

The Prophet of Justice

Amos 5:24

PROPOSITION: Amos answered the call of God to call others back to God and away from complacency and idolatry.

INTRODUCTION:

1. The people to whom Amos preached "(sold) the righteous for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals" (Amos 2:6).
2. Amos was the fiery preacher who condemned the abuses of the poor and the hypocrisy of the empty ceremonial religion of his day.
3. His ministry was during a time of peace and prosperity in both Israel and Judah.
4. Amos had a difficult job, but it was a call from God (cf. Amos 7:15).
5. Outline of the book of Amos:
 - a. Declamations (chps. 1, 2)
 - b. Proclamations (chps. 3-6)
 - c. Revelations (chps, 7-9:10)
 - d. Restorations (9:11-15)
6. The general theme of his preaching is the punishment of Israel.

DISCUSSION: The call of God is...

I. An Interrupting Call.

- A. Priest Amaziah tried to stop the preaching of Amos against Israel.
- B. Amos responded to defend himself and why he was there: A call from God...
 1. Interrupted his career. He "was among the shepherds of Tekoa" (Amos 1:1).
 2. Interrupted his calmness. "But the Lord took me from following the flock" (Amos 7:15).

II. An Informing Call.

- A. Amos was informed concerning the ministry. God told him exactly to whom to go and what to say (cf. Amos 7:1, 4, 6, 7, 15, 16, 17).
- B. Amos was informed concerning the multitude. "The Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel'" (Amos 7:15).
- C. God has informed us; therefore, we have no excuse.

III. An Irrefutable Call.

- A. It was irrefutable for Amos.
 1. He had no choice but to obey (cf. Jonah).
 2. He stood up to Amaziah though Amaziah had the authority of the king.
- B. It was irrefutable for Amaziah.
 1. Amaziah was the opposite of Amos.
 2. Amos told Amaziah specifically what would happen to him (Amos 7:17).
 3. God would get his attention one way or another.

CONCLUSION:

1. God's call comes in a different way today, but He still calls (cf. Heb. 1:1-3).
 - a. He calls to obedience (Luke 6:46).
 - b. He calls to service (Matt. 20:27).
 - c. He calls to faithfulness (James 1:12).
2. God calls today through the gospel message revealed in the New Testament (2 Thes. 2:13, 14).
3. Will you respond to the call of God as did Amaziah or Amos?

Main points from William Rushing, "Amos: The Call of God." SermonCentral.com
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