

## **A Strange Love**

### **Hosea 1:1-3**

#### **Introduction:**

- A. What is the strangest thing you have ever done in the name of love?
- B. People do crazy things in order to prove their love.
- C. The book of Hosea shows us the great lengths one man goes to in order to prove his love for his wife. However, the book of Hosea is not really about the love story of Hosea and Gomer. It's a story about the strange but incredible love of God.

#### **Hosea Marries Gomer (1:1-3)**

- A. God called Hosea to love a woman that it made no earthly sense to love.
- B. Love doesn't always make sense.
- C. The people of Israel had refused to listen to the Lord and His prophets and had become unfaithful (Hos. 2:1-13; 4:1-6; 12-13; Hos. 6:4-6).
- D. God's love doesn't always make sense because He loves those who are unlovable (Lk. 15:11-32).

#### **Hosea Loses Gomer (3:1)**

- A. "Go again, love a woman who is loved by another man and is an adulteress."
- B. Love doesn't give up.
- C. Even though Israel would suffer the consequences of their sins, God would not give up on them completely (Hos. 1:10-2:1; 2:14-23; 11:8-9).
- D. God's love never gives up on people even when it seems all hope is gone (I Jn. 4:7-8).

#### **Hosea Redeems Gomer (3:2-5)**

- A. Gomer had become a slave so Hosea had to pay the price for her freedom.
- B. Love isn't deserved.
- C. Hosea didn't buy Gomer back because she deserved it, but because that's what God told him to do. God told Hosea to love her as He loves His people.
- D. God doesn't love us because of who WE are and but because of who HE is (Rom. 5:8).

#### **Conclusion:**

- A. God's love may be strange but that's what makes it so beautiful.
- B. God's love is not just for the good; God's love is for those whose lives are a complete mess.
- C. May we all be eternally grateful for the strange love of God.