

Mercy Over Sacrifice

Book of Hosea 6:6

Intro:

- Interesting book
- Main theme about God's faithfulness to unfaithful people
- Hosea Prophet from the Northern Kingdom
- Ministered for about 50 years
- Ministered during poor moral and spiritual state
- Hosea ministered before Assyrian invasion

A. Hosea is good illustration of Redemption

- a. Bible is the story of redemption
- b. **Redeem** means to bring back to original or buy back
- c. **Hosea and his wife** is good illustration of it
 - i. The Story of Hosea and Gomer
 - ii. Hosea goes and buys Gomer back
 - iii. Israel is unfaithful but Gods still has a plan to redeem them
- d. **Chapter 11: God is a father and Israel is his lost son**
 - i. Israel leaves Gods
 - ii. Gods is mad and talks about punishment
 - iii. God is compassionate
 1. **Hos 11:8** Як тебе Я, Єфреме, віддам, як видам тебе, о Ізраїлю? Як тебе Я віддам, як Адму, учиню тебе, мов Цевоїм? У Мені перевернулося серце Моє, розпалилася разом і жалість Моя!
 2. **Hos 11:8** How can I give you up, O Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender.
 - iv. **Parable of Jesus about Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)**
- e. **Redemption is fulfilled in Jesus Christ**
 - i. God pays a huge price to get us back.

B. Mercy not Sacrifice

- a. The calling of Matthew
 - i. **Mat 9:13** Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."
 - ii. **Mat 9:13** Ідїть же, і навчїться, що то є: Милости хочу, а не жертви. Бо Я не прийшов кликати праведних, але грішників до покаєння.

- iii. In this context we understand it that we are to show mercy for people and not just be religious
- b. Hosea has a little different meaning
- c. Jesus/God wants them to **experience** mercy and not to cover up guilt with sacrifice
 - i. Ex. Kyle Idleman Daughter made a stain
 - ii. We often feel not worthy, guilty and try to do something to “cover up” but Jesus is saying just experience mercy
- d. Hosea is a good example of how God is passionate and merciful to sinners.
- e. **God still loves you, don't matter how low you have fallen**

C. Knowledge of God more than burnt offerings

- a. Israel became religious but did not know God personally
- b. God is more interested to have a relationship with us and not just accept our “ministry” to Him.
- c. Older Son, worked for his dad his whole life but never realized what he had (didn't know him personally)
 - i. Ex. Prayer for Grace
 - ii. Ex. Kids growing up (prayers, choir, sermons and etc) but don't **KNOW** God personally
- d. Relationship with God vs Religion

Conclusion:

- Hosea is a book of redemption
- Mercy over sacrifice
- Knowledge of God more than burnt offerings