

Amos Part 15 – I Will Pass Thru the Land

Key Verses: Amos 5:14 – 5:23

In our day of the Lord, the elect of God who are being judged now (1Pe 4:17) are always learning. That is the function of grace and the purpose for our being punished for our sins and wicked ways. It is the occasion the Lord seeks to bring about and end to our flesh and our sins. This is the process of dying daily that ushers in the newness of life in Christ Jesus.

Rom 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Rom 6:5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also *in the likeness of his* resurrection:

Our faith grows and we mature through the experience of evil the Lord sends to us (Ecc 1:13, Psa 37:9). The repetitive nature of our falling down seven times is to devour any confidence we have in ourselves and in the flesh. As verse 5:13 showed, the wise will be silent (still) and endure the process of judgment with patience knowing it is how we are given the righteousness of the Lord. The sooner we are still; the sooner Jesus Christ is being exalted in our earth.

Psa 46:10 Be still, and know that I *am* God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

Here are the verses for our study of Amos's words regarding the coming of the Lord.

Amo 5:14 Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the LORD, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken.

Amo 5:15 Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.

Amo 5:16 Therefore the LORD, the God of hosts, the Lord, saith thus; Wailing *shall be* in all streets; and they shall say in all the highways, Alas! alas! and they shall call the husbandman to mourning, and such as are skillful of lamentation to wailing.

Amo 5:17 And in all vineyards *shall be* wailing: for I will pass through thee, saith the LORD.

Amo 5:18 Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end *is* it for you? the day of the LORD *is* darkness, and not light.

Amo 5:19 As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him.

Amo 5:20 *Shall* not the day of the LORD *be* darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?

Amo 5:21 I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies.

Amo 5:22 Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept *them*: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts.

Amo 5:23 Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not hear the melody of thy viols.

Seeking good is seeking the Lord and not turning or wresting away the judgment of God. No man can enter into Christ any other way but by going through judgment (Rev 15:8, Exo 6:6). This the only way and we are refusing it at first but in the end, we most certainly drink the cup.

Jer 25:28 And it shall be, if they refuse to take the cup at thine hand to drink, then shalt thou say unto them, thus saith the LORD of hosts; **Ye shall certainly drink.**

This is the process is bringing death to the old man, the man of sin and our carnal thinking and ushers in the newness of life in Christ. Seven times the Lord tells us that judgment is coming to us that are prideful, trusting in appearances and being hypocrites (saying and not doing).

Mat 23:27 **Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!** for ye are like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness

The Lord is showing us that the power of God is not in our words but in power of our actions.

1Co 4:20 For the kingdom of God is not in word, **but in power**.

We become doers of the Word and are justified by faith as we are living by every word (Mat 4:4, 1Co 3:21) which is revealing to us what we are as flesh and blood. We can only glory in Christ.

Jer 9:23 Thus saith the LORD, let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches:

Jer 9:24 But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.

The only way to seek the Lord is to be given the zeal and ability to lay down our lives. It is costing us everything to follow Jesus Christ (Luk 14:33) and only the Lord can prepare us to pay that price. It is a wonderful thing and a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. The new man is blessed and the old man is destroyed as we establish justice in our gates.

<p>Amo 5:15 Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.</p>

Before we are dragged to Christ we have no judgment in our gate and know not the peace of the Lord. We will first trust in vanity which is our perverted knowledge (double minded man) that mixes truth with carnal thinking and thereby wrests away righteous judgment.

Isa 59:4 None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity.

When we begin to guard our gates, and stand in faith and wait on the Lord to perform His Word in us, then we are establishing judgment in our heavens. **This is faith in action.**

Pro 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

Mat 7:7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

Mat 7:8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

This all sounds so wonderful and it is, but only for the new man. Be careful what you ask for! The Lord of Hosts is a Lord of unlimited armies in heaven and in earth. The Lord answers our prayers of faith when they are aligned with His will that is not a secret.

1Th 4:2 For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus.

1Th 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:

1Th 4:4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;

Establishing judgment is done by aligning God's will with our walk. This leads to the prayer of faith as the Lord taught. Putting knowledge into action is praying this without ceasing.

Mat 6:10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

The Lord is establishing judgment in our gates now via the trials, suffering and afflictions that teach us and cause us to love one another (1Th 4:9) as we are humbled and our pride departs.

Amo 5:16 Therefore the LORD, the God of hosts, the Lord, saith thus; Wailing *shall be* in all streets; and they shall say in all the highways, Alas! alas! and they shall call the husbandman to mourning, and such as are skilful of lamentation to wailing.

Amo 5:17 And in all vineyards *shall be* wailing: for I will pass through thee, saith the LORD.

The Lord passing "through thee" speaks of the coming of Christ inwardly which is where the Kingdom of God is found in this age (Luk 17:20-21). The Hebrew word H7130 is used to derive the "through" in "pass through". Yet this word is the primary word for midst, within or inward. The Lord passing through the land is the second coming of Jesus Christ within us for salvation. He is now in His Temple **inwardly** working righteousness as we live by every word of God.

