



Gospel Doctrine Sunday School Lesson

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Slippery Rock Branch

Volume 2, Issue 34

Today's Word: similitudes

September 10, 2006

Lesson 34: "I Will Betroth Thee Unto Me in Righteousness"

Are You:

- Paying an Honest Tithes?
- Having Family Home Evening Regularly?
- Reading Scriptures Together as a Family Every Day?

Today's Scriptures

Hosea 1-3

Hosea 11, 13-14

Lesson 35 & 36:

"God Reveals His Secrets to His Prophets" & "The Glory of Zion Will Be a Defense" Amos 3, Amos 7-9 Joel 2-3 & Isaiah 1-6

W.W. Austin
Gospel Doctrine Teacher
wendywarrenaustin@hotmail.com
<http://ideawarehouse.blogspot.com>

President Gordon B. Hinckley:

"How godlike a quality is mercy. It cannot be legislated. It must come from the heart. It must be stirred up from within. It is part of the endowment each of us receives as a son or daughter of God and partaker of a divine birthright. I plead for an effort among all of us to give greater expression and wider latitude to this instinct which lies within us. I am convinced that there comes a time, possibly many times, within our lives when we might cry out for mercy on the part of others. How can we expect it unless we have been merciful ourselves?" ("Blessed are the Merciful," *Ensign*, May 1990, p. 68).

"Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you." Hosea 10: 12

Questions to Ponder

- What does the comparison in Hosea 1-3 teach us about the level of commitment and devotion the Lord expects from us?
- What things may divert us from our dedication to following the Savior?

Similitudes for Us to Understand Better

The story of Hosea and Gomer may help us all understand better the love and forgiveness it takes for us to enjoy a happy marriage, but the book of Hosea includes this story as a metaphor so we can understand better in human terms what is ultimately so difficult for us to comprehend and/or remember: the principle of repentance and God's endless love for us.

God & His Chosen

Elder Henry B. Eyring explained: "This was a love story. This was a story of a marriage covenant bound by love, by steadfast love . . . The Lord, with whom I am blessed to have made covenants, loves me, and you, . . . with a steadfastness about which I continually marvel and which I want with all my heart to emulate" (*Covenants and Sacrifice* [address delivered at the CES Symposium, 15 Aug. 1995], 2)



Drawing of Jezreel Valley

Located between the mountains of Samaria in the south and the hilly areas of Gallilee to the north, with historic Mt. Tabor and Mt. Moreh nearby, the area is sometimes referred to as the Plain of Megiddo. From ancient times to now, it has served as Israel's breadbasket and a vital thoroughfare and prophesied as the site of God's final battlefield.