

Prepare to Meet Your God

“The Day of the Lord” – Amos 9:11-15 – June 29, 2008

Overview of Our Study

PREPARE TO MEET YOUR GOD			
<i>An 8-Week Study of the Book of Amos</i>			
Outline of Amos	Message Title	Bible Text	Date
8 Prophecies	Prepare to Meet Your God	Amos 1:1-2	May 4
	What Matters to God	Amos 1:3-2:16	May 11
3 Sermons	How to Return to God	Amos 3:1-4:13	May 18
	Martin Luther King’s Speech	Amos 5:1-6:14	May 25
6 Visions	Change or Die	Amos 7:1-17	June 1
	A Famine of God’s Word	Amos 8:1-14	June 15
	Judgment Day	Amos 9:1-10	June 22
	The Day of the Lord	Amos 9:11-15	June 29

Amos 9:11-15 in a Sentence

God promises a great reversal of judgment and curses in the future for all who call upon His name.

Recap of the Whole Book of Amos

- **Eight Prophecies** Against the Nations for their Injustice (1:1-2:18)
 1. Prophecy #1: against Damascus (1:3-5)
 2. Prophecy #2: against Gaza (1:6-8)
 3. Prophecy #3: against Tyre (1:9-10)
 4. Prophecy #4: against Edom (1:11-12)
 5. Prophecy #5: against Ammon (1:13-15)
 6. Prophecy #6: against Moab (2:1-3)
 7. Prophecy #7: against Judah (2:4-5)
 8. Prophecy #8: against Israel (2:6-16)
- **Three Sermons** About Justice (3:1-6:14)
 1. Sermon #1: A sermon to the people of Israel (3:1-15)
 2. Sermon #2: A sermon to the rich women of Israel (4:1-13)
 3. Sermon #3: A funeral lament for Israel (5:1-6:14)
- **Six Visions** About Justice (7:1-9:15)
 1. Vision #1: Locusts (7:1-3)
 2. Vision #2: Fire (7:4-6)
 3. Vision #3: Plumb Line (7:7-17)
 4. Vision #4: Ripe Fruit (8:1-14)
 5. Vision #5: Stricken Doorposts (9:1-10)
 6. Vision #6 (9:11-15)

Today’s Passage = Vision #6 (9:11-15) – God says, “The day is coming when I will reverse all of this for all who call upon My name.”

5 Great Promises of Great Reversal (9:11-15)

1. **God says, “I will reverse who is leading the world”** (v.11)
 - Four possible interpretations of restoring “David’s fallen tent”
 - (1) **I WILL RESTORE THE DYNASTY OF A DESCENDENT OF DAVID RULING ON THE THRONE OF ISRAEL**
 - God had promised David in 2 Samuel 7:11-16 that He would establish a “house” for David such that a descendant of David would sit on the throne of Israel forever: “Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before Me; your throne will be established forever.”
 - Israel has not had a descendant of David sit on their throne since King Zedekiah when Jerusalem fell to the Babylonians in 586 BC. God seems to be promising a reversal of this where a descendant of David will sit on the throne again.
 - (2) **I WILL RESTORE ISRAEL AS A UNITED 12 TRIBES UNDER ONE DAVIDIC RULER**
 - Israel was united as 12 tribes under King David.
 - Israel was split and divided at the end of King Solomon’s reign and has not been united since. God seems to be promising a restoring of a unified Israel like in the days of King David.
 - (3) **I WILL RESTORE THE PRACTICES DAVID ESTABLISHED IN THE TEMPLE/TENT OF MEETING**
 - King David had established a rotation of Levites who maintained continual praise, worship, and prayer before the Lord in the temple/tent (1 Chronicles 16; 23:5; 25:7).
 - This practice stopped under King Rehoboam and has not been resumed since. God seems to be promising that He will restore this 24/7 worship and prayer practice.
 - (4) **I WILL RESTORE THE BUILDING OF A TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM LIKE THE ONE THAT DAVID/SOLOMON BUILT**
 - God gave David the plans for a temple that Solomon built in Jerusalem. A place where the ark of the covenant resided. A place where the glory of God dwelt.
 - David/Solomon’s temple was destroyed in 586 BC. A second temple was built in 516 BC, and it was destroyed in 70 AD. God seems to be promising here that a third temple will be built some day.
 - It appears that all four of these interpretations will come true in the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is a direct descendant of David (Matthew 1; Luke 3). Christ’s 1st coming was to atone for the sins of the world (Hebrews 2:17); His 2nd coming will be to establish a Millennial Kingdom (Revelation 20:1-6) that will usher in a new heaven and a new earth. Israel will be a united kingdom under Christ’s rule. The Millennial Temple will be built (Ezekiel 40-48). There will be 24/7 worship (Revelation 7:9-17).

