

Prophetic Pictures

Amos 7 & 8

Learn this great lesson: An appeal to justice will save no one. All would be condemned by God's justice. But if you will forget your pride, abandon such arrogance, and instead ask for mercy, you will find Christ who died on calvary that our sin might be covered.

J. Montgomery Boice

I. The Revelation

II. The Rejection

Into the Bible

1. Scripture tells us that God is the righteous judge (Psalm 9:8, Deuteronomy 32:14). His standard against whom all must be measured is His own perfect character. Christ reinforces this in Matthew 5:48 by calling on us to be similarly perfect like God Himself. But if we are aware that we are not perfect and that we sin, how can God in His justice give us the “crown of righteousness” promised in 2 Timothy 4:8?

Application

2. Amos was not the product of the religious schools of his day, he was a picker of figs and a shepherd. But when he is challenged about his lack of credentials as a prophet, he responds that he has merely been faithful to answer God’s call (Amos 7:14-15) Paul reminds us that it is God who chooses who will be His spokespersons in 1 Corinthians 1:26-29. While this passage can be a comfort to us in that we don’t have to be amazing to be used by God, how does that passage also challenge us reminding us that we are all called to present the Gospel as God’s faithful witnesses?

3. God repeatedly told His people through the prophets that their continued attempts at following the forms of worship—sacrifices and feast days—are not true worship, and that He is not pleased. (Isaiah 1:11-13) What do Psalm 51:17 and Hebrews 13:15 point to as things characteristic of the true worship that we should bring to God? Are there things we do as “worship” that fail to please God?

For Families

4. Talk with your children about how we should worship God.