Eze 2:9 And when I looked, behold, an hand was sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book was therein;

Eze 2:10 And he spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.

Turning us back to the Lord (granting repentance) is the Lord's work in us (Psa 90:3) and this is His goodness (Rom 2:4) and the wonderful works of Psa 107. His army executes His word.

Joe 2:11 And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp *is* very great: for *he* is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD *is* great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

Joe 2:12 Therefore also now, saith the LORD, **turn ye even** to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:

As God's elect, it is upon us to whom this grace first appears and reveals to us our sins against the Lord and those we are piercing. Flesh has got to go and the carnal mind which remains at enmity with the ways of God must be done away. The Lord only turns us back to Him when we know the truth but are not doing the truth. When we come to see our sins, and come to know that we truly are the chief of sinners without Christ (1Ti 1:15), we wail and mourn over all the abominations we are committing in the land.

Jer 9:19 For a voice of wailing is heard out of Zion, how are we spoiled! we are greatly confounded, because we have forsaken the land, because our dwellings have cast us out.

Eze 9:4 And the LORD said unto him, go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.

Rev 1:7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth **shall wail** because of him.

It is the husbandmen of the Lord, you and me if we are His people; that is first spoiling the field and losing the spiritual harvest of the Lord.

Joe 1:11 Be ye ashamed, O ye husbandmen; howl, O ye vinedressers, for the wheat and for the barley; because the harvest of the field is perished.

The Lord's vineyard is being taken from the old man and been given the new man. One is taken from the field and the other (new man) is left (Mat 24:40).

Luk 20:14 But when the husbandmen saw him, they reasoned among themselves, saying, this is the heir: come, let us kill him, that the inheritance may be ours.

Luk 20:15 So they cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What therefore shall the lord of the vineyard do unto them?

Luk 20:16 He shall come and destroy these husbandmen, and shall give the vineyard to others. And when they heard it, they said, God forbid.

Rachel weeping for her children (Jer 31:15, Mat 2:18) is a shadow of the Body of Christ who is the mother of us all (Gal 4:26, Mat 12:48-50). Like Rachel died in bringing forth Benjamin (Gen 35:15-16), so we too will give up our life to bring forth the children of the Kingdom for the Lord.

Col 1:24 Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

2Co 1:6 And whether we be afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer: or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation.

1Co 12:26 And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

Our entry into the kingdom is with much tribulation as we are being fed judgment, hated by the world and always bearing the reproach of Jesus Christ with death always working in us. We are there to hold each other up, bring comfort and pray for one another that we ARE BEING SAVED.

Joe 2:16 Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet.

Joe 2:17 Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, where is their God?

We need the Body and to be in fellowship to be spiritually healthy. A NT version of Joel 2 is this.

Jas 5:14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

Jas 5:15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

Death brings new life. In the same way, mourning our destruction brings joy in the end.

Ecc 7:2 It is better to go to the house of mourning, than to go to the house of feasting:

for that is the end of all men; and the living will lay it to his heart.

Going through this painful process and mourning our death and destruction of our former life, is bringing joy in the end.

Psa 30:5 For his anger *endureth but* a moment; in his favour *is* life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy *cometh* in the morning

Mat 5:4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Isa 61:3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

Being thrown into outer darkness is needed for us to come and see our blindness. It is the Elect, the first children of the Kingdom who are judged and go through outer darkness.

Mat 8:12 But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth

Joh 9:39 And Jesus said, for judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.

Seeking the Lord is seeking judgment in this age which brings the three woes (spiritual progression of judgment) that we live out in the Book of Revelation.

Amo 5:18 Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end *is* it for you? the day of the LORD *is* darkness, and not light.

Amo 5:19 As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him.

Amo 5:20 *Shall* not the day of the LORD *be* darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?

We have heard the saying “it’s always darkest before dawn”. That is also a truism of the coming of Jesus Christ within us as the old is being destroyed as the new is coming forth. But it is a process as the darkness does not at first understand the light or the purposes and ways of the Lord.

Joh 1:5 And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

We come to understand the light (i.e. know the Lord) only by judgment and that by the Word performing its work in us. We won’t know Him in truth and in Spirit until we are given to eat the true bread from heaven (Christ’s dying flesh) and drink the new wine of the renewed Covenant.

Deu 29:6 Ye have not eaten bread, neither have ye drunk wine or strong drink: that ye might know that I am the LORD your God

The new wine is dripping down from Mt. Zion (Joe 3:18) and is sanctify us by the washing of the Word. Yet this new light initially turns our old light (the old wine and our sun) into darkness. Consequently, we stumble and are being snared and taken (Isa 28:13, Act 2:20).

