

THE MESSAGE OF HOSEA

Introduction – Hosea was sent by God to prophesy to Northern Israel during her last days (750-720 B.C.).

A. Hosea's marriage to Gomer became a dramatic enactment of God's relationship with adulterous Israel (chapters 1-3).

1. Many poor young women served as temple prostitutes to Baal before getting married.
2. Hosea and Gomer had three children whose names represent their deteriorating relationship: Jezreel, Not Loved, Not My People.
3. Gomer evidently sold herself into slavery to return to her partying lifestyle.
4. God commanded Hosea to go purchase Gomer's freedom and offer her a restoration of their marriage.

B. The Sinful Behaviors of God's People

Hosea 4:1-2

Hosea 6:6-7

Hosea 11:1-5

C. The consequences of their rebellion are destruction and exile.

Hosea 8:8-10, 14

Hosea 9:17

D. God promises to restore his relationship to Israel in the future.

Hosea 6:1-3

Hosea 11:8-11

Hosea 14:1-2, 4, 9

Conclusion – When we sin it is not merely breaking an arbitrary rule. Instead it breaks the heart of our God who loves us. God feels the pain of our unfaithfulness like a parent of a rebellious child or a spouse with a cheating partner.

Revelation 3:19-22