

Major Words from Minor Prophets – Amos

We hear a lot about justice today, but what does justice mean in the Bible?

Amos 5:24 But let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Amos 7:14-15 “I was neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees. ¹⁵ But the LORD took me from tending the flock and said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

1. God is _____ and expects us to act with justice.

Amos 6:1 Woe to those who are at ease in Zion...

Amos 4:1-3 Hear this word, you cows of Bashan who are on the mountain of Samaria, who oppress the poor, who crush the needy, who say to your husbands, “Bring now, that we may drink!” 2 The Lord GOD has sworn by His holiness, “Behold, the days are coming upon you when they will take you away with meat hooks, and the last of you with fish hooks. 3 You will go out *through* breaches *in the walls*, each one straight before her, and you will be cast to Harmon,” declares the LORD.

- We are _____ to God for how we treat others.

2. The _____ of others is our concern.

Amos 5:14-15 Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and thus may the LORD God of hosts be with you, just as you have said! 15 Hate evil, love good, and establish justice in the gate! Perhaps the LORD God of hosts may be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Proverbs 11:1 A false balance is an abomination to the LORD, but a just weight is His delight.

Matthew 7:12 In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

God is the standard for justice:

Amos 7:7-8 Thus He showed me, and behold, the Lord was standing by a vertical wall with a plumb line in His hand. 8 The LORD said to me, “What do you see, Amos?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said, “Behold I am about to put a plumb line in the midst of My people Israel. I will spare them no longer.

- What are some things you can do to help establish justice in the gate?

3. Religion is no substitute for _____.

Mark 7:11 ...but you say, 'If a man says to *his* father or *his* mother, whatever I have that would help you is Corban (that is to say, given *to God*),'

Amos 5:21-24 I hate, I reject your festivals, nor do I delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer up to Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept *them*; and I will not *even* look at the peace offerings of your fatlings. 23 Take away from Me the noise of your songs; I will not even listen to the sound of your harps.
24 But let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

4. God blesses us so we can _____.

Amos 3:2 "You only have I chosen among all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

Genesis 12:2 And I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing.

Isaiah 30:18 Therefore the LORD longs to be gracious to you, and therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the LORD is a God of justice; how blessed are all those who long for Him.

What are some ways you can bless others through ways God has blessed you?