

**Hosea 4-14**  
THE Love Story II

A sadder, darker story still ...

I. A Litany of Whoredom

- A. Illustrated
- B. Acted Upon

II. The Severity and Kindness of Israel's God

- A. Discipline
- B. Mercy

III. An Example for Our Instruction

- A. The Church
- B. Refined

... but the shadow proves the sunshine.

***Children, Listen ...***

1. In what ways were the people of Israel unfaithful to God?
2. Can God be angry with His people and love them at the same time?
3. What do parents who love their children do when the child is doing wrong?
4. God was patient with Israel but He also punished them. Did this change their behavior?
5. The punishment we deserve for was paid for when Jesus took the punishment for His people. How should that make us look at the sin we have in our own lives even though we are forgiven?

**Warning: Graphic Content**

The first three chapters of Hosea contain a graphic illustration of Israel's unfaithfulness to God through the story of Gomer's adultery against her husband the prophet. The chapters that follow further detail the whoredom of Israel and it is not pretty. We almost want to recoil with embarrassment. These chapters are certainly not the most disturbing chapters in the Bible but they do expose the spiritual perversity the Northern Kingdom of Israel immersed itself in. Alas, with all of God's patience, love and fair warning they do not repent of their offenses and thus reap what they had sown as a nation and meet their demise. This real life story of infidelity on the part of Israel stands as a warning and example to nations, the church, churches and individuals as well. We are called to be faithful to God Who has proven Himself faithful despite our sin. He proved His love in the most astonishing way by sending His Son to take upon Himself the wrath we deserved. What more graphic way could God show the intensity of His love for His people. Such an act calls us to respond with deep gratitude and to forsake all other lovers for Christ, cease from spiritual adultery and moral corruption, and pursue holiness and righteousness for the love of God. May God grant us the grace to be a faithful bride to our glorious groom Christ.