

The Minor Prophets “The Twelve”

Hosea	Nahum
Joel	Habakkuk
Amos	Zephaniah
Obadiah	Haggai
Jonah	Zechariah
Micah	Malachi

Prophetic Ministry: 850 – 430 B.C.

Hosea

“God’s Love for His Faithless Wife”

Shocking Features:

1. Image of harlotry used for sin
2. Hosea’s marriage to Gomer—a harlot
3. Nature of God’s unfailing love

Hosea

“God’s Love for His Faithless Wife”

Chapters 1-3

Hosea’s marriage to Gomer—illustration of God’s relationship to Israel

Two-fold Message:

- Pt. 1: God’s hatred of spiritual harlotry
- Pt. 2: God’s loyal love for His wife

Hosea: Part One

God’s Hatred of Spiritual Harlotry

1. Hosea commanded to marry a harlot
2. Hosea’s children announce judgment
 - Jezreel – place of bloodshed
 - Lo-ruhamah – no compassion/love
 - Lo-ammi – not my people
3. Spiritual harlotry described/defined
4. God’s response to spiritual harlotry

Hosea: Part One

God’s Hatred of Spiritual Harlotry

Definition of Spiritual Harlotry

A failure to worship and love God supremely

- General: all mankind; refusing to give God thanks for all things but instead attributing them to another source (Roman 1:21,25)

Romans 1:21,25

“For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks...

For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is the blessed forever. Amen.”

Hosea: Part One

God's Hatred of Spiritual Harlotry

Definition of Spiritual Harlotry

A failure to worship and love God supremely

- **General:** all mankind; refusing to give God thanks for all things but instead attributing them to another source (Roman 1:21,25)
- **Specific:** believers in covenant with God; seeking our joy/satisfaction outside of God
(*new way to view our sin!*)

Hosea: Part One

God's Hatred of Spiritual Harlotry

God's Response to Spiritual Harlotry

Redemptive Judgment/Pursuing Love

- 1. Hedge up her way with thorns (2:6-13)**
 - Painful discipline
 - Commitment of His loyal love
- 2. Allure her with tender words (2:14-20)**
 - He wants us to know Him as "Ishi"