

50+ Sunday School Class

All Saints Presbyterian Church
Austin, TX

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Christ in the Minor Prophets

All Saints Presbyterian Church, Austin, TX

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Winter-Spring 2020

Taught by Rev. Craig Chapman

Class Schedule – Winter/Spring 2020

New Series – Christ in the Minor Prophets

- Jan 12 – 1: *Hosea* (14)
- Jan 19 – 2: *Joel* (3)
- Jan 26* – Guest speaker: Rev. John Trapp. (9:15: Baptism Class)
- **Feb 2 – 3: *Amos* (9)**
- Feb 9* – Guest speaker: Rev. Jordan Griesbeck
- Feb 16* – Guest speaker: Daniel Wang
- Feb 23 – 4: *Obadiah* (1)
- Mar 1 – 5: *Jonah* (4)
- Mar 8 – 6: *Micah* (7). (9:15: Eucharist Class)
- Mar 15 – 7: *Nahum* (3)
- Mar 22* – No Class (Spring Break)

Class Schedule – Winter/Spring 2020

New Series – Christ in the Minor Prophets

- Mar 29 – 8: *Habakkuk* (3)
- Apr 5* – Guest speaker: Isaac Benegas
- Apr 12 – No Class (Easter)
- Apr 19 – 9: *Zephaniah* (3)
- Apr 26 – 10: *Haggai* (2)
- May 3* – Guest speaker: Kim Hall
- May 10 – 11: *Zechariah* (14)
- May 17 – 12: *Malachi* (4)
- May 24 – Class Resumes in September

* - Craig away/preaching

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Why this series
 - “The Minor Prophets” – a misnomer
 - Luke 24:27—
“And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.”
 - All Hebrew prophets prophecy of Messiah.
 - What did each prophet say about the coming Messiah?
- Be thinking, because I’m going to ask—
What difference should this make on Monday?

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- World of Amos
 - After King Solomon died (931 BC), the Kingdom was divided into North (Israel) and South (Judah).
 - 760 BC – Jeroboam II was King of Israel (722 BC – Israel falls to Assyria)
 - Assyria & Egypt
 - Enemies, weakened and occupied with other threats
 - Amos 7:14—
“I was no prophet, nor a prophet’s son, but I was a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore figs”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Israel's Circumstances

- Jeroboam expanded territory and controlled trade routes

- Peace and Prosperity

- Amos 6:4-6

“You lie on beds adorned with ivory and lounge on your couches. You dine on choice lambs and fattened calves.
5 You strum away on your harps like David and improvise on musical instruments. 6 You drink wine by the bowlful and use the finest lotions”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Israel's 2-Fold Problem

- **1 – Injustice for the Poor**

- Amos 8:4-6

“...you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, ⁵ saying, “When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with **false balances**, ⁶ that we may **buy the poor for silver** and the needy for a **pair of sandals** and sell the chaff of the wheat?”

- False balances ... sell the chaff

- Buy the poor for silver ... for a pair of sandals

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Israel's 2-Fold Problem
 - Why go into debt for a pair of shoes?
 - Mosaic Law
 - No bankruptcy
 - Gleaning Laws
 - Sabbath year = all debts wiped out each 7th year
 - Jubilee Year = year after a sabbath of sabbath years (every 50 years)
 - . . . Being followed?

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

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 - ... Being followed?
 - Professional class was overcharging, even for necessities
 - Worker class had to go into debt for basics (food, shoes)
 - If you couldn't pay your debts you went into servitude
 - Injustice – God hates it. Mosaic Law avoids it.

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Question:
What about our circumstances today?

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Israel's 2-Fold Problem

- **2 – False Worship**

- Amos 8:4-6

“...you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, ⁵ saying, “When will the **new moon** be over, that we may sell grain? And the **Sabbath**, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, ⁶ that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?”

- Q—What does this mean?

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Israel's 2-Fold Problem
 - 2 – False Worship
 - When Israel broke away from Judah (1 Kings 12), they set up alternative temple worship and added golden calves to pagan gods of sex (Asherah), war (Anat) and weather (Baal)
 - Amos 5:21-24 ... (Re: Israel's Worship)
“I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. ²² Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. ²³ Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. ...”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Question:
Why would such pagan worship lead to Injustice for the Poor, even in Peace and Prosperity?

