



Hasse

faithful to the unfaithful



Hosea 2:1-15

Our Three Questions

1. What does the text say?

- Authorial intent to the intended audience.

2. What does the text mean?

- The timeless theological truth.

3. How does this apply today?

- What we ought to do with/because of this truth.

Hosea 2:1-15

¹ Say to your brothers, “You are my people,” and to your sisters, “You have received mercy.”

² “Plead with your mother, plead—for she is not my wife, and I am not her husband—that she put away her whoring from her face,

Hosea 2:1-15

and her adultery from between her breasts; ³ lest I strip her naked and make her as in the day she was born, and make her like a wilderness, and make her like a parched land, and kill her with thirst.

Hosea 2:1-15

4 Upon her children also I will have no mercy, because they are children of whoredom. 5 For their mother has played the whore; she who conceived them has acted shamefully. For she said, 'I will go after my lovers,

Hosea 2:1-15

who give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.’⁶ Therefore I will hedge up her way with thorns, and I will build a wall against her, so that she cannot find her paths.

Hosea 2:1-15

7 She shall pursue her lovers but not overtake them, and she shall seek them but shall not find them. Then she shall say, 'I will go and return to my first husband, for it was better for me then than now.'

Hosea 2:1-15

8 And she did not know that it was I who gave her the grain, the wine, and the oil, and who lavished on her silver and gold, which they used for Baal.

9 Therefore I will take back my grain in its time, and my wine in its season,

Hosea 2:1-15

and I will take away my wool and my flax, which were to cover her nakedness.¹⁰ Now I will uncover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and no one shall rescue her out of my hand.

Hosea 2:1-15

¹¹ And I will put an end to all her mirth, her feasts, her new moons, her Sabbaths, and all her appointed feasts. ¹² And I will lay waste her vines and her fig trees, of which she said, 'These are my wages, which my lovers have given me.'

Hosea 2:1-15

I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall devour them. ¹³ And I will punish her for the feast days of the Baals when she burned offerings to them and adorned herself with her ring and jewelry, and went after her lovers and forgot

Hosea 2:1-15

me, declares the LORD.

¹⁴ “Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her. ¹⁵ And there I will give her her vineyards and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope.

Hosea 2:1-15

And there she shall answer as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.

Preview

- **2:1 – Reversal of names**
 - The responsibility of the redeemed
- **2:2b, 4b, 5, 8, 12-13 – Indictments**
 - Open/Notorious cheating
 - Failing to honor and even forgetting God
- **2:3-4, 6-7, 9-11, 14-15 – Consequences**
 - The removal of blessing
 - Take away her lovers
 - The restoration of relationship and blessing

Three Layers

1. Hosea – Gomer
2. God – Israel
3. God – Church **

** Not necessarily in the text

Hosea 2:1

² Say to your brothers, “You are my people,” and to your sisters, “You have received mercy.”

Hosea 1:6b & 9a

And the LORD said to him, “Call her name No Mercy,…”

And the LORD said, “Call his name Not My People,…”

Hosea 2:1

² Say to your brothers, “You are my people,” and to your sisters, “You have received mercy.”

Gomer/Mother = Israel

Gomer's children = Israelites



Indictments

Hosea 2:2

² “Plead with your mother,
plead—for she is not my wife,
and I am not her husband—
that she put away her whoring
from her face, and her adultery
from between her breasts;

Open & notorious cheating

Hosea 2:4-5a

4 Upon her children also I will have no mercy, because they are children of whoredom. 5 For their mother has played the whore; she who conceived them has acted shamefully.

**She models for her children
“whoredom”**

Hosea 2:5b, 8, & 13

For she said, 'I will go after my lovers, who give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.'

...

⁸ And she did not know that it was I who gave her the grain, the wine, and the oil,

Hosea 2:5b, 8, & 13

and who lavished on her silver and gold, which they used for Baal.

...

¹³ And I will punish her for the feast days of the Baals when she burned offerings to them and adorned herself with her ring and jewelry,

Hosea 2:5b, 8, & 13
and went after her lovers and
forgot me, declares the LORD.

