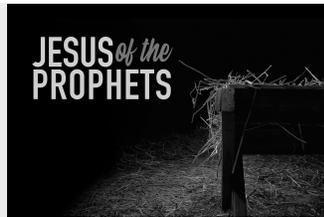


Restorer & Reconciler: Jesus is the world's premier gift.

Jesus of the Prophets - Part 2
Noah Largent 12/8/19



Amos 8:4-7 & 9:11-15 (Acts 15:15-18)

1. What are the behaviors Amos accuses Israel of being guilty of committing?

-Their greed outweighed their concern for the needy.

"you who trample the needy and do away with the poor" -vs. 4

-Their greed outweighed their devotion.

"When will the New Moon be over that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath be ended that we may market wheat?" -vs 5

-Their greed outweighed their financial integrity.

"skimping on the measure, boosting the price and cheating with dishonest scales, ⁶ ... selling even the sweepings with the wheat." -vs 5&6

-Their greed outweighed their gratitude.

"buying the poor with silver and the needy for a pair of sandals"-vs. 6

"The Old Testament scholars will tell you a righteous person is a person who sees his or her resources as belonging to the whole human community. A wicked person is a person who sees his or her resources belonging to him or her alone."

-Tim Keller, Redeemer Pres. Church "Healer of the World" 12/9/07

Nick Stewart definition of Love: "Thinking of yourself less and giving of yourself more."

www.thebibleproject.com/explore/amos/

2. Why is this passage relevant to us?

At its core, economic injustice is about satisfying one's self-interest at the expense of another.

Our Tactics Of Coercion:

-**Begging, anger & tantrums:** techniques used to manipulate others to give in to your desires (kids are great at using these).

-**Passive-aggressive behavior:** indirect expressions of anger or hurt, offering subtle hints that we are unhappy.

-**Extortion:** the practice of obtaining something, through force or threats. People practice it in business and in marriage.

There is also the issue of fake worship:

"When will the New Moon be over that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath be ended that we may market wheat?" Amos 8:5

3. What does this have to do with Christmas?

Jesus is God's premier gift.

For the wages of sin is death, but the **free gift** of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. -Romans 6:23 (John 3:16)

Jesus is the restorer.

"After this I will return and rebuild David's fallen tent. Its ruins I will rebuild, and I will restore it" -Acts 15:16

Jesus is the reconciler.

"so that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations that bear my name" Amos 9:12

Jesus is the example.

"If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For **I have given you an example**, that you also should do just as I have done to you." John 13:14&15

Notes:
