even as a married woman (definition of adultery)
  - 2. God sends Hosea back out of love to find Gomer (vs. 1)
    - a. God’s love takes the initiative – GO - again and again
    - b. Love someone who loves someone or something else more than you
    - c. Love despite what someone has done or become (an adulteress = na’ap – part.)
    - d. This Crazy act is a demonstration of the love of God toward Israel
  - 3. Hosea “Salvation” purchases back what is already his by covenant (vs. 2)
    - a. Gomer finds herself in bondage
    - b. Hosea goes to buy her back to him!
    - c. God realizes that redemption comes ONLY with a high cost!
  - 4. Hosea restores her with the promise (vs. 3)
    - a. Process of purification, forgiveness, and restoration
    - b. Love is the greatest motivator!!! Fear of damnation is NOT a good motivator!
    - c. The gospel of God’s love rises to the top!
- B. To see our sin as a break in the covenant with God
- C. To see our God coming and finding us in our sin
- D. To return to God as he pays the price for our sins