

An Ugly Story of Beautiful Love

Introduction:

A. *"The word of the LORD that came to Hosea..."* (Hos 1:1). "Hosea" means "to save" or "deliver." In approximately 750 B.C., God used Hosea's own marriage to Gomer, her unfaithfulness, and their eventual restoration as a parable for the LORD's relationship to Israel.

I. An Ugly Story of Beautiful Love

- A. _____: *"Go, take to yourself a wife of whoredom and have children of whoredom..."* (1:2-9).
- B. _____: *"Their mother has played the whore... acted shamefully"* (2:1-13).
- C. _____: *"Go again, love a woman who is loved by another man..."* (3:1-3).
- D. **Divine** _____: *"For the children of Israel..."* (3:4; 4:10-13; 7:11; 9:15; 11:5; 13:2).
- E. _____ **Appeal**: *"He is not able to cure you or heal your wound"* (5:13).
- F. _____ **of the Problem**: *"My people are destroyed for..."* (Hos 4:6; 5:4; 8:12).
- G. **God's Gracious** _____: *"Therefore, behold, I will allure her..."* (2:14-23; 3:5).

II. Our Ugly Story of Beautiful Love

- A. **Created for God's** _____: *"...whom I created for my glory"* (Gen 1:26-27; Isa 43:7).
- B. **The Choice to** _____: *"...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God"* (Rom 3:23).
- C. _____ **in Christ**: *"the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it"* (Rom 3:21-26; 5:8).
- D. **Divine** _____: *"In this the love of God was made manifest..."* (1 John 4:9-10,19).
- E. _____ **Appeal**: *"If, after they have escaped the defilements of the world..."* (2 Pet 2:20-22).
- F. _____ **of the Problem**: *"Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry"* (1 Cor 10:12-14).

G. God's Gracious _____: "My little children..." (1 John 2:1-3).