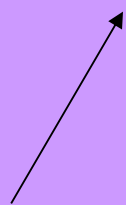


❖ Wife / Harlotry Imagery

Use of

the “Marriage Relationship” between Husband & Wife



to Illustrate



the “Covenant Relationship” between Yahweh & His People

“Committing Adultery / Playing the Harlot”

becomes the metaphoric description of

**the People’s Unfaithfulness to the Covenant
through Worshipping other gods**

❖ Wife / Harlotry Imagery

Pentateuch Exodus 34:15-16
Leviticus 20:5-6
Numbers 14:33
Deut 31:16

Historical Books Judges 2:17; 8:27, 33
2 Kings 9:22
1 Chronicles 5:25
2 Chronicles 21:11, 13

Prophetic Books Hosea chs. 1-3; 4:10-19; 5:3-4, 7; 6:10; 7:4; 9:1
Jeremiah 2:20, 25, 32-3:2;
3:6-13;
4:30;
5:7-9;
13:22-27
Ezekiel ch. 16
ch. 23

Ezekiel ch. 16

Section 1:

Jerusalem	A. vv. 1-43
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Section 2:

Jerusalem & her 2 Sisters	B. vv. 44-52
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Section 3: Restoration . . .

(1) of Jerusalem & her 2 Sisters	B'. vv. 53-58
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(2) of Jerusalem	A'. vv. 59-63
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**Literary Characteristic:
Contrastive Actions**

A. Jerusalem Growing Up (Ezekiel 16:3b-14) (NASB w/ revisions)

3b Your origin and your birth
are from the land of the Canaanite,
your father was an Amorite
and your mother a Hittite.

4 As for your birth, on the day you were born
your navel cord was not cut,
nor were you washed with water for cleansing;
you were not rubbed with salt
or even wrapped in cloths.

5 No eye looked with pity on you
to do any of these things for you,
to have compassion on you.
Rather you were thrown out into the open field,
for you were abhorred on the day you were born.



<http://drchilesismychildsdoc.files.wordpress.com/2014/01/20140105-182613.jpg>

6 When I passed by you
and saw you squirming in your blood,
I said to you {while you were} in your blood,
“Live!”
Yes, I said to you {while you were} in your blood,
“Live!”

7a I made you numerous like plants of the field.

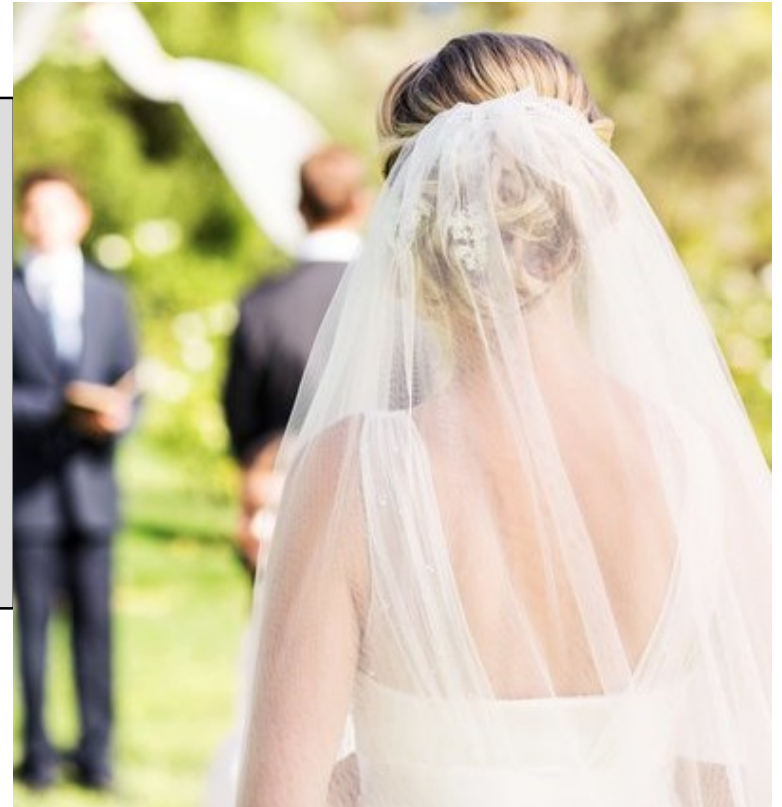


<https://ugc-01.cafemomstatic.com/gen/crop/640/359/70/2018/09/27/19/c4/b0/phyprm0bkg2qbwe.jpg>

A. Jerusalem Growing Up (Ezekiel 16:3b-14) (NASB w/ revisions)

7b Then you grew up, became tall
and reached the age for fine ornaments;
{your} breasts were formed
and your hair had grown.
Yet you were naked and bare.

