

Justice and Righteousness in Amos

The prophet Amos had an urgent and serious message from God: God accused his people of grievous injustices. Pervasive oppression and exploitation in their society tainted their worship. God's messages in Amos help God's people today better understand the intrinsic connection between our daily lives and our worship. Together, we'll study how Amos' words illustrate God's definition of righteousness and justice, and we'll discover a guide for practical living and God-honoring worship.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- What would you say are the important elements necessary for God-honoring worship?
- How would you define or explain justice or injustice?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [*Justice and Righteousness in Amos*](#)

READ [Amos 1-9](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- Reread [Amos 2:6-7](#). Do you think our modern societies are guilty of any of these sins today? Why or why not?
- In segment 1, hosts Darrell Delaney and Scott Hoezee discuss Israel's lack of genuine, heartfelt worship, noting their participation in worship was more superstitious ritual than genuine, God-honoring worship. What questions might we ask ourselves to examine our own hearts and evaluate our own motivation for our worship?
- In segment 2, Scott and Darrell discuss how God set up a system that benefitted the poor and vulnerable (widows, orphans, immigrants). Still, Amos accused Israel of deviating from God's system in favor of idolatry, immorality, and breaking the law. Where around you do you see glimpses of people following God's system of justice and mercy today? Where do you see examples of selfish systems of injustice today?
- In segment 3, Darrell and Scott discuss how Jesus "always could spy the marginalized person...and Jesus becomes their advocate...the one who picks up their case and speaks on it, because either their voice has been diminished or taken away altogether, and Jesus shows us how we are to live." Trying to change a whole system yourself is overwhelming to think about. Who do you SEE that is unfairly affected by a system of injustice? Consider your gifts and spheres of influence. How are you equipped to help? How can you contribute toward change in that area?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Jeremiah 7:1-11](#), [Isaiah 1:11-20](#), [Leviticus 19:9-10,33-36](#), [1 Peter 5:5](#), [James 4:4-10](#), [Proverbs 3:34](#), [Micah 6:8](#), [Matthew 5:1-12](#), [Galatians 6:9](#), [Luke 6:17-26](#), [Matthew 25:31-46](#), [Romans 12:1](#)

CONCLUSION

The book of Amos is clear: there is a strong connection between how we live our lives all week long and the genuineness of our worship. Reread [Romans 12:1](#). Then think about your worship holistically. How is your worship impacted by how you spend your time during the week and how does your worship impact your week?

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