

# Reconciled

June 25, 2017 – Hosea 3:1-5

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***“The 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. So I bought her for 15 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 intimate with any man, and I will live with you. For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or idol. 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.”***

When two people do not get along, the goal and prayer is that they would one day, sooner than later, reconcile.

God called Hosea to be a living example and illustration of God’s continued, unconditional love and forgiveness.

God had directed Hosea to marry a woman who was unfaithful, yet Hosea was to take her back, again and again.

In the same way, the children of Israel, had rebelled against God again and again and had worshiped false gods and goddesses, yet God in His grace and love took Israel back again and again.

God has also reconciled Himself to us in Christ Jesus our Lord. Our sins against God and our neighbor have been forgiven by the Blood of Jesus.

***“Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now He has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, without blemish and free from accusation”*** (Colossians 1:21-22)