

Discussion Questions - 3/19/23
Judgment at Noonday - Amos 8

Here are three basic questions you can always ask in any bible study:

- What does this text teach us about God?
- What does this text teach us about ourselves?
- If this text is true, what should we do to obey this teaching? This answer ought to be specific, in that it can be clearly measured.

Here are some specific questions about this text:

- Read Deut. 10:12-16. What does the practice of true spirituality consist of? God's people in Amos were physically attending worship regularly but their hearts were focused on increasing profits. Why is this a problem?
 - Why is it so important that our hearts and our actions match to God?
 - Where do you find conflict between your heart and your actions?
- What specific sins were the people guilty of in this chapter?
 - What are the messages our culture sends about the importance of work over rest?
 - What is your practice of rest like for yourself, and family?
 - If you were able to rest more in God, what changes would be made to your attitude towards your work?
- Inability to rest leads to ongoing oppressive dynamics, especially ones that hurt the poor.
 - How does the fact that Jesus identifies with the poor and at the same time takes the judgment oppressors deserve give you insight into God's love and character?
 - How does Jesus give us true rest when we turn to him?