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Question:
Why would such pagan worship lead to Injustice for the Poor, even in Peace and Prosperity?
- So God says . . .
 - Amos 5:4
“Seek me and live; but do not seek Bethel, and do not enter into Gilgal”
 - Amos 5:14
“Seek good, and not evil, that you may live; and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Amos 5:23-24

Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. ²⁴ But **let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**

- Justice

(Heb: *mishpat*) = concrete actions taken to correct injustices and create righteousness.

- Righteousness

(Heb: *tsedaqah*) = a right, equitable relationship between people no matter their social differences.

- Question

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Israel's 2-Fold Problem
 - 1 – Injustice for the Poor
 - 2 – False Worship
- One Problem: A Heart Problem

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Israel's 2-Fold Problem
 - 1 – Injustice for the Poor
 - 2 – False Worship
- One Problem: A Heart Problem
 - Throughout the Bible, a sign of a heart saved by grace is acts of justice for the poor
 - If you have a heart relationship with God, if you know you're a sinner saved by grace (and not by your works), then a necessary sign is a caring heart for the poor, a life poured out in acts of compassion, justice and mercy, especially for the poor.

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Message of Amos

- Israel's End is Coming

- Amos 3:1-2

Hear this word that the LORD has spoken against you, O people of Israel, against the whole family that I brought up out of the land of Egypt: ² “You only have I known of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.”

- Amos 3:11-12

“An adversary shall surround the land and bring down your defenses from you, and your strongholds shall be plundered.” ¹² Thus says the LORD: “As the **shepherd rescues** from the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear, so shall the people of Israel who dwell in Samaria be rescued....”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Message of Amos
 - Israel's End is Coming
 - Israel's Prosperity Will Become Famine
 - Amos 8:11-12

“Behold, the days are coming,” declares the Lord God, “when I will send a famine on the land—not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD. ¹² They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, to seek the word of the LORD, but they shall not find it.
- Questions

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Christ Ends the Famine
 - 400 Years – Malachi to Matthew
 - Luke – God’s Word comes to:
 - 1:5-25 – Zechariah & Elizabeth
Angel Gabriel: “...I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news.”
 - 1:26-38 – Mary & Joseph
 - 2:29-30 – Simeon
“... it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.”
 - John the Baptist – Luke 3, John 1:29

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Christ Ends the Famine

- John 1:1, 14

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.... ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us...”

- Hebrews 1:1-2

“Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son....”

- John 6:35

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Christ Builds a New Nation
 - ...Which Was Needed
 - 722 BC – Israel falls to Assyria
 - 586 BC – Judah falls to Babylon. Jerusalem destroyed.
 - 70 AD – “Second Temple Jerusalem” destroyed
 - Promise to & thru Abraham
 - Genesis 12:2-3 (unconditional & everlasting)
“I will make of you a great nation...and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”
 - 2 Samuel 7:13
Abraham’s line (Israel) ruled by David, and “I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Christ Builds a New Nation
 - Promise of Amos
 - Amos 9:11-12 – New Nation
 - “In that day I will raise up the **booth [tent] of David** that is fallen and repair its breaches, and raise up its ruins and rebuild it as in the days of old, ¹² that they may possess the **remnant of Edom** and **all the nations** who are called by my name,” declares the LORD who does this.

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Christ Builds a New Nation
 - Promise of Amos
 - Amos 9:13 – New World
“Behold, the days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when the **plowman shall overtake the reaper** and the **treader of grapes him who sows** the seed; the **mountains shall drip sweet wine**, and all the hills shall flow with it....”
 - Vinoth Ramachandra

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Christ Builds a New Nation
 - Promise of Abraham Fulfilled
 - Galatians 3:16

“Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, “And to offsprings,” referring to many, but referring to one, “And to your offspring,” who is Christ.”
 - Galatians 3:29

“... if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.”
 - Revelation 7:9

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Question:
What difference should this make on Monday?

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Question:
What difference should this make on Monday?
- Matthew 6:33
“Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness”
- Romans 8:16-17
The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs [co-heirs] with Christ

Christ in the Minor Prophets – Feb 2 – Amos

- Question:

What difference should this make on Monday?

- Co-Heirs are Co-Builders of David's "Fallen Tent"

- Matthew 25:34-40

Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we' 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

Prayer Requests



Next Week

- Feb 9 – Guest Speaker:
Rev. Jordan Griesbeck
Youth Pastor for All Saints Presbyterian Church