

For the Living of These Days

Session 7: Amos – Looks Within (Part 2)

The Day of the Lord Amos 5:18-27

“Woe to you who long for the day of the Lord! Why do you long for the day of the Lord? That day will be darkness not light.” Amos 5:18

The Day of the Lord normal expectations:

- In the Old Testament, the prophets spoke of the day of the “visitation of God”
- a day of great comfort and rejoicing
- The Old Testament passages dealing with the day of the Lord often convey a sense of imminence, nearness, and expectation: “Wail, for the day of the Lord is near!” Isaiah 13:6; “For the day is near, even the day of the Lord is near” Ezekiel 30:3
- Read Isaiah 25:1-10

Amos 5:18-20

However, because of their sinfulness and rebellion, **the day of the LORD** would bring them judgment, not mercy and darkness, not light.

*“It will be as though a man fled from a lion only to be met by a bear, as though he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall only to have snake bite him.”
Amos 5:19*

Compare with Isaiah 5:18-30

The only remedy is for them to repent and return to the Lord

Religious rituals are empty without obedience to the Lord.

These had to surprise the people of Israel; especially the religious leader because they believed that they were excellent at worship.

Primarily they were good at the ceremonial/ritualistic parts of worship. They were not good at ‘heart’ worship.

The kind of worship pleases God? – Read Isaiah 58

Compare with what Jesus said in Matthew 5:23-24 and Matthew 6:16-18

You cannot separate worship from the way in which you treat others.

“But let justice roll down like waters, and righteous like an ever-flowing stream.” Amos 5:26

God warns Israel about their complacency and their pride – Chapter 6

Complacency because of their wealth Amos 6:1-7

“Woe to you who are complacent in Zion, and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria, you notable men of the foremost nation.” Amos 6:1

Amos says, “Look at your pagan neighbors, how are their sins working out for them?” Amos 6:2

Israel’s sin of ease!

- Indifference
- Laziness
- Self-indulgence

Look within at what you are doing. Amos 6:3-6

Exchanged one reign of terror for another!

Excessive living

Finest dining

Great entertainment

Drink best wines, use finest lotions but you don’t grieve over the sufferings of your own people.

Therefore, you will be among the first to go into exile; your feasting will end.
Amos 6:7

The Lord hates the pride of Israel

“The Sovereign Lord has sworn by himself – the Lord God Almighty declares; ‘I abhor the pride of Jacob and detest his fortresses; I will deliver up the city and everything in it.’” Amos 6:8

Results of their prideful ways. Amos 6:9-14

People will die

Houses will be destroyed

The people of Israel will be captured and put into exile.

God hates our pride as well.

Proverbs 3:34, I Peter 5:5 and James 4:6-10

What do we truly see when we look within ourselves, our church, our nation, our world?