

## Handout Chapter 14

A foundation of the Church has always been that God's revelation of His divine will was progressive throughout Old Testament prophecy. The Church Fathers interpreted the content of the entire Old Testament as prophecies about Christ, as Jesus indicated in His discourse to the Emmaus disciples and the Apostles (Luke 24:25-27, 44-47). They taught that the prophets used Biblical "types" that pointed to Jesus and "antitypes" against the Jews for rejecting Him and His divine mission as their Davidic Messiah.

The Church Fathers view of the Book of Hosea:

1. They typically viewed Hosea 1:1-3 as a prophetic description of Jesus and the "adultery" of the Jews of the Church of the Sinai Covenant in its apostasy as they willfully rejected their Messiah.
2. In Hosea 2:19-23, they saw the prediction of Gentile salvation proclaimed.
3. In Hosea 3:4-5, they saw references to Christ coming from the hereditary line of King David and to the Eucharist.
4. They saw Hosea 6:1-11 as anticipating Christ's Passion, descent to the abode of the dead, and His glorious resurrection.
5. For them, Hosea 6:6-9 as a reference to the old covenant Temple worship that foreshadowed the new Temple of the new Covenant Body of Christ.
6. Hosea 7 announced the promise of the Holy Spirit.
7. Hosea 8 prophetically foretold the betrayal of Judas and his replacement.
8. Hosea 14 ends with a prophecy that they saw as relating to the future apostasy of the Jews which the Church Fathers associated with the rejection of Jesus and His New Covenant.

They believed that the progressive revelation of God's divine will was revealed by Jesus, the Apostles, and Paul in his epistles. They taught that Jesus had fulfilled the Law and the prophets (Luke 24:44-47), and the Old Covenant with Israel was eternal and had not been abolished, only fulfilled.