- **She pursues other lovers**
- **Credits them with the good things she has**
- **& forgets about the Lord**



Consequences

Hosea 2:3

3 lest I strip her naked and make her as in the day she was born, and make her like a wilderness, and make her like a parched land, and kill her with thirst.

Vulnerable, ashamed, & lacking even basic necessities

Hosea 2:4

4 Upon her children also I will have no mercy, because they are children of whoredom.

God will punish the citizens, along with the nation.

Hosea 2:6-7

6 Therefore I will hedge up her way with thorns, and I will build a wall against her, so that she cannot find her paths. 7 She shall pursue her lovers but not overtake them, and she shall seek them but shall not find them.

Hosea 2:6-7

Then she shall say, ‘I will go and return to my first husband, for it was better for me then than now.’

Hosea & Gomer → Hosea will make it impossible for her to stay with her lovers

God & Israel → The Lord will make it impossible to stay with her idols

Hosea 2:9-13

9 Therefore I will take back my grain in its time, and my wine in its season, and I will take away my wool and my flax, which were to cover her nakedness.

10 Now I will uncover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and no one shall rescue her out of my hand.

Hosea 2:9-13

¹¹ And I will put an end to all her mirth, her feasts, her new moons, her Sabbaths, and all her appointed feasts. ¹² And I will lay waste her vines and her fig trees, of which she said, 'These are my wages, which my lovers have given me.' I will make them a forest,

Hosea 2:9-13

and the beasts of the field shall devour them. ¹³ And I will punish her for the feast days of the Baals when she burned offerings to them and adorned herself with her ring and jewelry, and went after her lovers and forgot me, declares the LORD.

Hosea 2:9-13

How will Hosea punish Gomer?

He will cut her off materially.

Divorce

How will God punish Isreal?

He will cut her off materially.

Exile



One last Consequence

Hosea 2:9-13

¹⁴ Therefore, behold, I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness, and speak tenderly to her. ¹⁵ And there I will give her her vineyards and make the Valley of Achor a door of hope. And there she shall answer as in the days of her youth, as at the time when she came out of the land of Egypt.

Hosea 2:9-13

He will draw her back to himself in order to do three things.

- 1. Speak tenderly to her**
- 2. Restore her blessings**
- 3. Restore their relationship**

What do we learn?

We learn about our own sin

We learn about God's jealous love

We learn about the grace of God

About our sin

Are “moral” people “good” people?

Forget about God

Pursue other gods

Credit other gods with God’s gifts

Fail to honor God

What do we learn?

We learn about our own sin

We learn about God's jealous love

We learn about the grace of God

About God's jealous love

⁶ Therefore I will hedge up her way with thorns, and I will build a wall against her, so that she cannot find her paths. ⁷ She shall pursue her lovers but not overtake them, and she shall seek them but shall not find them. Then she shall say, 'I will go and return to my first husband, for it was better for me then than now.'

About God's jealous love

¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs.

About God's jealous love

¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father...

What do we learn?

We learn about our own sin

We learn about God's jealous love

We learn about the grace of God

About the grace of God

⁶ You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Application

Pursue God alone

**Honor and glorify God for every
delightful thing in your life**

Cling to the cross of Christ

Questions

- Do you see a tendency in yourself to center your life around something other than God? If so, what is it?
- Do you see a tendency in yourself to credit someone or something else for gifts of the Lord? If so, what?
- Do you presume that negative circumstances in your life are because of God's frustration with you?
 - Do you tend to presume that positive circumstances in your life are because God is delighted with you?
 - In either case, it seems that Israel was prospering in God's patience, but suffering under God's active and jealous love. How does such a reality impact that kind of thinking?
- Read Ezekiel 16 and consider the parallels to Hosea 2. Does anything jump out to you.
- Does it offend you when you read things like, "Otherwise I will strip her naked and make her as bare as on the day she was born; I will make her like a desert, turn her into a parched land, and slay her with thirst." – If so, why does it offend you?
 - Does God have the right to take away his gifts? Does God have the right to punish his creation? At what point is justice offended?