

## A. SERMON SLIDES

Slide 1: Title  
Let Justice Roll  
Amos

Slide 2:  
Amos 5:18-24 (ESV)  
Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!  
Why would you have the day of the LORD?  
It is darkness, and not light,  
as if a man fled from a lion,  
and a bear met him,  
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,  
and a serpent bit him.  
Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,  
and gloom with no brightness in it?  
“I hate, I despise your feasts,  
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.  
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.  
Take away from me the noise of your songs;  
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.  
But let justice roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Slide 3:  
Amos 8:4-8 (ESV)  
Hear this, you who trample on the needy  
and bring the poor of the land to an end,  
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,  
that we may buy the poor for silver  
and the needy for a pair of sandals

and sell the chaff of the wheat?”

The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:

“Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Shall not the land tremble on this account,

and everyone mourn who dwells in it,

and all of it rise like the Nile,

and be tossed about and sink again, like the Nile of Egypt?”

Slide 4:

Amos 9:11-12 (ESV)

“In that day I will raise up

the booth of David that is fallen

and repair its breaches,

and raise up its ruins

and rebuild it as in the days of old,

that they may possess the remnant of Edom

and all the nations who are called by my name,”

declares the LORD who does this.

Slide 5:

Melody Line of Prophets

1) Sin (Roots)

2) Judgment (Trunk)

3) Yet Grace and Mercy (Crown)

Slide 6:

Bible Study (History)

Saul

David (Greatest King)

Solomon (Most prosperous)

Rehoboam/Jeroboam (Divided Kingdom!!!) I Kings 12

Slide 7:

Amos?

1) Southern Preacher goes to the North

2) No Vocational Training

3) Everything is great!!!

Slide 8:

7 Oracles of Judgment

- 1) Woe to you, Damascus
- 2) Gaza
- 3) Tyre
- 4) Edom
- 5) Ammon
- 6) Moab
- 7) Judah

1 more!  
8) Israel

Slide 9:

- I. What is the problem? (Sin/Roots)
- II. What is the reason behind/under this problem? (Sin/Soil)
- III. Is there any hope?

Slide 10:

Case for Sin  
Injustice

Slide 11:

Amos 5:24

But let justice roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Slide 12:

Righteousness = Tsedaqah, which means:

Right relationships between all people

Equity despite differences in race, socioeconomic, cultural differences

Slide 13:

Justice = Mishpat, which means:

The concrete actions to combat or correct unrighteousness

Slide 14:

Biblical righteousness = God's blessings to me are for the community

Biblical wickedness = God's blessings are primarily for me

Slide 15:

Reason for this Rottenness of Behavior

They had Forsaken God

Slide 16:

Rejection of God leads to withholding, then to active abuse of resources and people

(Think about that slide!)

Slide 17:

Any Hope...Please?

Slide 18:

Someday the True King would return, and justice and righteousness would heal and unite the world.

Slide 19:

When will this Day of the Lord come?

- 1) Already has
- 2) Is yet to come

Slide 20:

Amos 8:9-10 (ESV)

“And on that day,” declares the Lord GOD,

“I will make the sun go down at noon  
and darken the earth in broad daylight.

...I will make it like the mourning for an only son  
and the end of it like a bitter day.”

## **B. GROUP DISCUSSION**

1. Amos was a prophet sent by God to awaken and judge a comfortable and prosperous people. What kinds of challenges does that represent?

2. Are we as Americans sleepy and comfortable? If so, what kind of messages do we need? If you are personally not, what kinds of messages do you need?

3. The ideas behind biblical righteousness and justice were intertwined. Our world working together as it should. The rain is righteous when it falls upon the earth. The earth relies upon the rain, and the rain was

meant to fall upon the earth. They are both giving and receiving in a system of justice.

Talk together about how this idea could change our perceptions about those in need.

What is it like to be the earth when the sky refuses to open? What is it like to be the river when the earth refuses to share the excess rain, the ocean when the rivers refuse to flow, etc.?

4. Read these words from Job who considered himself to be righteous: What is his basis for righteousness?

Job 31:13-23

13 *"If I have denied justice to any of my servants,  
whether male or female,*

*when they had a grievance against me,  
14 what will I do when God confronts me?*

*What will I answer when called to account?*

15 *Did not he who made me in the womb make them?*

*Did not the same one form us both within our mothers?*

16 *"If I have denied the desires of the poor  
or let the eyes of the widow grow weary,*

*17 if I have kept my bread to myself,  
not sharing it with the fatherless—*

*18 but from my youth I reared them as a father would,  
and from my birth I guided the widow—*

*19 if I have seen anyone perishing for lack of clothing,  
or the needy without garments,*

*20 and their hearts did not bless me  
for warming them with the fleece from my sheep,*

*21 if I have raised my hand against the fatherless,  
knowing that I had influence in court,*

*22 then let my arm fall from the shoulder,  
let it be broken off at the joint.*

*23 For I dreaded destruction from God,  
and for fear of his splendor I could not do such things.*

5. What is the Hope for reversing the injustice in our world?

In what way has it happened, and in what way is that Hope still to come?

6. Prayer and praise