Sunday, July 30, 2017

Lesson Text: Amos 7:10-17

King James Version (KJV)

I. AMOS’ MESSAGE CHALLENGED (Amos 7:10-13)

10. Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel: the land is not able to bear all his words.

11. For thus Amos saith, Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel shall surely be led away captive out of their own land.

12. Also Amaziah said unto Amos, O thou seer, go, flee thee away into the land of Judah, and there eat bread, and prophesy there:

13. But prophesy not again any more at Bethel: for it is the king’s chapel, and it is the king’s court.

II. AMOS’ MESSAGE AUTHENTICATED (Amos 7:14-15)
14. Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet’s son; but I was an herdman, and a gatherer of sycomore fruit:

15. And the Lord took me as I followed the flock, and the Lord said unto me, Go, prophesy unto my people Israel.

III. AMOS’ MESSAGE REINFORCED (Amos 7:16-17)

16. Now therefore hear thou the word of the Lord: Thou sayest, Prophesy not against Israel, and drop not thy word against the house of Isaac.

17. Therefore thus saith the Lord; Thy wife shall be an harlot in the city, and thy sons and thy daughters shall fall by the sword, and thy land shall be divided by line; and thou shalt die in a polluted land: and Israel shall surely go into captivity forth of his land.

New International Version (NIV)

I. AMOS’ MESSAGE CHALLENGED (Amos 7:10-13)

10. Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent a message to Jeroboam king of Israel: “Amos is raising a conspiracy against you in the very heart of Israel. The land
cannot bear all his words.

11. For this is what Amos is saying: “‘Jeroboam will die by the sword, and Israel will surely go into exile, away from their native land.’”

12. Then Amaziah said to Amos, “Get out, you seer! Go back to the land of Judah. Earn your bread there and do your prophesying there.

13. Don’t prophesy anymore at Bethel, because this is the king’s sanctuary and the temple of the kingdom.”

II. AMOS’ MESSAGE AUTHENTICATED (Amos 7:14-15)

14. Amos answered Amaziah, “I was neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees.

15. But the Lord took me from tending the flock and said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’

III. AMOS’ MESSAGE REINFORCED (Amos 7:16-17)

16. Now then, hear the word of the Lord. You say, “‘Do not prophesy against Israel, and stop preaching against the
descendants of Isaac.’

17. “Therefore this is what the Lord says: “‘Your wife will become a prostitute in the city, and your sons and daughters will fall by the sword. Your land will be measured and divided up, and you yourself will die in a pagan country. And Israel will surely go into exile, away from their native land.’”

PRACTICAL POINTS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Those who are only concerned about their own lusts and greed always see the messengers of God’s truth as enemies. (Amos 7:10-11).

2. We should not live under the illusion that speaking the truth will bring us acceptance in this world; very often it won’t (Amos 7:12-13; John 15:18-19).

3. More often than not, God calls ordinary people to accomplish His will (Amos 7:14-15; I Corinthians 1:26-31).

4. Successful servants speak only by God’s authority and not their own (Amos 7:16).

5. People may reject God’s judgment, but that won’t stop it.
If God said it, that settles it (Amos 7:17)!

***The Bible Expositor and Illuminator, Union Gospel Press***