



**Gutenberg College Summer Institute 2015
REUNION: Tanakh and the Gospel of Matthew**

**Talk 14: The Concept of *Hesed* in Hosea
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I. Exodus 34:6-7

- A. God "abounds in *hesed* and truth; who keeps *hesed* for thousands."
- B. English versions translate *hesed* in these verses as "love, unfailing love, steadfast love, lovingkindness, goodness, gracious love, loyal love, goodness, compassion, or kindness."
- C. God's *hesed* is *his zeal for the well-being or wholeness of all that he has created, and the acts of hesed that arise from his zeal.*
- D. God is big-hearted.

II. Deuteronomy 7:12-13

- A. ¹² "Then it shall come about, **because you listen to these laws and keep them and do them**, that the Lord your God **will keep with you his covenant and his *hesed*** about which he made an oath to your Fathers [Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob]. ¹³ **He will love you and bless you and multiply you;** He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your new wine and your oil, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock, **in the Land which he made an oath to your Fathers to give you.**"

III. Hosea is not organized chronologically, but cyclically.

A. Hosea 1:8-10

- 1. ⁸ ". . . [Gomer] conceived and gave birth to a son. ⁹ And the Lord said, 'Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not My people and I am not your God.'
¹⁰ Yet the number of the sons of Israel
Will be like the sand of the sea,
Which cannot be measured or numbered;
And in the place
Where it is said to them,
"You are not My people,"
It will be said to them,
"You are the sons of the living God."

B. Hosea 2:8-23

C. Hosea 3:1-5

- 1. ¹ Then the Lord said to me, "Go again, love a woman who is loved by her husband, yet an adulteress, even as the Lord loves the sons of Israel, though

they turn to other gods and love raisin cakes.” . . . ⁵ Afterward the sons of Israel will return and seek the Lord their God and David their king; and they will come trembling to the Lord and to His goodness in the last days.

- D. Hosea 4:1-5:15
- E. Hosea 6:1-3
- F. Hosea 6:4-11