8 Then I passed by you and saw you,
and behold, you were at the time for love;
so I spread my skirt over you
and covered your nakedness.
I also swore to you
and entered into a covenant with you
so that you became Mine,
declares the Lord Yahweh.



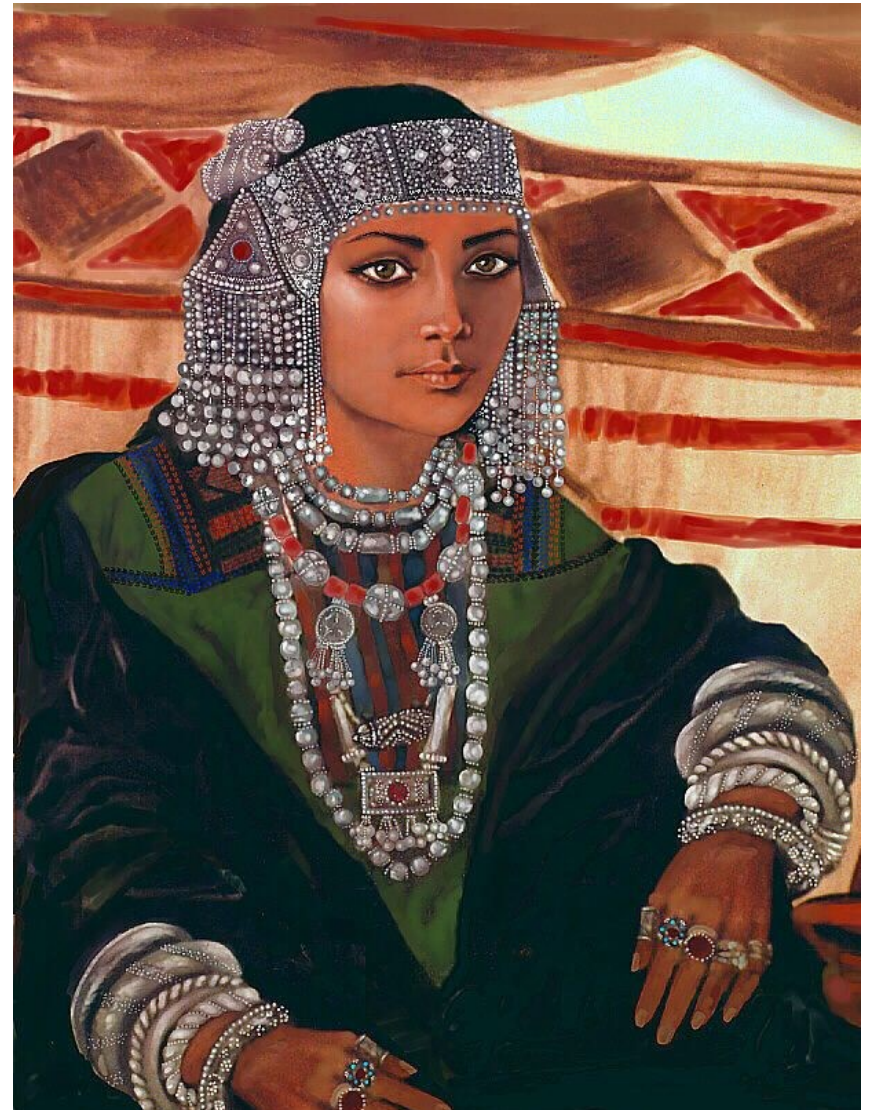
<https://imagesvc.meredithcorp.io/v3/mm/image?url=https%3A%2Fcdn-img.instyle.com%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fstyles%2F684xflex%2Fpublic%2Fimages%2F2016%2F08%2F080816-bride-walking-down-the-aisle.jpg%3Fitok%3D5wPra0Hf&w=400&c=sc&poi=face&q=85>

A. Jerusalem Growing Up (Ezekiel 16:3b-14) (NASB w/ revisions)

9 Then I bathed you with water,
washed off your blood from you
and anointed you with oil.
10 I also clothed you with embroidered cloth
and put sandals of porpoise skin on your feet;
and I wrapped you with fine linen
and covered you with silk.
11 I adorned you with ornaments,
put bracelets on your hands
and a necklace around your neck.
12 I also put a ring in your nostril,
earrings in your ears
and a beautiful crown on your head.

