

Amos, pt.1, 2.10.08  
Becoming the Revival  
Amos 9.12-15

## Introduction

1. Read text; The Message reads, “Things are going to happen so fast your head will swim, one thing fast on the heels of the other. You won’t be able to keep up. Everything will be happening at once and everywhere you look, blessings!.”
  - a. Revival atmosphere...the KOG advancing all over the planet. North America – in the time of the roller coaster going up the first big hill...harvesting of harvesters
  - b. Olin Boles statistics.
  - c. Too long, we’ve waited for the revival, let’s become the revival...the place where God touches down and changes the landscape...too long we’ve asked for something that God has called us to be.
2. I am contending for this for my life, family, Willow, community & this nation...it happens when we become the revival.
3. Purpose of the Amos series – to allow God to expose, confront and eradicate sin so that we can live passionately for Him.
  - a. Matt.13.41 – ask Him to do this (**Pray together**)
  - b. Rev.2-3 – Jesus tells these churches to deal with sin or He would deal with it...when Jesus deals with it w/o your cooperation it will be painful...like a doctor performing surgery on you w/o any anesthesia.
  - c. Jesus will reveal it, but you must deal with it.
  - d. Word from 11.17.07 – Quick Obedience
    - i. Ill. – 2 walking together & one walks away, but later returns...he loses ground
4. Characteristics of Revival
  - a. Personal experiences – early 70’s; Glenview BC; Tarleton; late 90’s at Willow;
  - b. Passion for Jesus and His Kingdom

- i. Not based on personality type
    - ii. We can't change this culture w/o being fiery...that is we must be totally committed to God's agenda/kingdom.
    - iii. In order for the Kingdom of God to radically invade a territory, it has to be carried by radicals. Jesus said, "The Kingdom of God is forcefully advancing & forceful men lay hold of it."
    - iv. Consider all the major movements (good or bad) in politics, science, morals, arts, economics...erupted from a radical or a group of radicals (people who thought outside the box and worked to be heard)
  - c. Radical obedience to God and radical intolerance for sins
    - i. My big fear – hearing the truth, agreeing with it, but it doesn't change me...mental assent but no fruit bearing. Having truth lodged in our mind isn't the same as bearing the fruit of it in our lives
  - d. Major transformation in your life & community
    - i. Might happen suddenly or gradually; you aren't the same
    - ii. Great faith that God can & will do the impossible
  - e. My vision for Willow – this isn't my dream, it's God's will.
5. Indicators that Revival is needed: (from OT)
- a. Sexual sins abound and embraced
  - b. Injustices towards the innocent – violence towards women, children, unborn & elderly
  - c. Complacency & sinful compromise w/in the Christian community – Mt.24.12, sin lulls us to sleep; the hardest place to be fiery is in a warm environment; if it's cold you're forced to be hot; if it's hot you easily become hot; if it's warm you grow complacent
  - d. Religious syncreticism – combining false religions, teaching, worldly perspectives with true Christianity
  - e. Natural disasters – floods, fires, famines, major destruction – 2 Chron.7.13

## 6. Review Purpose

### 7. Summary of Amos

- a. Historical & Geographical Context – 1.1
  - i. Jeroboam II; mid 700's BC; Divided Kingdom ;(MAP)
  - ii. Time of economic & political stability, even growth.
- b. Geographical Context – Samaria was the capitol of the N. Kingdom.
- c. About Amos – 7.14–15
- d. Religious condition – worshipping idols set up at Dan & Bethel; form of worship; spiritual & moral decline; due to their complacency & prosperity the people saw no need to turn from their sins.
- e. After Jeroboam's death everything begins to spin out of control – 2 Kings 14
- f. Quickly review Amos 1 – 2

### 8. Conflicting Viewpoints

- a. The God of the OT changes once we get to the NT
  - i. OT God judges sin & disciplines people
  - ii. NT God is full of mercy & kindness
  - iii. Expl – God didn't change; in the NT He revealed to us the fuller expression of His love. We believe in progressive revelation...God reveals Himself in greater detail and with greater clarity.
  - iv. The difference of 1000's of years of history in OT, vs 60 years of history of the NT
- b. God doesn't discipline nations any longer
  - i. Matt.22.7; Luke 19.41–44
  - ii. Acts 12.20–23 (similar to Neb in Daniel)
  - iii. Rev.6–20
  - iv. I believe that God sometimes allows for active discipline, such as New Orleans, droughts, Northridge earthquake.
  - v. His discipline is often in the form of passive discipline...he lets the nation experience the bitter fruit of its sin. Deut.28 is a good picture

- vi. The purpose of God issuing personal and national discipline is the same – to bring us to repentance so we can fulfill our destiny.
9. Summary: As we go through Amos, let's allow God to expose, confront and eradicate sin so that we can live passionately for Him.