**The Books of Amos and Obadiah**

*September 2022*

*All Scripture is breathed out by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. (2Tim.3:16)*

The Prophet Amos

Historical Context

Israel – Her Neighbors and their crimes (map)

“ Thus says the Lord: For three transgressions of Israel, and for four, I will not revoke the punishment; “ (Amos 2:6)

“And I raised up some of your children to be prophets and some of your youths to be nazarites. Is it not indeed so, O people of Israel? says the Lord.

But you made the nazarites drink wine, and commanded the prophets, saying, ‘You shall not prophesy’” (Amos 2:11 - 12)

Dangerous business

“ yet you did not return to me” (Amos 4:6,4:8, 4:9, 4:10,4:11)

“Seek” (Amos 5:5, 5:6, 5:14)

Rudy (movie)

“ The Lord God has sworn by himself: I abhor the pride of Jacob” (Amos 6:8)

“ you who rejoice in Lo-debar, who say, “Have we not by our own strength taken Karnaim for ourselves?’” (Amos 6:13)

Judah –southern kingdom Israel – northern kingdom

**The Book of Obadiah**

“ Your proud heart has deceived you, you that line in the cleft of the rock, whose dwelling is in the heights. You say in your heart, “ Who will bring me down to the ground?”

Image/ Petra

Pride – “high” - excessive preoccupation with self, one’s importance, achievements, status or possessions. The sin is considered rebellion against God because it attributes to one’s self the honor and glory that only God is due. (Antonym: humility)

Romans 1:30

“And the kingdom shall be the Lord’s” *(Obad. 1:21)*

***Questions for Consideration***

1. Who is a character that exhibits pride in the Bible?
2. In the face of the Israelites pride, what does God “do”? (Amos 2:7, 4:6-9)

 What is God’s design here? (Amos 4:8,4:11)

3. Re-read Amos 2:9-12 - What has God done for us? What has he done for you?

4. Is this enough “evidence” for you? (Amos 2:9-13) Can you surrender to his plans? Re-surrender? Yield? Submit? Supporting scripture below.

5. What has God put in place that you are trying to un-do? What are you trying to keep that he will surely take?

Pray

Supporting Scripture

Not that we are competent of ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our competence is from God. (2 Cor.3:5)

“I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.” (John 15:5)

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. (Romans 12:3)

The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord established his steps. (Proverbs 16:9)

Nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and all things. (Acts 17:25 Acts 17:25-31)

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. (James 1:17)

“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.” (Hebrews 4:12)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, do not rely on your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge him and he will make your path straight. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. (Isaiah 40:28)

For we walk by faith, not by sight. (2Cor. 5:7)

All deeds are right in the sight of the doer, but the Lord weights the heart….. Haughty eyes and a proud heart – the lamp of the wicked—are sin. (Proverbs 21:4)