

# SCANDALOUS LOVE

a study of Hosea





Hosea: a **minor** prophet 790-686 BC









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## Chapter 1





Before God does His work *through* you  
He wants to do it *in* you.





Before God does His work **through** you  
He wants to do it **in** you.

God's **truth** is designed to bring us to  
God's **grace**.





# SCANDALOUS LOVE

Chapter 2:1-13





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**God is 'love'.....but God is also 'light'**

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# God is 'love'.....but God is also 'light'

God's love is a holy love...  
that is not simply a warm fuzzy feeling  
but it is...

the integration of grace and truth  
in perfection for any given situation.





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# God is 'love'.....but God is also 'light'

Grace without truth is simply license...

Grace is meaningless without truth...

*If there is no such thing as truth  
then there is no need for grace...*

*...because if there is no explicit  
right or wrong*

*then there is no need of forgiveness.*



**Dr. Peter Kreeft: Professor of Philosophy, Boston College**





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compassion, mercy—  
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God exercises all the virtues all the time....

*the soft and the hard...*

...grace (*soft*) and truth (*hard*) integrated (***perfectly***)  
for any and every situation and circumstance.





# SCANDALOUS LOVE

## Idolatry v.1-5a

- 1 Say to your brothers, *“You are my people,”* and to your sisters, *“You have received mercy.”*
- 2 *“Plead with your mother, plead for she is not my wife, and I am not her husband— that she put away her whoring from her face, and her adultery from between her breasts;*
- 3 *Lest I strip her naked and make her as in the day she was born, and make her like a wilderness, and make her like a parched land, and kill her with thirst.*





## SCANDALOUS LOVE

## Idolatry v.1-5a

- 4 *Upon her children also I will have no mercy, because they are children of whoredom.*
- 5 *For their mother has played the whore; she who conceived them has acted shamefully.*





## SCANDALOUS LOVE

## Ingratitude v.5b-9

4 *Upon her children also I will have no mercy, because they are children of whoredom.*

5 *For their mother has played the whore; she who conceived them has acted shamefully.*

*For she said, 'I will go after my lovers, who give me my bread and my water, my wool and my flax, my oil and my drink.'*

6 *Therefore I will hedge up her way with thorns, and I will build a wall against her, so that she cannot find her paths.*





## SCANDALOUS LOVE

## Ingratitude v.5b-9

- 7 *She shall pursue her lovers but not overtake them, and she shall seek them but shall not find them. Then she shall say, 'I will go and return to my first husband, for it was better for me then than now.'*
- 8 *And she did not know that it was I who gave her the grain, the wine, and the oil, and who lavished on her silver and gold, which they used for Baal.*
- 9 *Therefore I will take back my grain in its time, and my wine in its season, and I will take away my wool and my flax, which were to cover her nakedness.*





## SCANDALOUS LOVE

## Hypocrisy v.10-13

- 10 *Now I will uncover her lewdness in the sight of her lovers, and no one shall rescue her out of my hand.*
- 11 *And I will put an end to all her mirth, her feasts, her new moons, her Sabbaths, and all her appointed feasts.*
- 12 *And I will lay waste her vines and her fig trees, of which she said, 'These are my wages, which my lovers have given me.' I will make them a forest, and the beasts of the field shall devour them.*





## SCANDALOUS LOVE

## Hypocrisy v.10-13

*13 And I will punish her for the feast days of the Baals when she burned offerings to them and adorned herself with her ring and jewelry, and went after her lovers and forgot me, declares the LORD.*



## **Revelation 2:1-4** *Letter to the church in Ephesus*

- 1 To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:  
“The words of Him who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands.
- 2 “I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not and found them to be false.



- 3 “I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name’s sake, and you have not grown weary.
- 4 But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.”



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for my name’s sake, and you have not grown  
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***So...therefore....what now?***





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**To whom or to what have you entrusted yourself that is inadequate or inappropriate?**





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***So...therefore....what now?***

To whom or to what have you entrusted yourself that is inadequate or inappropriate?

To whom or to what have you given the credit that actually belongs to God?





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***So...therefore....what now?***

To whom or to what have you entrusted yourself that is inadequate or inappropriate?

To whom or to what have you given the credit that actually belongs to God?

In what ways have you forgotten God and abandoned your first love?



# SCANDALOUS LOVE

What does God need to do in you  
before He can work through you?





# SCANDALOUS LOVE

What does God need to do in you  
before He can work through you?



Lord, I want to love  
you first and foremost so  
that you can live your life  
in me and through me,  
so I confess and repent of:



SCANDALOUS



SECRET







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# SCANDALOUS LOVE

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