"SCANDALOUS GRACE" Series

Message #5

"A SCANDALOUS PROMISE"

It's a scandal to take back broken, unfaithful, shameful people, and then heal, restore and give them abundant life; but that's exactly what God is doing for those who say 'yes' to him.

Hosea 14 August 16, 2020

"Unhitch the Old Testament,
Reject biblical gender roles,
Elevate Jesus' words over Paul's,
Interpret Scripture through a cultural lens,
Modernize Scripture for the culture ...
All of these are just new ways of Satan asking the same old
question, "Did God actually say?" – Dustin Benge

1. **RETURN** – (v.1a)

"Come, let us return to the Lord."

Their deeds prohibit a return ... 5:4, 7:10 You will return to Egypt ... 8:13, 9:3, 11:5 Before you return to the Lord ... 3:5, 12:6, 14:1, 2

"Come, let us reason together." – Isaiah 1:18

VIDEO: SHY COP

In a world where we just want to destroy one another. God wants to restore us.

<u>ILLUS</u>: Running in the desert and seeing so many things thrown 'away,' that someone would want. That someone would make a lot of money repurposing.

God doesn't waste anything, not even your rebellion, to those who yield to him.

2. HEAL - (v.1b)

"He will heal us."

"I cut you in pieces with my prophets."

"I killed you with the words of my mouth."

"My judgments flashed like lightning upon you."

"I will strip her naked and make her as bare as on the day she was born; I will make her like a desert, turn her into a parched land, and slay her with thirst." – Hosea 2:3

ILLUS:

QUOTE: "Grace is God's free and unmerited favor shown to guilty sinners who deserve only judgement. It is the love of God shown to the unlovely. It is God reaching downward to people who are in rebellion against him." – Jerry Bridges

3. LIVE - (v.2)

"That we may live in his presence."

John 10:10

ILLUS:

4. <u>**ACKNOWLEDGE**</u> – (v.3a)

"Let us press on to acknowledge the Lord."

You don't **acknowledge** me ... 2:8, 4:1, 4:6a, 4:6b, 5:4

Acknowledge me and live ... 6:3a, 3b, 6 You will acknowledge me ... 8;2, 13:4

Hosea 13:4-9

<u>ILLUS</u>: S.F. GIANTS' Sam Coonrod "Refuses to Kneel – I'm a Christian"

VIDEO: Dana in the Desert

QUOTE: "Beware the manufacturing a God of your own: a God who is all mercy, but not just; a God who is all love, but not holy; a God who has a heaven for everybody, but a hell for none; a God who can allow good and bad to be side by side in time, but will make no distinction between good and bad in eternity.

Such a God is an idol of your own, as truly an idol as any snake or crocodile in an Egyptian temple. The hands of your own fancy and sentimentality have made him. He is not the God of the Bible, and beside the God of the Bible there is no God at all." – J.C. Ryle