

Amos, pt.4, 3.9.08
Becoming The Revival

Introduction

1. Review Purpose – Amos 9.13 & end time harvest; to allow God to expose, confront and eradicate sin so that we can live passionately for Him. Every move of God that I'm aware of always began with confronting sin, but it didn't end there.
2. Cali, Colombia Revival, 1994 – Present
3. A big part of becoming the revival is facilitating the justice of God in our area. The collapse of the Cali drug cartels & the dismissal of corrupt police officers were acts of justice; churches uniting around prayer and outreach were acts of justice. Justice happens when God gets His way;
 - a. Mark 4 & John 11 – he's indignant b/c of the injustices of death & sickness.
 - b. Watching lady at Schlitterbahn whose body was crippled...the reason I'm so passionate about healing is b/c it's an issue of justice – God getting his way
 - c. Children neglected; abused elderly person; student who can't get an education b/c his family needs him working rather than in school; a person wrongfully convicted b/c his lawyer didn't even try to put up a defense; corrupt business person who swindles people of their money; etc. Inside us, there's a rumbling that says, "That's not right...not fair...unjust!"
 - d. That surging, rumbling, stirring is justice

Amos 5.18-24

Context: Last weeks message – Listen to God's voice; Deal with the Issues; today – Live the Solution.

The people were thinking that God was with them. They had material blessings, political stability, were chosen by God as a nation, & practicing their religious beliefs. God says, "You're worship is polluted because you

are oppressing the poor, living in immorality and serving the gods of other nations.”

They thought they could do no wrong b/c they were fulfilling their religious obligations. God is for us & He's going to destroy our enemies when He comes to judge the world.

Read Text

5.18–20: They thought the “day of the Lord” would mean their deliverance from nations oppressing them. They would be exalted as a nation and all others would be destroyed. “We’re serving God & He’s on our side. We win!!!” Rather, it would be a time of moving from one level of discipline to another.

5.21–23: God despise their religious activity. Similar to 4.4f

v.21 – I hate; v.22 – I reject; v.23 – Away from me. The word “Hate” means the total resources of God are set against them. Why does He hate it so much? 5.7, 10, 11a, 12 – INJUSTICE!

5.24: Justice is moral practice/action; Righteousness is moral principle/values. You can't have one w/o the other. The heart and hands are in sync with the other. What we value and how those values are expressed to others is critical in our relationship with God.

“I want to see a mighty flood of justice” God says he wants to see justice pour out of you. God has placed justice inside of us and it wants to roll out of us like a river...to be expressed. It isn't supposed to be suppressed but rather directed.

Appl – The reason you get so upset (cry or anger or passionate) when you either see injustice or justice is b/c there is a river of justice surging in you. It's far more than being high strung or emotional. It's why MLK & other civil rights leaders would not be dissuaded despite threats on their

lives & hardships faced at every turn...when we see mass genocide we are outraged – Cambodia & Rwanda.

It was to be expressed through Israel these ways – 5.14f; Is.1.10–17; Hos.6.6; Micah 6.6–8

Like a mighty river and a never ending stream, justice & righteousness will not be subdued in a person who properly stewards them. But they can be subdued in people who intentionally suppress these activities.

Suppressing Justice

We suppress justice by pressing to get our way. Greed, the lust for power, self centeredness (“I want everything to revolve around me.”), selfishness (“I want to be first...”), lack of concern for others, hamper & eventually dry up the river of justice inside of us. The justice streams flows out of us, but when we turn it inward it eventually dries up.

Justice is also suppressed through perversion/twisting of truth. This is witnessed in 5.18–20. They had no clue that the “day of the Lord” would bring disaster. They saw it as good thing, b/c they had twisted truth so long. By justifying their sins and false beliefs, they were given over to a lies & perversion (Rom.1). This is why righteousness/moral principles needs to be cemented into our spirits, so that we don’t succumb to false beliefs which in turn leads to injustice.

The fear of man is another force in suppressing justice. We are

Expressing Justice

1. The Kingdom of God
 - a. Justice and the KOG are synonyms. Justice is when God gets His way. The KOG is the reign of Jesus expressed in every

part of my life. Wherever you see – hope, healing, wisdom, truth, abundance, salvation, beauty, order in the natural, spiritual or emotional level that is the KOG & justice.

- b. Justice and the will of God are synonyms. Whenever you address a wrong or propagate truth you are doing the will of God; you are bringing the justice of God to bear.
2. The Activity of the Holy Spirit – often, whenever the HS manifests he brings justice.
- a. He brought order to a formless, empty and dark earth (Gen.1.2f.)
 - b. He came upon Othniel, Gideon, Jephthah, Samson to break oppression off God's people.
 - c. He came upon Saul (1 S.11) & led to the deliverance of a city under siege & destruction of the enemy.
 - d. He came upon Jesus and after the temptation with Satan he went forth preaching the gospel of the Kingdom & healing the sick.
 - e. He descended upon the early believers on the day of Pentecost & they shared their wealth with each other so that everyone had their needs met.
 - f. The HS was drawn to Cornelius (Acts 10) b/c of his justice towards the poor. You draw the presence of the HS when you address an injustice or continue an expression of justice.
 - g. The reason you are moved by an injustice & you react to justice is b/c the HS is stirring the waters inside of you. will be expressed and I believe the Lord will have you focus that river
 - h.
3. From your life – inside of us is an ever flowing river that wants out.
- a. We have to steward the river. We often look at the injustice and direct the river at God in the form of accusation & ask, "Why aren't you doing something about this?" The river needs to be pointed not in accusation but in intercession towards God and then in action when He directs.
 - i. Luke 18 through intercession and

- ii. God gives us strategy to become the answer to the prayer. The kids at B'wood raising funds for children in Uganda who live a life undersiege.
 - b. How it's released from our life will always look different from how it's released in others. For some it might come in the form of engaging the political process, writing letters to the editor to shape public opinion, praying for the sick, collecting food, animals, environment
 - i. Diane Oakes – given her life to bring justice
 - c. This river wants to help, make a difference, stand up for the little guys, fight for life, restore.
 - d. Your part is to release it when you encounter injustice or want to further justice. It might cost you friends, money, position, time or even your life, but it is the “pearl of great price” and it's worth it.
 - e. Where is the river rumbling in you?
4. Decreeing it – Janet's word for Freeport
Justice is