

Sunday, March 20, 2022 - "Ancient Prophets - Week 8 - Amos: Seek the Lord, Do Good and Live!" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Amos 5:14-15, 18-24, Amos 6:1, 4-6, Amos 7:14-15, Proverbs 3:7-8, Proverbs 14:30, Philippians 3:12

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Amos: message to Israel, a time of peace and prosperity
 - From the outside
 - Prosperity that does not come from the hand of God always comes on the backs of the poor & oppressed
- In all you do, you are to do it in a way that makes God know to those around you
- Amos was a farmer, a traveling sheep breeder
 - In his travels he saw the dark side of Israel
 - Holy discontent (God gives this to us as well)
 - To see justice
 - See wrongs made right
 - To see people do right in the eyes of the Lord
 - We are priests in the kingdom of God, made to serve a purpose in this world
- Amos says to SEEK 3 times
 - Seek God → do what is right → Fully live (abundant life)
 - There's a blessing in doing what God calls us to do
 - Proverbs 3:7-8, Proverbs 14:30
 - Physical/mental health and doing what is right go hand in hand
 - Living outside of God's way will kill you (Sin always has a cost)
- Amos' 3 Woes
 - 1) Woe to those who practice empty religion
 - Lack of genuine worship
 - They desired the day of the Lord thinking it would be a good and light thing
 - Day of judgement can be a glorious day
 - Philippians 3:12
 - Not about works but about INTENTION/MOTIVATION
 - Israel thought they were "good"
 - They were practicing empty religion
 - Don't pretend to be God's people and not do what God calls us to do (don't damage His reputation)
 - The seeds of rebellion are always planted in hypocrisy
 - 2) Woe to those who are complacent
 - We are always moving toward God or away from Him (we don't stay the same)
 - Complacency short circuits the process of transformation
 - 3) Woe to those whose comfort blinds them to oppression
 - We are called to feel the pain of the oppressed
 - Called to do justice
 - Every blessing → to be a blessing to others

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. When does it mean to you personally that you are a priest in and for the kingdom of God?
2. When was a time that you experienced blessings upon doing what was right in the eyes of God?
3. How do you intentionally prevent yourself from practicing "empty" religion?
4. Have you ever had a season of complacency in your walk with God? What did God teach you and how did He lead you out of that season?
5. How have you received God's blessing and used it to bless others?
6. What does the abundant life mean to you? What does it look like to be fully alive in God?
7. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

**15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-

Mon: Isaiah 55 Tues: Psalm 63 Wed: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Thurs: Luke 13:1-9 Fri: Isaiah 7:10-14

Songs from the weekend: [Great Jehovah - Travis Greene] - [Psalm 46 - Shane and Shane] - [Promises - Maverick City] - [King of My Heart - John Mark McMillan]