13 Thus you were adorned with gold and silver,
and your dress was of fine linen,
silk and embroidered cloth.
You ate fine flour, honey and oil;
so you were exceedingly beautiful
and advanced to royalty.
14a Then your fame went forth among the nations
on account of your beauty,

14b for it was perfect because of my splendor
which I bestowed on you.
—declaration of the Lord Yahweh.



<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/f6/5c/b8/f65cb8df991f6d3d91c8d9d8dae1672c.jpg>

B. Indictment of Jerusalem's Actions (16:15-34) (NASB w/ revisions)

- 15 But you trusted in your beauty
and played the harlot because of your fame,
and you poured out your harlotries
on every passer-by who might be {willing.}
- 16 You took some of your clothes,
made for yourself high places of various colors
and played the harlot on them,
which should never come about nor happen.
- 17 You also took your beautiful jewels
{made} of my gold and of my silver,
which I had given you,
and made for yourself male images
that you might play the harlot with them.
- 18 Then you took your embroidered cloth
and covered them,
and offered my oil and my incense before them.
- 19 Also my bread which I gave you,
fine flour, oil and honey with which I fed you,
you would offer before them for a soothing aroma;
so it happened.
- declaration of the Lord Yahweh.



B. Indictment of Jerusalem's Actions (16:15-34) (NASB w/ revisions)

- 20 Moreover, you took your sons and daughters whom you had borne to me and sacrificed them to idols to be devoured. Were your harlotries so small a matter?
- 21 You slaughtered my children and offered them up to idols by causing them to pass through {the fire.}
- 22 Besides all your abominations and harlotries you did not remember the days of your youth, when you were naked and bare and squirming in your blood.



<http://static1.squarespace.com/static/54d6cce0e4b0964b00d467b0/54f1eac2e4b0df03d1ef4636/5b594b4b03ce645f31d9c2fd/1532579089341/chemosh-2.jpg?format=1500w>

B. Indictment of Jerusalem's Actions (16:15-34) (NASB w/ revisions)



23 Then it came about after all your wickedness
(Woe, woe to you! –declaration of the Lord Yahweh),
24 that you built yourself a shrine
and made yourself a high place in every square.
25 You built yourself a high place at the top of every street
and made your beauty abominable,
and you spread your legs to every passer-by to multiply your harlotry.
26 You also played the harlot with the Egyptians, your lustful neighbors,
and multiplied your harlotry to make me angry.

27 Behold now, I have stretched out my hand against you
and diminished your rations.
And I delivered you up to the desire of those who hate you,
the daughters of the Philistines, who are ashamed of your lewd conduct.

28 Moreover, you played the harlot with the Assyrians
because you were not satisfied;
you played the harlot with them and still were not satisfied.
29 You also multiplied your harlotry with the land of merchants, Chaldea,
yet even with this you were not satisfied.
30 How languishing is your heart, --declaration of the Lord Yahweh--,
while you do all these things, the actions of a bold-faced harlot.
31a When you built your shrine at the beginning of every street
and made your high place in every square.

31b In disdainning money,
you were not like a harlot.
32 You adulteress wife,
who takes strangers instead of her husband!
33 Men give gifts to all harlots,
but you give your gifts to all your lovers
to bribe them to come to you
from every direction for your harlotries.
34 Thus you are different from those women
in your harlotries,
in that no one plays the harlot as you do,
because you give money
and no money is given you;
thus you are different.



C. Judgment on Jerusalem (16:35-43) (NASB w/ revisions)

35 Therefore, O harlot, hear the word of Yahweh.

36 Thus says the Lord Yahweh:

Because your lewdness was poured out
and your nakedness uncovered through your harlotries
with your lovers and with all your detestable idols,
and because of the blood of your sons which you gave to idols,

37 therefore, behold, I will gather all your lovers
with whom you took pleasure,

even all those whom you loved
{and} all those whom you hated.

