

Scripture Text

Amos 9.11-15

Context

In the days in which Amos prophesied the dynasty of David was in great ruins - and the temple was itself soon to be destroyed. The surrounding nations were constantly opposed to God's people. Amos comes to deliver a message of judgment, but surprisingly this judgment would begin with God's people rather than the surrounding nations. Because of the people's unfaithfulness God would have to judge them, yet the book ends with this final passage which speaks of hope for the remnant in which God would restore David's fallen tent and usher in hope for the nations.

Observation and Meaning

- Who is going to do all the 'work' in this passage? List all the things that will be done and note who says that they will do it.
- What is 'that day' which is spoken about in verse 11?
- What is the booth of David that is fallen? What does the NT tell us about the link between Jesus and David?
- What is the purpose for which this booth will be raised up? How does Acts 15 help us understand this passage being fulfilled?
- What does it mean for the ploughman to overtake the reaper and the treader of grapes him who sows the seed? What kind of a picture of restoration is being painted for us in these verses?

Big Idea

God will act to restore a true King in the line of David that will restore His people and usher in a hope for the nations that will never be thwarted.

Connecting to the Whole Bible's Story Line

In the garden of Eden God was rejected as Adam and Eve's true King. God's people later asked for a king but they were all fallen and did not lead to true flourishing for God's people. In this passage God promises to raise up a king in the line of David who will restore His people's fortunes.

Sermon Outline

1. The story up until now
2. What the passage says and means (v11-15)
 - The powerful God who will act to fix our mess (v11-14)
 - The promise to fix our mess by raising up David's fallen booth (v11)
 - The ultimate purpose for which God will raise up David's booth (v12)
 - A picture of what this coming Kingdom will look like (v13-15)
3. How to live in the light of this passage
 - We should have our lives and imaginations shaped by God's promises
 - We should trust the meek and mild King who has come
 - We should tell the nations about this great King

Application

- What is the right response to such a great promise from God to us?
- Verse 12 tells us that the purpose of this restoration is that the nations might come to know God. How can we be involved in letting the nations know about this great King who has come and is coming again?
- What would it look like for your imagination and longings (faith) to be shaped by the promises of this Kingdom described in verses 13-15?
- How can we faithfully live as a 'remnant' now whilst we wait for the coming of this King?

Guide for Study Leaders

Use the C.O.M.A. (Context, Observation, Meaning, Application) method to work through the biblical text.

Context

Pay attention to the surrounding verses, paragraphs, chapters, events, etc. to see how this passage fits within the context of this particular book of the Bible.

Note how this passage fits within the larger story line of the whole Bible, i.e. how God is saving a people through Jesus Christ to live under his rule in his place.

Observation & Meaning

Make careful observations of the biblical text. Notice details such as linking words (e.g. "for", "if", "therefore"), repetition, dialogue, narrative, OT quotations, etc.

To understand the meaning of the biblical text, we need to discern the author's purpose or intent: Why is the biblical author writing this?

Helpful questions to ask include:

Who is writing and to whom?

What is the situation of the author and of the readers?

Are we made aware of any problems that need to be addressed?

Are there any repeated themes, or a single idea that holds everything together?

Application

Apply God's word to the heart. Move beyond merely addressing circumstances and behaviour by asking good "heart" questions. For example: Why do we do what we do? What do we really desire?

Always connect the gospel to application. For example, what difference does knowing Christ make to our obedience to God?

Ask what the passage teaches us about God, ourselves, salvation in Christ, the church, the world, etc.