

Discussion Questions - 3/26/23

A Time to Break Down & a Time to Build Up - Amos 9

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:

- Vs. 1-10 are the final words of judgment in the book of Amos (a time to break down). What surprises you most in these verses?
- In vs. 1-10, God warns his people against the sin of presumption. They presume that because God liberated them from Egypt and has a special covenant relationship with them that God will not judge them for their sins.
 - Read vs. 7,8.
 - In what ways do we presume upon God in our individual/corporate lives as Christians?
 - What is a proper posture to have in relation to God?
- Vs. 11-15 are words about the rebuilding of God's people after judgment.
 - Why do you think God ends this book with a word of hope and not judgment?
 - How were these promises in vs. 11-15 understood in light of the New Testament (cf. Acts 15)?
 - Why does this continue to give us hope today?
- "This person is beyond the reach of God's grace."
 - Have you ever thought that about someone in your life?
 - How would Amos respond to that statement given what we learn in vs. 11-15?