

① IS
THERE A
GOD?

ATHEISM
(NO)

THEISM
(✓) →

② WHAT IS
THAT GOD LIKE?

JUDAISM

ISLAM

HINDUISM

BUDDHISM

CHRISTIANITY

③ WHAT DOES
ASK OF ME?

What does Hosea say God is like?

1. Good News! God loves you like a devoted husband.





Suri Danielle
PHOTOGRAPHY

The Human-Divine Connection

Ancient Near Eastern Religions

King and Subject

Ancient Greco-Roman Religions

Patron and Client

Islam

Master and Servant

Buddhism

Does not believe in personal God

Christianity

Husband and Wife

What is God like? - A King and His Subjects

Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises!
For God is the King over all the earth.

Praise Him with a psalm.

God reigns above the nations,
sitting on His holy throne.

The rulers of the world have gathered together
with the people of the God of Abraham.

For all the kings of the earth belong to God.
He is highly honored everywhere.

Psalms 47:6-9

What is God like? - A Shepherd and His sheep

The Lord is my shepherd;
I have all that I need.
He lets me rest in green meadows;
He leads me beside peaceful streams.
He renews my strength.
He guides me along right paths,
bringing honor to His name.
Even when I walk
through the darkest valley,
I will not be afraid,
for You are close beside me.
Your rod and Your staff
protect and comfort me.

Psalms 23:1-4

What is God like? - A Father and his children

So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when He adopted you as His own children.

Now we call Him, "Abba, Father." For His Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. And since we are His children, we are His heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share His glory, we must also share His suffering.

Romans 8:15-17

What is God like? - A Husband and his wife

“But then I will win her back once again.

I will lead her into the desert
and speak tenderly to her there.

I will return her vineyards to her
and transform the Valley of Trouble into a gateway of hope.

She will give herself to me there,
as she did long ago when she was young,
when I freed her from her captivity in Egypt.

When that day comes,” says the Lord,

“you will call Me ‘my husband’
instead of ‘my master.’

Hosea 2:14-16

Our relationship with God is ...

- intensely vulnerable ... like a marriage
- extraordinarily powerful ... like a marriage

Tyler ♥ Lindsay

Suni Danielle
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Our relationship with God is ...

- intensely vulnerable ... like a marriage
- extraordinarily powerful ... like a marriage

A romantic wedding photograph featuring a bride and groom in a close embrace, kissing. The bride has curly hair and wears a white lace wedding dress with a large gold sash and a black and white checkered veil. The groom has a short haircut and wears a dark tuxedo. They are positioned under a white archway decorated with yellow and white flowers and greenery. The background is a dark, textured wall. In the foreground, two lit candles are visible. The text 'Suni Danielle' is written in a white script font, with 'PHOTOGRAPHY' in a smaller, white, all-caps sans-serif font below it.

Suni Danielle
PHOTOGRAPHY

What does Hosea say God is like?

1. Good News! God loves you like a devoted husband.
2. Bad News! We love God like an unfaithful, ungrateful, unremorseful wife.

O people of Israel,
do not rejoice as other nations do.
For you have been unfaithful to your God,
hiring yourselves out like prostitutes,
worshiping other gods on every threshing
floor.

Hosea 9:1

Moses' Covenant in a Nutshell (Deuteronomy 28-30):

*When you go into the Promised Land,
love God alone + follow His law.*

Obedience = Blessing & Life
(global leadership, other nations will admire you)

Disobedience = Punishment & Death
(global enslavement, other nations will rule you)

Prediction: Moses says, “Based on what I've seen in the wilderness, y'all heading back to slavery eventually.”

Promise: BUT! Good news! God won't break His end of the covenant to bring blessing to the world through you.

2000 – Abraham's Global Blessing Covenant

1900 – Joseph is sold into Egyptian slavery

1500 – Moses born

1450 – Exodus from Egypt + Moses' Law Covenant

1400 – Moses dies + Israel enters Canaan (the Promised Land)

1050–1011 BC – Monarchy begins w/Saul

1011–971 – David as king of Israel + David's Royal Line Covenant

931 – Kingdom is divided in two, N and S

760-722 – Hosea as prophet to N

722 – Exile pt1: Samaria destroyed by Assyria, end of N Kingdom

586 – Exile pt2: Jerusalem destroyed by Babylon, end of S Kingdom

The first time God spoke to Hosea He said:
“Find a whore and marry her.
Make this whore the mother of your children.
And here’s why:
This whole country has become a
whorehouse, unfaithful to Me, God.”

Hosea 1:2

**Gomer was already a prostitute when
Hosea marries her.**

1:2 - “Go, take to yourself a wife of harlotry ...”

