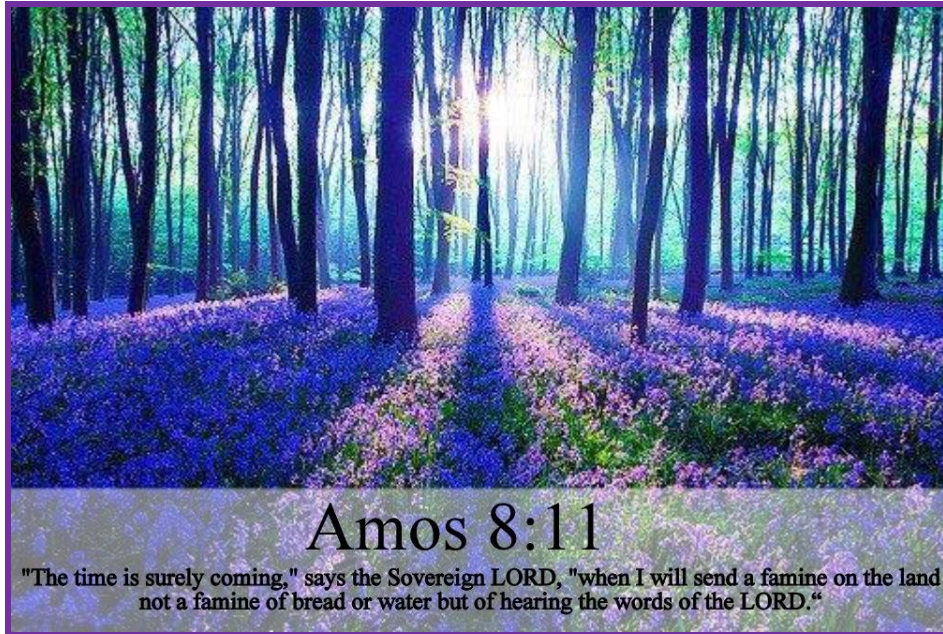


SUMMER QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2015

THEME: GOD DEMANDS JUSTICE

UNIT I – GOD’S INDICTMENT AGAINST ISRAEL’S INJUSTICES

“THE DIVINE RESULT OF GOD’S PEOPLE’S SINS OF INJUSTICES”



Sunday School Lesson No. IV – June 28, 2015 Rev. Frank A Davis, III – Pastor-Teacher

Lesson Text: Amos 8:1-14

Motto Text: Amos 8:2, *“And he said, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A basket of summer fruit. Then said the LORD unto me, The end is come upon my people of Israel; I will not again pass by them any more.”*

Required Reading: Amos Chapters 7 – 9

Reliable Resources: Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Precepts for Living (UMI); Word-Search 10 Electronic Library System; Standard Lesson Commentary; The Outline Bible by H. L. Willmington; The Tim LaHaye Study Bible

LESSON INTRODUCTION

The Bible says in II Peter 3:9, *“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”* After the previous lessons in Amos, one has been patiently waiting to see how long will Jehovah wait before He finally brings Israel to the “wood shed” for her many injustices against her own people. And now beloved, the hour has come as we examine **“The Divine Results of God’s People’s Sins of Injustices.”**

According to Precepts for Living, “The end has come for Israel and they are ripe for God’s wrath. The Lord will spare them no longer. He can no longer offer them grace and show patience in the face of their persistent injustice and disobedience.” Let us examine Amos 8. **Anticipated Power Points: God’s People...**

- **Were Ripe for God’s Wrath. Amos 8:1-3**
- **Were Ready to Continue Doing Wrong. Amos 8:4-6**
- **Would Reap the Results of their Works. Amos 8:7-10**
- **Would Regret the Removal of God’s Word. Amos 8:11-14**

LESSON OUTLINE

“The Divine Results of God’s People’s Sins of Injustices”

I. God’s People were Ripe for God’s Wrath. Amos 8:1-3

Beloved, just how longsuffering is the Lord? I ask this question not looking into the injustices but looking into the mirror! Every time I look into the mirror I see the longsuffering and abundant grace of God. I must start with myself before I can judge anyone else. Do you remember the words of Paul the Apostle in I Corinthians 11:28? *“But let a man examine himself...”* Also Paul’s follow-up exhortation to us as the Church in II Corinthians 13:5, *“Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?”* Beloved, the present life I live helps me to be divinely sensitive to God’s dealings with Israel, the northern kingdom. After God’s visions of judgment and Amos’ prayers for mercy, there remains no more chances for repentance.

According to H. L. Willmington, God pronounced several plagues against Israel, and in the first two, Amos interceded and God showed mercy. Amos 7:1-6 describes God’s intentions to judge Israel with locusts (vss. 1-3) and a great fire (vss. 4-6). In both cases, Amos interceded and God withholds the judgment.

In Amos 7:7-9, God shows Amos how patient He has been by revealing a plumb line to demonstrate that Israel was truly built upright and proper, but willingly determined to rebel against His will. “The moral crookedness of the nation demands divine judgment.” This is where our lesson for this week finds its beginning.

Like summer fruit at the end of harvest, there is no more time. The people like the fruit, had run out of time and the ripening had come to a climax. There was nothing left but for the fruit to spoil, and Israel must now be destroyed, for her time was at hand! God would now bring swift destruction from the political and religious head of the northern community. All the singing will end and death and destruction would be their ultimate result. So said the prophet. (Read II Kings 17:1-23). Remember Galatians 6:7, *“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”*

II. God’s People were Ready to Continue Doing Wrong. Amos 8:4-6

Israel was blind to their faults and sins. All they saw was profit and pleasure. According to Willmington, they were content to keep on sinning.

“a. The rich are robbing and enslaving the poor, buying and selling them for a pair of sandals (8:4a, 6).

b. The needy in the land are being trampled on (8:4b).

c. Gross dishonesty can be witnessed everywhere (8:5).”

III. God’s People Would Reap the Results of their Works. Amos 8:7-10

God will allow the land, water and elements to turn against the rebellious people and leave nothing but disaster in their way. They will reap what they have sown!

IV. God’s People Would Regret the Removal of God’s Word. Amos 8:11-14

According to the Tim LaHaye Study Bible: “Part of divine judgment was a ‘famine of hearing the words of the Lord,’ not a lack of divine truth, but a failure to bring a true message. This could be said of the situation in the world today – many voices claim to speak for God, but few are faithful to His holy Word.”

Beloved, Willmington closes our thoughts concerning God’s Word: “In regard to the Scriptures...

(1). The Famine (8:11): God Himself will send a famine of hearing the words of the Lord.

(2). The Fruitless Search (8:12-14): Men will wander everywhere attempting to find it.”

CLOSING:

According to J. Vernon McGee, “We see something of this same situation in our own land...The famine has already set in for this land of ours. My friend, the most important thing in the world that we can do is to give out God’s Word by every means at our disposal.”

My friends, pray for me and those who stand on the simple, non-compromising Word of God, before there is a total famine of God’s Word!

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TV Telecast: WHNO TV-Channel 20, Sunday, 6:30 a.m.

Looking Ahead: July 5, 2015 Micah 2:4-11



You are invited to attend Noon Bible Study every Wednesday as Pastor Davis teaches the lesson at Bibleway.