

April 3, 2011
CrossWay Church
Pastor Fritz Good



God's Never Failing Love for His People Hosea's Love Story

I. An Innocent Husband and an Immoral Wife: Hosea and Gomer

- A. C _____ (1:1-2)
- God orders Hosea to marry a promiscuous woman.
 - God knew the reason why.
- B. C _____ (2:2)
- Gomer becomes an adulterous wife.
 - Gomer represents Israel.
- C. C _____ (2:3-5)
- God says he will severely punish Gomer/Israel if she does not repent.
- D. C _____ (3:1-3)
- Hosea purchases Gomer/Israel from the slave market because of his great love for her; despite her terrible sin.

Keith Brooks writes, "God's people (Israel) who have gone awhoring from Him must take upon themselves the shame of their apostasy and submit to the punishment of their iniquity. If God dealt with them according to the strict rigor of the law, He would have no more to do with them, but He will deal with them according to the multitude of His mercies, and not according to their iniquities."

II. An Innocent Husband and an Immoral Wife: The Lord and Israel

- A. Israel's S _____ (2:8)
- Guilty of idolatry, immorality, arrogance
- B. Israel's S _____ (2:9-13)
- Suffer from famine, shame, destruction, captivity
- C. Israel's S _____ (1:10-2:1; 3:4-5, 6:1-3)
- Confession
 - 1. "Let us return to the LORD!"
 - 2. "Let us press on to know him!"
- Cleansing
 - 1. "He will bandage our wounds."
 - 2. "He will restore us so we can live in his presence."

Matthew Henry writes, "The same providence of God that afflicts his people relieves them, and the same Spirit of God that convinces the saints comforts them."

Challenge:

What does God give you, if you have come to know Christ through faith?

- Feeling shamed? You are covered and glorified!
- Feeling threatened? You are comforted and glorified!
- Feeling rejected? You are accepted and glorified!

"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you. The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" ~Hebrews 13:5-6

