20220522 CALLED TO TELL OTHERS GOD'S UNCHANGING LOVE

Living in the land of grace series - Part 2

Hosea 3:1-5

¹The Lord said to me, "Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another 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 live with you."
- ⁴ For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or idol.
- 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.

BELIEVERS ARE CALLED TO TELL THE LOVE OF GOD TO OTHERS.

- 1. When we share God's message with those who don't know God, it's called evangelism.
- 2. We Christians are also called to tell the love of God to other Christians. When we tell the love of God to other Christians, it's called encouragement.

Deuteronomy 30:19-20

19 This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live
20 and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

FALSE EXPECTATION OF THE NORTHERN KINGDOM OF ISRAEL – Idols promise freedom, but what they really offer is captivity.

Hosea 3:1, 3

¹The Lord said to me, "Go, show your love to your wife again, though **she is loved by another and is an adulteress**. Love her as the Lord loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes."

³ Then I told her, "You are to live with me many days; <u>you</u> <u>must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man</u>, and I will live with you."

Luke 15:18

17 "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have food to spare, and here I am
starving to death!

GOD IS OUR TRUE LOVE AND SAVIOR.

Genesis 3:21

²¹ The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

Hosea 3:1-3, 5

- ¹ ...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...
- 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.

TWO REPEATED THEMES IN THE BIBLE

One. Only our God is our true love. Only God is able to provide what we really need and want. There is no one else.

Two. Even though we fail, God will ultimately restore us to His glory.

Philippians 1:6

- ⁶ I am sure that God, who began the good work within you, will continue His work until it is finally finished..." (NLT)
- 1. God told us that He is the One Who began the good work within us.
- 2. God told us that He will continue this good work until He finally completes it.

1 Corinthians 10:13

¹³ God is faithful. He will keep the temptation from becoming so strong that you can't stand up against it. When you are tempted, He will show you a way out so that you will not give in to it. 1 Corinthians 10:13 (NLT)