- Application #1 – Will I allow Jesus Christ, son of David, to rule in my heart and life now? (Anthony Evans’ song “I Choose Now” based on Philippians 2:9-11).
- Application #2 – Could we give Him 24/7 worship with prayer now? The vision of Audience of One. We are currently at 10 hours: Tuesdays at 11am, Noon, 8pm; Wednesdays at 10am, Noon; Thursdays at 8pm; Sundays at 2pm, 3pm, 4pm, 5pm. Also, the Call Room (281-398-2GOD) is a place where we receive prayer requests and pray with people (live: 9am-Noon, Mon-Fri).

2. God says, “I will reverse who gets into My Kingdom” (v.12)

- Throughout the Book of Amos, it is obvious that only the rich elite and religious leaders of the Jewish people are getting to participate in “religious activities” (4:1-5; 5:18-26).
- It is clear from Amos 9:12 and James’ interpretation of Amos 9:12 (in Acts 15:16-17) that God is opening up entrance into His Kingdom to all nations/Gentiles. Amos foresaw the conversion of many Gentile people groups!
- Note: “Possess” and “bear God’s name” together denote, not military conquering, but an equal citizenship where both Israel and the Gentiles are under God’s rule and reign. (see J.A. Motyer, Amos, p.204)
- Application #3 – Oh God, let the Ban*jar people of Indonesia be one of these Gentile people groups that bear Your name!!!!
- Application #4 – Oh God, let America be a nation that bears Your name!
- Application #5 – Will my neighbor, friend, and relative bear His name?

3. God says, “I will reverse poverty” (v.13)

- Poverty and injustice against the poor and oppressed are THE major issue in the Book of Amos (2:6,7; 4:1; 5:7,11,12,15,24; 6:12,14; 8:4,6).
- God says here that He will reverse this on the day of the Lord (9:13).
- The abundance of crops will be so great that those harvesting the crops (an activity done in March) will still be collecting all the crops by the time planting season starts again (in October). Likewise, those who harvest the grapes (an activity done in August) will still not be finished at planting time (in November).
- Application #6 – What steps can we take to reverse poverty now? (The Church Has Left the Building on July 27, 2008; www.whatisgrace.org)

4. God says, “I will reverse Israel’s punishment” (vv.14-15a)

- Israel’s punishment was defeat by the Assyrians and exile to their land (4:1-3; 5:27; 6:7; 7:11,17).
- The days are coming when God will reverse that (9:14-15).

- God appears to have a special plan for the Jewish people related to their land (Genesis 13:15-17). God appears to promise blessing for non-Jewish people who bless the Jewish people (Genesis 12:1-3).
- Application #7 – Are there any Jewish people in my life whom I can bless? (The greatest blessing you can give to a Jewish person is ultimately to share the Good News that the Messiah has come in the Person of Jesus Christ.)

5. God says, “I will reverse who your God is” (v.15b)

- Throughout the Book of Amos, people have made themselves into gods, and they have worshipped the false gods of the golden calves set up in Dan and Bethel (1 Kings 12:26-33; Amos 3:14; 4:4; 5:5-6).
- God is constantly working to call all of us who are worshipping ourselves and false gods to return to Him (4:6-11). He is calling us back to Himself! On the “day of the Lord,” time will be up. He will judge all those who have refused to return to Him (5:18-27; 8:1-9:10).
- But to those who turn to Him and call upon His name (Amos 9:12; Acts 2:21), He will save them, and they will call Him, “my God!” (Amos 9:15; John 20:28).
- Application #8 – Have you taken the Lord to be “your God”?
- Application #9 – He has committed Himself to be “your God.” Once you choose Him, He will never leave you (Hebrews 13:5b). Nothing can snatch you away from Him (John 10:27-29) or separate you from Him (Romans 8:31-39).

A Summary of “The Great Reversal”

<i>Before</i>	<i>On the Day of the Lord</i>
No longer a Davidic King on the throne	Jesus Christ, son of David, will reign forever and ever
Only the rich, elite, Jewish religious leaders got to “worship”	All who call on the name of the Lord will be saved and know Him
Poverty, oppression, and injustice	Abundance for all
Exile	Permanently established in their land
Self-worship	I am the Lord your God

Application #10 – What “great reversal” does God want to do in your life? (note card exercise)

Cardboard video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RvDDc5RB6FQ>

Questions to Discuss with My Family, Friends, and Small Group

1. What has been the most meaningful part of the Book of Amos study for you?
2. Read Amos 9:11-15 aloud. Use these sermon notes to discuss the meaning and application of this passage. What are your applications? (especially #10)