

# Be Who You Say You Are!

Amos 5

### **LAST WEEK:**

**Amos 4:12** 

"Therefore thus I will do to you, O Israel; Because I will do this to you, Prepare to meet your God, O Israel."

#### THIS WEEK:

Amos 5:4,6,&12

"... Seek Me and Live." "... Seek Me and Live."

"Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said."



## Symmetrical Chiastic Pattern (First half of Amos 5)

Lamentation as announcement (1-3)Admonition (4–6) Accusation (7) Hymn (8) Yahweh his name! (8) Hymn *(9)* Accusation (10–13) Admonition (14–15) Lamentation as announcement (16–17)

Second half of Amos 5 – Gets Darker!

- <sup>1</sup> Hear this word that I take up over you in lamentation, O house of Israel:
- <sup>2</sup> Fallen, no more to rise, is maiden Israel; forsaken on her land, with no one to raise her up.
- <sup>3</sup> For thus says the Lord God: The city that marched out a thousand shall have a hundred left, and that which marched out a hundred shall have ten left.

## **Stop Assuming 1-3**

- Routine versus Discipline
  - Routine "A regularly followed sequence of actions"
  - Discipline "Training, to obey!"
- God is NOT a side-effect!
  - Christian Routine ≠ Disciple
- \*\*\*Healthy food and a gym membership
- Does NOT get you skinny!

<sup>4</sup> For thus says the Lord to the house of Israel: "Seek me and live;

<sup>5</sup> but do not seek Bethel, and do not enter into Gilgal or cross over to Beer-sheba; for Gilgal shall surely go into exile, and Bethel shall come to nothing.

<sup>6</sup> Seek the Lord and live..."

<sup>14</sup> Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said.

<sup>15</sup> Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate;



## Seek God 4-15

- 4 times LORD said 'Seek Him'
- Seek me and live (4)
  - Bethel Functioning Capital
  - Gilgal East Border-
  - Beersheba Southern Most
- Seek the Lord and live (6)
- Seek Good NOT Evil (14)
- Hate Evil and Love Good (15)
  - Not Routine A Change!



The places in Israel and Judah mentioned in the book of Amos.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of hosts, the Lord: "In all the squares there shall be wailing; and in all the streets they shall say, "Alas! alas!" They shall call the farmers to mourning, and those skilled in lamentation, to wailing;

<sup>17</sup> in all the vineyards there shall be wailing, for I will pass through the midst of you," says the Lord.

<sup>18</sup> Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light;

<sup>19</sup> as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a snake.

- <sup>21</sup> I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
- <sup>22</sup> Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon.
- <sup>23</sup> Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

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<sup>25</sup> Did you bring to me sacrifices and offerings the forty years in the wilderness, O house of Israel?

<sup>26</sup> You shall take up Sikkuth and Kaiwan your star-god, your images, which you made for yourselves;

<sup>27</sup> therefore *I will take you into exile beyond Damascus*, says the Lord, whose name is the God of hosts.

# Surrender Everything? 16-27

- Playing Church We wish for what we want…
  - But if we got that Like going from Lion to a Bear
    - Like a little kid who "wants to run away..."
- "Religious Activities" + "Generous Gifts" = Happy God??? NO
  - Do NOT seek religious service SEEK THE LORD!
- Sikkuth Shrine/ Idol \* Kaiwan your star-god
  - What idols do we create?
- We do **NOT** add God to our life HE becomes our life
  - He created us We "own" nothing!
  - Who do we say we are???

"He who surrenders himself without reservation to the temporal claims of a nation, or a party, or a class is rendering to Caesar that which, of all things, most emphatically belongs to God: himself."

- C.S. Lewis



## Be Who You Say You Are!

## Thoughts

- II Cor 10:5 Demolish every argument/thought making it obedient to Christ
- Phil 4:8 Nobel, Right, Pure, Lovely, Admirable Excellent & Praiseworthy Think about these things

#### Actions

- II Tim 1:7 Spirit Not of Fear/Timidity Power, Love, & Self-Discipline
- Romans 12:1-2 Present your life as a sacrifice \*With renewed thought – step two

#### • Life

• I John 2:6 – If you say it – LIVE IT! Live as He did

--- John 5:8 - "Get up, take up your bed, and walk." ---



