

COME AND RETURN TO THE LORD

Hosea 6:1-3

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Introduction: In Hosea chapter 1, verse 2, God asks his prophet to do something that will jolt you! Hosea heard the voice of the Lord tell him to marry a harlot. But the real reason for this story transcends the tale of a young man and his bride. This story is a vivid picture of what the people of Israel had done to Jehovah. They had forsaken their covenant with Him and chased after other gods. But God, in His great love, did not give up on sinners; He pursued them and would go to great lengths to redeem them back from the slave market of sin. God used this sad marriage of a prophet to teach us a spiritual lesson. Although we forsake God for other loves like Gomer, God is willing to pursue us, buy us back, cloth us with righteousness and love us with a great love! In Hosea chapter 6, I'd like to examine the prophet's call to repentance. His call will contain some invitations to come back with the incentives why.

I. Invitations to Come Back (vs. 1)

A. To Those Who Have Known the Closeness of the Lord

B. To Those who Have Felt the Chastening of the Lord

II. Incentives to Come Back (vs. 2-3)

A. There is Restoration (vs. 2)

B. There are Rewards (vs. 3)



Conclusion: How are you doing in your pursuit of God? Has your time with God been bumped by another love? If so, tonight is the night to flee that love and come and return to the Lord!