

Standing with God & Man

Amos 7

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Thesis: I want to show the importance of standing with God & making a plea for man at the same time.

Intro: 1. Mankind has often times went to God on behalf of another.
2. Amos was one who stood up for man.

I. The Three Visions

A. The Vision of the Grasshoppers/locusts

1. The crops would be affected after the king had collected his part for taxes (**v.1**)
2. Amos saw the devastation and made a plea to God (**v.2**)
3. The plea of Amos touched the heart of God (**v.3**)
 - a. The prayer of an individual can have such profound influence on God (**James 5:16**)
 - b. The Lord “repented” (KJV) in that He was willing to show compassion. (God “relented”, yielded, NKJV)
 - c. The prayer of Amos acknowledged the Divine assessment (**Amos 7:2,5; cf 1 John 5:14**)
 - d. Prayer looks for God’s mercy to man to triumph over His wrath. The plea of Amos was “forgive” and “cease” (Amos 7:2,5)**

B. The vision of fire (**Amos 7:4-6**)

1. The fire from the Lord would affect both sea and land (Amos 7:4).
2. Amos made a plea for Jacob/Israel.
3. God again responded to the plea of one person.

C. The vision of the plumb line (**Amos 7:7-9**)

1. The plumb line was an instrument to assist masons in building.
2. God’s plumb line revealed a crooked wall in Israel.
 - a. Their religion was corrupted by idolatry.
 - b. Their lives were distorted by injustice, greed, and immorality.
3. God’s pronouncement (Amos 7:9)
 - a. Some calamities had been averted by Amos’ pleas.
 - b. God’s patience had gone beyond the limit with Jeroboam and Israel.

II. The Encounter with Amaziah

A. The charge of conspiracy (**Amos 7:10-11**)

1. Amos was potentially the king’s best friend.
2. People have often turned against those who could have saved them much hurt and sorrow.
 - a. The response to Jeremiah (Jer 20:26)
 - b. Paul’s question (Gal 4:16)

B. The charge of selfishness (**Amos 7:12-13**)

1. One knows why Amaziah was serving as a priest; what he could get, not give.

C. Amos was used by God to accomplish His will (**Amos 7:14-16**)

D. Amaziah and apostate Israel would suffer (**Amos 7:16-17**).

III. Lessons for Us Today

A. God hears the prayers of His followers.

1. He listens to those who follow Him (**Isa 59:1**).

2. He listens to the pleas of mankind (**Ps 120:1**).

B. Never stop praying to God

1. We should pray to God no matter what is going on in our lives (**1 Thess 5:17**).

2. God never stops hearing the prayers of the saints (**1 Jn 5:15**).

C. We must choose God over man.

1. Amaziah wanted Amos to stop addressing Judah(v.12), but He would not (v.16-17).

2. Amos prayed for man but He always obeyed God and chose God's ways over man's.

Application & Conclusion:

1. We must never stop praying for the faithful and the struggling.

2. We must be brave and smart enough to follow God over man.

3. Full Invitation

Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9