

A close-up photograph of a person's hands, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt, holding a single red rose. The person's fingers are wrapped around the stem of the rose, which has several green leaves. The background is dark and out of focus.

Betrothed Forever
Hosea 2:2-3:5

Jared Smith
Melbourne Community Church
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A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding two red roses. The person is wearing a white, long-sleeved button-down shirt. The background is dark and out of focus. The text is overlaid on the image.

What will we learn?

- ❖ God's betrothal to His people is forever.
- ❖ God is our provider.

Old Testament prophets

- ❖ Mediated the Covenant
- ❖ Poetry > prose
- ❖ Symbolic words AND actions

A person wearing a white shirt is shown from the chest up, holding two roses. The rose in the left hand is red, and the rose in the right hand is white. The background is dark. The text 'Hosea's themes:' is centered at the top in a white, outlined font. Below it is a red horizontal line. On either side of the line are two columns of text, each starting with a diamond symbol (❖) and containing three items: 'Covenant fidelity', 'Revelation', and 'Love' on the left; 'Sin', 'Grace', and 'Forgiveness' on the right.

Hosea's themes:

❖ Covenant fidelity

❖ Revelation

❖ Love

❖ Sin

❖ Grace

❖ Forgiveness

Israel's sins confronted by Hosea:

- ❖ Infidelity
- ❖ Social injustice
- ❖ Violent crime
- ❖ Religious hypocrisy
- ❖ Political revolt
- ❖ Foreign alliances
- ❖ Selfish arrogance
- ❖ Spiritual ingratitude

Outline

- A. 2:2-5a – Hosea's complaint about Gomer
- A'. 2:5b-13 – The LORD's complaint about Israel
- B'. 2:14-23 – The LORD's promise for the redemption of Israel
- B. 3:1-5 – Hosea's redemption of Gomer

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is holding a red rose with green leaves. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 2:2

**“Rebuke your mother, rebuke her,
for she is not my wife,
and I am not her husband.**

**Let her remove the adulterous look from her face
and the unfaithfulness from between her breasts.**

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is holding a red rose with green leaves. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 2:3

**“Otherwise I will strip her naked
and make her as bare as on the day she was born;
I will make her like a desert,
turn her into a parched land,
and slay her with thirst.**

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of red roses. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 2:4-5a

**“I will not show my love to her children,
because they are the children of adultery.
Their mother has been unfaithful
and has conceived them in disgrace.”**

A person wearing a white shirt is shown from the chest down, holding a baby in their arms. The baby is wrapped in a white cloth. The person is also holding a red rose in their left hand. The background is dark.

Whose Children?

- ❖ Hosea 1:3 – “she conceived and bore him a son”
- ❖ Hosea 1:6 – “Gomer conceived again and gave birth to a daughter”
- ❖ Hosea 1:8 – “Gomer had another son”

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of red roses. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 2:5b-6

“She said, ‘I will go after my lovers,
who give me my food and my water,
my wool and my linen, my olive oil and my drink.’
Therefore I will block her path with thornbushes;
I will wall her in so that she cannot find her way.

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a red rose and green leaves. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 2:7

**“She will chase after her lovers but not catch them;
she will look for them but not find them.**

Then she will say,

**‘I will go back to my husband as at first,
for then I was better off than now.’**

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest up, holding two roses. The rose on the left is a vibrant red, and the one on the right is a soft pink. The person's hands are positioned in front of their chest, holding the stems of the roses. The background is a dark, solid color. Overlaid on the image is the text 'Psalm 139:5' in a white, stylized font with a black outline, centered above a thin red horizontal line. Below the line, the verse 'You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me.' is written in the same white, stylized font with a black outline.

Psalm 139:5

You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest up, holding a red rose and green leaves in their hands. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Philippians 1:6

... he who began a good work in you
will carry it on to completion until the day
of Christ Jesus.

God as the Originator of Salvation

- ❖ We were dead in our sin (Eph 2:1; Col 2:13)
- ❖ Jesus is the author of faith (Heb 12:2)
- ❖ God loved first (1 John 4:19)
- ❖ God began the good work (Phil 1:6)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a red rose and a green leaf. The person is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt. The background is dark and out of focus. The text is overlaid on the image.

2 Timothy 1:7 (ESV)

For God gave us a spirit not of fear
but of power and love and self-control.

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a red rose. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Satan's Two Big Lies

- ❖ This sin isn't big enough to worry about (before you commit it)
- ❖ This sin is too big for God to forgive (after you commit it)

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of red roses. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 2:8

“She has not acknowledged that I was the one who gave her the grain, the new wine and oil, who lavished on her the silver and gold — which they used for Baal.

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is holding a bouquet of flowers. The bouquet includes a large red rose and several green leaves. The person's hands are visible, holding the stems of the flowers. The background is dark and out of focus.

Hosea 2:9

“Therefore I will take away my grain when it ripens,
and my new wine when it is ready.
I will take back my wool and my linen,
intended to cover her naked body.”

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest up, holding two red roses with green leaves. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 2:10

**“So now I will expose her lewdness
before the eyes of her lovers;
no one will take her out of my hands.”**



Hosea 2:11

**“I will stop all her celebrations:
her yearly festivals, her New Moons,
her Sabbath days — all her appointed festivals.**

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest up. They are holding a red rose in their left hand and a green leafy branch in their right hand. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 2:12

**“I will ruin her vines and her fig trees,
which she said were her pay from her lovers;
I will make them a thicket,
and wild animals will devour them.**

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of red roses. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 2:13

**“I will punish her for the days
she burned incense to the Baals;
she decked herself with rings and jewelry,
and went after her lovers,
but me she forgot,”
declares the LORD.**

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a red rose with both hands. The background is dark, and the person's face is not visible. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 2:14-15

“Therefore I am now going to allure her;
I will lead her into the wilderness
and speak tenderly to her.

There I will give her back her vineyards,
and will make the Valley of Achor a door of hope.
There she will respond as in the days of her youth,
as in the day she came up out of Egypt.

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of red roses. The background is dark, and the person's hands are visible holding the stems of the flowers.

Hosea 2:16-17

“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.

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of red roses. The background is dark, and the person's hands are visible holding the stems of the flowers.

Hosea 2:18

**“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.**

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a red rose with green leaves. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 2:19-20

- 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.



Hosea 2:21-22

“In that day I will respond,”
declares the LORD —
“I will respond to the skies,
and they will respond to the earth;
and the earth will respond to the grain,
the new wine and the olive oil,
and they will respond to Jezreel.”

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of red roses. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 2:23

“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.’”



Hosea 3:1

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.”

Hosea 3:2-3

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 behave the same way toward you."

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a bouquet of flowers, including a red rose and green leaves. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Hosea 3:4-5

For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods. 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.

A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt is shown from the chest up, holding two roses. The rose on the left is a vibrant red, and the rose on the right is a pale pink or white. The person's hands are positioned in front of their chest, holding the stems of the roses. The background is dark and out of focus.

What have we learned?

- ❖ God's betrothal to His people is forever.
- ❖ God is our provider.



A person wearing a white shirt is holding a red rose with green leaves. The background is dark. The text is overlaid on the image.

Are you being called?

- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the Lord's Supper

Life Begins in the Womb

❖ Luke 1:15

❖ Luke 1:41

❖ Psalm 22:9-10

❖ Psalm 139:13

❖ Isaiah 49:1

❖ Jeremiah 1:4-5