**Child #3 probably not his bc named him:
“Not mine” or “Not my people”.**

1:9 - And the Lord said, “Name him Lo-ammī
— ‘Not my people’ — for Israel is not My
people, and I am not their God.

**Child #2 probably not his bc named her:
“Not loved” or “No mercy/pity”**

1:6 - Soon Gomer became pregnant again and gave birth to a daughter. And the Lord said to Hosea, “Name your daughter Lo-ruhamah—‘Not loved’—for I will no longer show love to the people of Israel or forgive them.

**Child #1 probably was his,
names him Jezreel**

1:4 - And the Lord said, "Name the child Jezreel, for I am about to punish King Jehu's dynasty to avenge the murders he committed at Jezreel. In fact, I will bring an end to Israel's independence."

Gomer leaves Hosea

2:5 - Their mother is a shameless prostitute and became pregnant in a shameful way. She said, 'I'll run after other lovers and sell myself to them for food and water, for clothing of wool and linen, and for olive oil and drinks.'

“Sound the alarm!

The enemy descends like an eagle on the people of the Lord,
for they have broken My covenant
and revolted against My law.

Now Israel pleads with Me,
‘Help us, for you are our God!’

But it is too late.

The people of Israel have rejected what is good,
and now their enemies will chase after them.

The people have appointed kings without My consent,
and princes without My approval.

By making idols for themselves from their silver and gold,
they have brought about their own destruction.

Hosea 8:1-4, 7, 9-10

“They have planted the wind
and will harvest the whirlwind.
The stalks of grain wither
and produce nothing to eat.
And even if there is any grain,
foreigners will eat it.
Like a wild donkey looking for a mate,
they have gone up to Assyria.
The people of Israel have sold themselves—
sold themselves to many lovers.
But though they have sold themselves to many allies,
I will now gather them together for judgment.
Then they will writhe
under the burden of the great king.

Hosea 8:1-4, 7, 9-10

Judgment in Hosea

1. Punishment of the Broken Covenant

Jezreel – the violence of the exile

No Pity – the full measure of justice

Not My People – the forfeiture of covenant identity

2. The natural consequences of sin

8:7 - “They have planted the wind and will harvest the whirlwind.”

“Every time you make a choice you are turning the central part of you, the part of you that chooses, into something a little different from what it was before...you are slowly turning this central thing either into a heavenly creature or a hellish creature.”

–C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Hosea secretly cares for Gomer, w/out stopping the consequences of her adultery.

2:8 - She doesn't realize it was I who gave her everything she has—
the grain, the new wine, the olive oil;
I even gave her silver and gold.
But she gave all my gifts to Baal.

God tells Hosea to get his wife back.

3:1 - The Lord said to me, “Go and love your wife again, even though she commits adultery with another lover. This will illustrate that the Lord still loves Israel, even though the people have turned to other gods and love to worship them.”

Hosea “purchases” the freedom of his unfaithful wife.

3:2-5 - I bought her back for 15 pieces of silver and 5 bushels of barley and a measure of wine. Then I said to her, “You must live in my house for many days and stop your prostitution. During this time, you will not have sexual relations with anyone, not even with me.” This shows that Israel will go a long time without a king or prince, and without sacrifices, sacred pillars, priests, or even idols! But afterward the people will return and devote themselves to the Lord their God and to David’s descendant, their king. In the last days, they will tremble in awe of the Lord and His goodness.

What does Hosea say God is like?

1. Good News! God loves you like a devoted husband.
2. Bad News! We love God like an unfaithful, ungrateful, unremorseful wife.
3. Best News! God still loves you like a devoted husband.

Mt 9:14-15 – “Jesus replied, “Do wedding guests mourn while celebrating with the groom?”

Jn 3:29 – John said, “It is the bridegroom who marries the bride, and the bridegroom’s friend is simply glad to stand with him and hear his vows. Therefore, I am filled with joy at his success.”

Mt 22:1-4 – The Parable of the Great Wedding
Feast of the Son

Mt 25:1-13 – The Parable of the Groom Who
Comes at Midnight

Rev 19:7 – “For the time has come for the wedding
feast of the Lamb, and his bride has prepared
herself.”

Then the earth will answer the thirsty cries
of the grain, the grapevines, and the olive trees.
And they in turn will answer,
'Jezreel' — 'God plants!'
At that time I will plant a crop of Israelites
and raise them for Myself.
I will show love
to those I called 'Not loved.'
And to those I called 'Not My people,'
I will say, 'Now you are My people.'
And they will reply, 'You are our God!' ”

Hosea 2:22-23

