

FIRST COVENANT CHURCH Sunday November 14, 2021

Sermon Notes

AMOS YHWH ROARS FROM ZION

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Amos Chapter 7

Pastor Adam Christian | First Covenant Church, River Falls | www.rfcov.org

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Go Deeper . . .

Use these questions for further study individually or in a small group

Read Amos Chapter 7

Twice God sets out to punish Israel and twice God relents because of Amos' prayers and intercession. What does this teach us about God? What does this teach us about the role of prayer?

In the third vision God makes clear that "I will spare them no longer" and this time Amos does not intercede and pray for God to spare Israel. What does this teach us about God? What does this teach us about the role of prayer?

In vs 14-15 Amos explains that he is not a prophet by trade, training, or choice, but by call. Has God ever called you into a role, position, or task which you would not have chosen for yourself? How did you respond?

Amos faces stiff opposition from Amaziah and Jeroboam because his preaching is considered dangerous to the king, the state, and the status quo. What teachings from scripture make you uncomfortable or feel dangerous to the status quo today? What is a healthy response in this situation? Name a time when a deeply held belief of yours was challenged by scripture and you allowed your belief/position to be changed. How did you meet God in the process?

Amaziah and Jeroboam seek the quick-fix of silencing Amos rather than doing the hard work of listening to God and confronting sin. Where do you personally struggle with this temptation? Where do you see our society struggling with this temptation? Where do you see the Christian Church struggle with this temptation?

When Amaziah tries to silence Amos he is actually trying to silence the Spirit of God. How do we as Christians make sure we do not fall into this same trap? How do we make sure we make space to hear what The Spirit wants to say rather than just making space for what *we* want to hear?

Additional Resources:

Social Justice Handbook: small steps for a better world by Mae Elise Cannon Everyday Justice: the global impact of our daily choices by Julie Clawson The Hole in Our Gospel by Richard Stearns Welcoming Justice by Charles Marsh & John Perkins

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