

FAMISHED



Prophetic Word of Amos

January - March 2010

This Book Belongs to _____



MARCH 28

New Wine Flows Freely

Amos 9:11 - 15

Introduction

“It’s just the calm before the storm,” they say. What about the dawn that comes to awaken life from the death of darkness? What about the fresh skies that follow the torrent of rain? What about the clean air we breath in deeply after the storms of life? What about the life that bursts forth after the fire? It’s all about the life that can come after death -- the resurrection experience.

The message Amos is called on to deliver is 90% destruction and 10% life. But, it’s like a sad story that has a great ending; the great ending makes the preceding journey of life worth

reading. In the end, God is always a fan of restoration and renewal. In the end, God always leaves things with hope and blessings rather than curses and condemnation.

The good news (gospel) of Amos is that we can get right with God, get right with people, get right with business, get right with...well, we can get right with both Creator and Creation. But, we have to desire reconciliation. We have to embrace repentance in order to experience restoration. God wants us to be His representatives. God wants us to be His. God wants us.

Sermon Notes

God wants _____ not _____.
He is primarily a God of _____ not _____

God _____ what is _____; He _____ what is _____.

God doesn't want to just _____ but seeks to _____.

God's desire is for all _____ to wear His _____.

_____ wine is a symbol of _____ and _____.

God wants this because of His desire for _____.

_____ is always a possibility when it comes to God.

Word of Thought

What's your favorite ending of a story? It could be a movie, book, drama...any story that you can say, "All's well that ends well."

Word of Study

Amos 9:11-15 is the short ending of hope to a very long story of despair. According to these verses, what is God's plan for restoration? How many will be redeemed? How long will it take? How long will it last?

Word of Discussion

1) One of our American proverbs is, "Everybody likes a good ending." I like a good ending, but some people like tragedies. What do you think is God's position on this topic? Is God working towards an experience of victory for people or is he prepping for tragedy for the masses?

2) Amos 9 brings us some powerful words and images: repair the broken, restore the ruins, plowman overtakes the reaper, new wine dripping from the mountains, bring back the exiled, etc. Of the redemptive images in Amos 9, which one helps you capture the heart of God the best?

3) Wine is very intertwined in the salvation story. Amos says, “New wine will drip from the mountains and flow from the hills.” Jesus’ first miracle was the turning of water into wine. Paul described our spiritual newness like new wine poured into new wineskins. We take the bread and the wine to remember the gift of Jesus Christ. Why is wine such a powerful symbol? How many of the vineyard images can you think of that describe either God, the church or people individually?

4) God says that we reap what we sow. It’s just true. It’s also profound. When you think about reaping what you’ve sown, is this – for you – a positive image or a negative image? Why?

Word of Action

I want to encourage groups to conclude this study by taking communion together. By drinking of the fruit of the vine we remember not only God's redemptive nature, but also His redemptive sacrifice.

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