DECEMBER 17

Day 352

Volunteering to Be Used

"...the LORD said to Hosea, "Go, get yourself a wife of whoredom and children of whoredom..." Hosea 1:2

Godly people wish to be used by the Lord, and then take umbrage over how He uses them. God commanded His prophet Hosea to marry Gomer, a worthless woman. After their marriage, she had two sons sired by men other than her husband. The Lord commanded this senseless marriage as an object lesson for His faithless people.

God gave Joseph two dreams that piqued his brothers into selling him into slavery. The Lord sent him from slavery into prison before making him prime minister of Egypt. The story of Joseph's rise to prominence reads like a fairytale, but how many of God's people will volunteer to be used by Him without seeing any benefit? And supposing Joseph had died in prison, never able to make sense out of Providence; would you volunteer to be used by God in such a way?

When you ask God to use you, be prepared for Him to answer your prayer in ways that seem like He has abandoned you. If you wish for God to use you, you must surrender any right to determine how He will do it. These are the only kinds of people He allows to be His slaves.