

# Romans 9:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved.

## Analysis

---

**As he saith also in Osee, I will call them my people, which were not my people; and her beloved, which was not beloved**—Paul quotes Hosea 2:23 (LXX). *Kalesō...ou laon mou laon mou* (καλέσω...οὐ λαόν μου λαόν μου): 'I will call...not-my-people my-people.' Hosea prophesied to apostate northern Israel (8th century BC), promising restoration: those disowned would be reclaimed. Paul applies it to Gentiles—those never in covenant now called 'beloved' (ἔγαπημένῃν, ἡγαπημένην).

This is typological interpretation: Hosea's immediate reference was ethnic Israel's restoration, but Paul sees the principle of gracious calling extending to Gentiles. God calls things that are not as though they were (4:17). Those 'far off' are brought near (Ephesians 2:13). The not-beloved becoming beloved illustrates sovereign grace—no prior relationship or merit, only God's free choice to love. This is election's essence: God setting covenant love on the undeserving.

## Historical Context

---

Hosea married Gomer the adulteress to symbolize Israel's spiritual adultery. Yet God promised to remarry faithless Israel (Hosea 2:14-23). Paul sees this covenant restoration language fulfilled in Gentile calling—grafting wild branches into the olive tree (11:17-24). God's mercy transcends ethnic boundaries.

## Related Passages

---

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

---

1. How does calling 'not my people' to be 'my people' illustrate the sheer grace of election?
2. What does Hosea's marriage to Gomer teach about God's covenant love despite unfaithfulness?
3. How does Paul's application of Hosea to Gentiles demonstrate the unity of God's people across testaments?

## Interlinear Text

---

ὥς καὶ ἐν τῷ Ὡσηὲ λέγει Καλέσω τὸν οὐκ  
G5613 **also** **in** G3588 **Osee** **As he saith** **I will call** G3588 **which was not**  
G2532 G1722 G5617 G3004 G2564 G3756

λαόν μου λαόν μου καὶ τὴν οὐκ ἠγαπημένην·  
**people** **my** **people** **my** **also** G3588 **which was not** **beloved**  
G2992 G3450 G2992 G3450 G2532 G3756 G25

ἠγαπημένην·  
**beloved**  
G25

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Hosea 2:23** (Parallel theme): And I will sow her unto me in the earth; and I will have mercy upon her that had not obtained mercy; and I will say to them which were not my people, Thou art my people; and they shall say, Thou art my God.

**1 Peter 2:10** (Parallel theme): Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.

**Ezekiel 16:8** (Love): Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I swore unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine.

**Romans 1:7** (Love): To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**John 16:27** (Love): For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.

---

From KJV Study • [kjevstudy.org](http://kjevstudy.org)