

## THE HOSEA PARADOX

Introduction – Biblical truth is paradoxical in nature. A paradox consists of true statements that lead to an apparent or real contradiction in logic or intuition.

A. Hosea presents us with the God who is faithful to the unfaithful.

1. God commands His prophet, Hosea, to marry a promiscuous woman, Gomer.
2. The story of the deterioration of their marriage is seen in the names of their children. Their second child is called “Not Loved” and their third child is called “Not My People.”

Hosea 2:5

3. Gomer eventually abandons her husband and children for the party life.

Hosea 3:1-3

B. Hosea’s marriage shows us the extent of God’s loving faithfulness to His covenant people, Israel.

Hosea 11:1-4

Deuteronomy 7:7-9

C. This same type of faithfulness is seen in God’s love through Christ.

1 Corinthians 1:26-30

D. God is faithful to the unfaithful in order to give human beings many opportunities to repent and respond in faith to the one who really loves us.

Hosea 14:1-2, 4

After hundreds of years of unfaithfulness, ignoring the warning of the prophets, God allows Assyria to conquer and deport Northern Israel.

Conclusion – Paradoxically it is not necessarily the religious who respond to God’s love in Christ. Often it is the nonreligious or wicked who are touched by God’s offer of grace to the undeserving.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11