

SERMON NOTES

The Perfect Parent's Faithful Love and Profound Anguish

Hosea 11:1–11 | Matt Green | May 9, 2021

God, the Perfect Parent (11:1)

- God loves His “son,” Israel
- His love leads to action — calling them out of slavery in Egypt
- Matthew’s application of Hosea 11:1 to Jesus
 - Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment of the Old Testament hope
 - Jesus is the answer to our problem!

We can be confident that, in God our Father, we who trust in Christ have a perfect Parent, who acts on His love for His children.

Israel, the Rebellious Son (11:2)

- They turned their back on their loving Father
- They turned to false gods, thinking they could provide for them

We don't want to grieve our heavenly Father by living in ways that disregard Him.

God's Care for Israel (11:3–4)

- God has been an excellent, caring Father
- This makes Israel's rebellion especially grievous

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The Rebellious Son Will Receive Just Punishment (11:5–7)

- Israel will be defeated and taken captive by Assyria
- It's fitting for them to be ruled by someone else, since they rejected God's rule
- Sin has consequences

"If you trivialize sin, God's response to it in the Bible will always seem like an overreaction. But if you take God's holiness seriously, and the reality of human sin and rebellion seriously, it won't seem like an overreaction at all. God will seem astoundingly patient."

— DR. ERIK THOENNES

God's Compassion and Restoration (11:8–11)

- Israel deserved to be wiped out for breaking their covenant with God, like Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim (cf. Deut. 29)
- God's perfect compassion leads to divine reprieve
- Ultimately, their sin is paid for by God Himself — in Christ
- Israel will be restored to their homes in their land

God does not respond the way human beings do. He brings a perfect mix of compassion and justice to every situation, and while He has emotions, He is not controlled by them.

What is your response to this? Discuss it with someone today.