Pro 4:19 The way of the wicked is as darkness: **they know not** at what they stumble.

Isa 59:10 We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we

stumble at noonday as in the night; we are in desolate places as dead men.

We cannot run or hide from the Lord's hand. There is no escape, only the learning righteousness and patience in the day of His wrath. There is no other way into Christ except by living through the seven vials of wrath poured out by the seven angels of God (Rev 15:8).

Job 34:22 There is no darkness, nor shadow of death, where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves.

Rev 6:15 And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

Rev 6:16 And said to the mountains and rocks, fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

Rev 6:17 For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

The Lord has devised means to return His people to Himself and He is using spiritual lions, bears and serpents to bring judgment and punishment to His people. This is the chastening of a loving God to His children which seems so unpleasant at first (Heb 12:11). Falling into sin and believing lies are all part of the Lord's work to bring the occasion for the Lord to bring us out of darkness and into the marvelous Light that is Christ.

1Ki 13:26 And when the prophet that brought him back from the way heard thereof, he said, it is the man of God, **who was disobedient unto the word** of the LORD: therefore the LORD hath delivered him unto the lion, which hath torn him, and slain him, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake unto him.

Num 21:6 And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

The Lord is shaking out all things in heaven and on our earth, such that only the unshakable things of Jesus Christ is remaining (Heb 12:26-27). The Lord despises our filthy works of self-righteousness (Isa 64:6) and the outward sacrifices we perform to make ourselves acceptable to the Lord.

Amo 5:21 I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies.

Amo 5:22 Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept *them*: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts.

Amo 5:23 Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not hear the melody of thy viols.

We do have an altar that only those within the veil of Christ can eat (Heb 13:10). Yet the sum of the Word that is truth makes it clear that feasting (eating and drinking on knowledge of the Scriptures) is not the primary outcome, it is only a means to the end.

Rom 14:17 (NKJV) for the kingdom of God **is not eating and drinking**, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Luk 13:26 Then shall ye begin to say, **we have eaten and drunk in thy presence**, and thou hast taught in our streets.

Luk 13:27 But he shall say, I tell you, I know you not whence ye are; depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity.

Of far greater importance is that we walk in love and obey the foremost commandment in Spirit and in truth. We must remember the definition of the love of God which is our obedience.

Joh 15:9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.
Joh 15:12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

Our offerings to the Lord are not acceptable to Him unless they are built upon a burnt offering which symbolizes **a sacrificed life** to the Lord and His Christ. Such is our reasonable service (Rom 12:1) in Christ.

Joh 15:13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Eph 5:2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

We come to acknowledge the Lord in all things and give Him the glory in all things as otherwise our offerings are rejected as were Cain's (Gen 4:5). The Peace Offering is symbolic of how we find peace with the Lord. That only comes through living a sacrificed life and it is this offering that nourishes us and enable us to endure to the end of our judgment.

Lev 3:5 And Aaron's sons shall burn it (the peace offering) **on the altar upon the burnt sacrifice**, which is upon the wood that is on the fire: it is an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD.

A broken spirit is a life laid down for the Lord that is dead to SELF. This is sweet smelling to the Lord and the true sacrifice the Lord demands. Dying daily is how eternal life is possessed.

Psa 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

2Co 2:15 For we are unto God **a sweet savour** of Christ, in them that are saved, and **in them that perish**:

Believing we and the brethren are **beloved in the Christ** and are exactly where we are supposed to be (Psa 139:16); is done by faith in the promises of God. This faith is needed to find true peace and stop trying to justify ourselves by the works of our hands. Faith is the substance of things not seen (Heb 11:1) and therein lies the patience of the saints in waiting for this coming hope to appear WITHIN us and others in the appointed times.

Rom 5:1 Therefore being justified by faith, **we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Rom 5:2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and **rejoice in hope** of the glory of God (*being revealed in us*).

Tit 2:13 Looking for **that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing** of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;

The Lord shuts His ears from hearing our feigned worship and the outward appearance of righteousness (Pro 1:28). A double minded man serves SELF and we are told to expect to receive nothing to advance our man of sin and our self-righteousness (Jam 1:7).

Isa 59:2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Jas 4:3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

It is only as we are being redeemed by judgment that we are taught to sing the new song in the assembly of the saints that is pleasing and sweet to the Lord's ears and nose.

Rev 14:3 And they sung as it were **a new song before the throne**, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, **which were redeemed from the earth**.

It is those who overcome and are standing on the sea of glass (overcoming the flesh) that are singing the new song that the Lord is pleased with. The words of the new song acknowledge the great works of the Lord and the justice in His judgments in all His ways.

Rev 15:3 And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, **Great and marvellous are thy works**, Lord God Almighty; **just and true are thy ways**, thou King of saints.

Next week Lord willing, the Lord is still passing through the land and bringing judgment as our sins and abominations are exposed so righteousness can be learned.