

Lifestyles of the Rich... and Amos

Majoring in the Minors - Amos - #3 of "The Twelve"

Amos 5:18-27; 9:8-15

The Prophet: AMOS (probably a shortened form of a name like "Amasiah" meaning "The Lord upholds")

Date: 760 BC

Place: The Northern Kingdom of Israel (He lived in Judah and traveled north to deliver his prophecies)

Situation: Divided Kingdoms; Temporary Power Vacuum Allowing for a Time of Great Economic Prosperity & Military Success; Social Injustice & Greed; Neglect & Persecution of the Poor; Religious Formalism

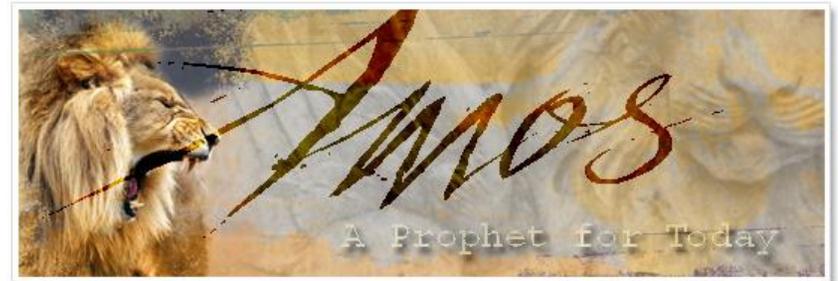
Message:

1. *Gloom & Doom* – Because of their reversal of covenant justice & righteousness, God is coming to end Israel's national life. God will spare them no longer. No more opportunities for repentance will be given.
2. *Grace & Deliverance* – Yet again (though understated) the prophet ends with a word of hope—eventually there will be a new day of restoration.
3. *God & Divine Glory* – Throughout the book, Amos emphasizes the character of God & the honor due His name as he repeats the title "Yaweh Adonai Elohim Sebaoth" (Yahweh, Lord God Almighty).

Something Special: Amos is the first of the "classical" or "writing" prophets. His book is the oldest collection of prophetic sayings maintained as a separate book. In addition, Amos was not a professional religious man but a successful Judean businessman (shepherd & fig grower) called to a season of travel to deliver God's scathing critique to his people in the Northern Kingdom of Israel.

Notes:

The Old Testament prophets fascinate us for two reasons. For one thing, their attention is quite firmly directed towards the future. They see sinister future events looming over the people of their own present day. But the dangers of the future are what oppress us today, too, more than they ever did in earlier generations. How does our view of the future compare with the prophetic one? Secondly, the prophets see the future as inextricably bound up with the present. This means that they move their own contemporary life into the glaring light of the future. The connection between present behavior and future destiny makes us uneasy too. Can the dialogue with prophecy sharpen the criteria which determine our criticism of our own time?
– Hans Walter Wolff, "The Irresistible Word (Amos)"



**Covenant Presbyterian Church
of
Reno, Nevada**

September 20, 2020

Service for The Lord's Day

September 20, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.

By this we know love, that [Jesus] laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. – 1 John 3:16-18

Rejecting Religious Formalism, We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Nancy Tedford, piano

Greetings and Church Family News Pastor Jay Hull

Call to Worship **Psalm 10** Denell Hull

We Give Our Praise to Jesus Christ Who Shows Us How to Live

Songs of Praise Justin Luevano

“King of Kings”
“Jesus, We Love You”
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Prayer of Confession
Assurance of Pardon & Gloria Patri

Family Prayer Kathy Ludwig

Time of Offering
Offertory

Nancy Tedford, piano

*Doxology (#592) & Prayer of Thanksgiving

We Hear the Word of God

Scripture Reading: Amos 5:18-27; 9:8-15
Message: “Lifestyles of the Rich... and Amos”

We Respond in Faith to Our God Who Is Uniquely in Control

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty” #53

*Charge & Benediction

***Postlude** Nancy Tedford, organ