So I will gather them against you from every direction
and expose your nakedness to them
that they may see all your nakedness.

38 Thus I will judge you like women who commit adultery
or shed blood are judged;

and I will bring on you the blood of wrath and jealousy.

39a I will also give you into the hands of your lovers,

C. Judgment on Jerusalem (16:35-43) (NASB w/ revisions)



<https://www.lds.org/bc/content/bible-videos/videos/go-and-sin-no-more/images/a-woman-caught-in-adultery-medium.jpg>

39b and they will tear down your shrines,
demolish your high places,
strip you of your clothing,
take away your jewels,
and will leave you naked and bare.

40 They will incite a crowd against you
and they will stone you and cut you to pieces
with their swords.

41a They will burn your houses with fire
and execute judgments on you
in the sight of many women.

C. Judgment on Jerusalem (16:35-43) (NASB w/ revisions)

41b Then I will stop you from playing the harlot,
and you will also no longer pay your lovers.

42 So I will calm my fury against you
and my jealousy will depart from you,
and I will be pacified and angry no more.

43a Because you have not remembered the days of your youth
but have enraged me by all these things,

43b behold, I in turn will bring your conduct down
on your own head,
--declaration of the Lord Yahweh--,

43c so that you will not commit this lewdness
on top of all your {other} abominations.

Marriage Metaphor: Husband – Wife Relationship

- ▶ **“Spiritual Adultery” (serving other gods) ultimately results in “divorce” (a dissolving of the Marriage Covenant)**

Jeremiah 3:8a (NIV)

I gave faithless Israel her **certificate of divorce** and **sent her away** because of all her adulteries.

Hosea 2:2a (NIV)

“Rebuke your mother, rebuke her,
for she is not my wife,
and I am not her husband.”

**Technical language of divorce, reversing the oath of marriage:
“You are my wife/husband;
I am your husband/wife.”**

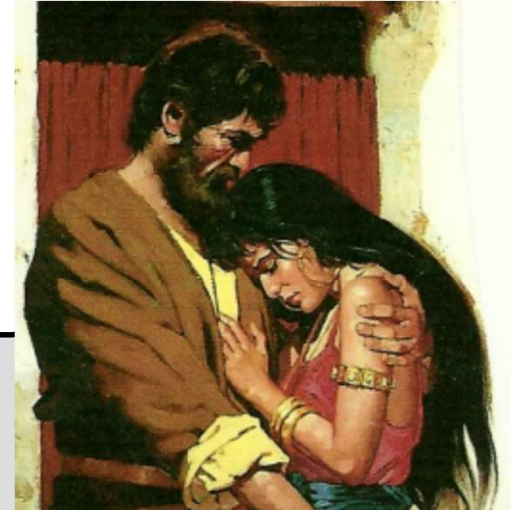
II. COVENANT RESTORATION of JERUSALEM (16:59-63)

(NASB w/ revisions)

59a For thus says the Lord Yahweh:
I will also do with you as you have done;

59b you who have despised the oath
by breaking the covenant.

60 Nevertheless,
I will remember my covenant with you
in the days of your youth,
and I will establish an everlasting covenant with you.



<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/95/0e/09/950e09b99d9ba32ce9d3d23e6f7f019.png>

61a Then you will remember your ways, and be ashamed . . .

62a Thus I will establish my covenant with you,

62b and you shall know that I am Yahweh,
63a so that you may remember and be ashamed
and never open your mouth anymore because of your humiliation,

63b when I have forgiven you for all that you have done
--declaration of the Lord Yahweh.

Marriage Metaphor: Husband – Wife Relationship

► Even after “divorce”,

Hosea 2:2a (NIV)

“Rebuke your mother,
rebuke her,
for she is not my wife,
and I am not her husband.

**God takes back His People
& Re-Marries them (Re-establishes the Covenant with them)**

Hosea 2 (NIV)

¹⁶ “In that day,” declares the LORD,
“you will call me ‘my husband’;
you will no longer call me ‘my master.’”

¹⁹ I will betroth you to me forever;
I will betroth you in righteousness and justice, in love and compassion.

²⁰ I will betroth you in faithfulness,
and you will acknowledge the LORD.