

Now the third aspect to which Hos. stresses I've called Deepening Knowledge. This deals particular with the changes, with the breadth of the word -- a breadth which is sometimes expressed in our English word but for which we may tend to use the word "realize" rather than "know." Hos. 2:20 brings out the thought of our deepening knowledge: "I will even <sup>betroth</sup> ~~bethreth~~ thee unto me in faithfulness and thou shalt know the Lord." The people knew of God. They knew of His power, they knew of His existence. But he says I will betroth you unto me in faithfulness and you will know the Lord. A great difference that occurs when one is converted, when one turns to the Lord. Before, like Job, he's heard of you by the ear, but now he sees you in a sense. Now it is difference, there is a realization, there is a big step forward at conversion. You know the Lord, but there is much more progress to be made in ~~knowing~~ knowing the Lord. Hos. stresses this in other statements. In Hos. 6:3 there is a vs. which in a way could be the text of the book, or perhaps you could say it has two texts. The one "thou hast rejected knowledge." The other, this one, the first part of Hos. 6:3: "Then shall we know if we follow on to know the Lord." We know Him.-- the fact of His existence and power if we even look about us, and see the condition of the world he has created. We know Him in a far greater sense if we are converted, if we turn to him and receive Him as Saviour. But then we are to follow on to know ~~know~~ the Lord, and then shall we know Him. There is progress to be made in knowing God, and it is a very vital part of the life of every Christian. If we follow on to know the Lord. The importance of follow up.

Sometimes I have heard of evangelists and Christian workers who have seemed to me to be in a way like people who would bring babies into the world and then just leave them out on the street, hoping that somebody would take care of them. God wants follow up ~~after~~ after individuals are brought to the Lord. When I attended the Bible Institute of Los Angeles, I was greatly impressed by a testimony by a fine young man who told of his going out in the afternoon, doing personal work and 20 different people that he had met, he said, had accepted the Lord. Well I thought that was wonderful, but what becomes of those people later? Is there follow up? Are they taught that it is not enough to take