

Loving Discipline

Amos 3:1-4:3

If you love someone...

when is it good to make things _____ for them?

when is it good to make things _____ for them?

What do we expect God to do in our lives?

Amos, the minor prophet

What was the setting?

Time of peace and _____ (~760BC)

_____ (north) will be conquered in 722BC

_____ (south) will be conquered 586BC

Who is Amos?

Shepherd & fig farmer from _____ (southern kingdom)

whom God told to go to _____ (northern kingdom)

What was the message?

God's judgment is coming against _____ people

Chapters 1-2 (October 6, 2019)

God's perfect ways will come and _____ will come
to the unjust, the oppressors, and the rebellious
in _____ the earth

Amos 3

1-2: Israel's special relationship brought special _____

Judgment is for _____ and for Judah

Yet a special message for Israel came through a man called from _____

God's emphasis:

You are the ones I _____ and I rescued

You _____ against me

Therefore, you are the ones I will _____

3-8: Israel's coming destruction is from _____

Walking in fellowship requires _____

Israel & God are no longer in _____

A lion's roar, a sprung trap, the warning trumpet all show that disaster is _____

The prophet's warning shows that disaster is _____

Will the people appropriately _____ God?

Believe even when God speaks _____ words

Take seriously the warning of coming _____

9-12: Israel's _____ witness against them, and destroy them

Even their enemies who don't know God can see the trouble and _____ that is in Israel

Key: _____ (but socially acceptable) wealth

_____ will do God's work of judgment

Tear down _____ and take away _____

Literally: "stored up _____ and robbery"

Leg bones and piece of ear: evidence of _____ destruction

13-15: God is the one bringing judgment

He will destroy their _____

The problems with their religion:

_____ ["worship"] without _____ [justice]

Vertical is _____ and corrupt

He will destroy their _____

Gathered through _____ of the weak

4:1-3: _____ oppressors will be judged as well

Women oppress the poor through their _____

They are just as _____

Having treated others as _____, they will be captured and treated as _____

The Big Idea:

**God will judge the _____
and He will also discipline His _____
so they will _____ in Him**

A special _____ with God (being children)

brings extra _____ and discipline

not less

Luke 12:47-48

Christians have _____ responsibility before God, not _____!

Sometimes because we have done _____

Sometimes because we are making _____ progress!

Application:

Believe that God is using ' _____ ' and ' _____ ' situations to make us more like Christ

Very often what makes us grow is what we find _____ or _____ or _____

God is genuinely working for our _____

His goal is not 'making life _____ for us'

Yet He is still a _____ God

Romans 8:28-30

God wants us to be _____ and faithful and _____ like Christ

That growth comes through _____

Growth comes when we encounter ' _____ challenges' that God allows & _____

Take growth in Christ and obedience to Christ _____

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

We should seek growth in Christ the way people _____ for the Olympics, or to become a distinguished professor, or to be the top artist, or to get a job, or ...

NOT so that we can try to _____ God's love

But _____ we already are God's deeply loved children, and He wants us to flourish!

Submit to God when _____ or disciplined

"The lion has roared—who will not fear?" Amos 3:8

Hebrews 12:4-13

So when we encounter trouble, we should ask...

Is there _____ in my life that requires repentance?

How might God be using this to help me grow in Him?

Use times of trouble to reinforce our _____ and trust

For you, is crying out to God automatic in trouble?

If not, then clearly more _____ is needed!

Reflection Questions

- How has God used challenging times in the past to help you grow in Him?

- How have you seen the negative consequences of sin lead to positive growth in your life?
- What might “Take growth in Christ and obedience to Christ seriously” look like in our lives?
- In what ways might God seek to confront us, much as Amos the prophet did for Israel? How can we be sure to hear God’s rebuke? What is a good way to respond to that rebuke?