**THE LION ROARS**

**A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF AMOS**

**(THE PROMISE OF “*THAT DAY*”)**

Amos 9:11 - 15 Lesson 15

Main Idea: Though God destroys the nation of Israel, both in number and also their city, His ultimate goal is not destruction but rather restoration to the beautiful state He designed it to be. God is willing to destroy earthly kingdoms, whether nationally or kingdoms of the heart, to bring His people to the place where we will... *“seek first the kingdom of God*.”

Introduction – One year when I was probably about 8 – 10 years old (Bro. Spencer) I must have been a little more full of energy than I usually would have as an 8-year-old. Winter had broken and Spring was in the air and I was excited to *get outside and play*! I had apparently done something really, really aggravating to my mom because all of a sudden I heard the words… “*Phillip Lee… I’m grounding you inside for the whole summer!”* A knife went through my soul!!! I went over to the windows and just stared and cried… She made a comment while I was at the window that went something like this… “*When summer’s over you can go out and play ball tag with your friends and go back in the woods and play, but for now you have to stay in here ALL summer.*”

Now… that lasted about an hour and I think my mom figured out *she* was the one being punished and not me… so I got to go outside… But her previous words were... “*At the end of summer, you can go out and play.”*

While the content of the book of Amos has been one of darkness and judgment, the bookend God puts at the end of Amos has one of the brightest contexts of any book of the Bible. For nine and a half chapters God pronounces judgment and sure destruction. But the heart of God’s mercy breaks through the dark clouds in these last five verses. He gives the promise of *better days to come.*.. Let’s see how He defines it for us.

1. **THE DESCRIPTION OF “*THAT DAY*.”** vs. 11
   1. Oh my… God is speaking about *better days* alright. This “*day”* that God is talking about is the Millennium, the thousand-year reign of Christ as the Messiah of Israel finally takes His throne and reigns and rules with a rod of iron.
   2. The “*rod of iron”* is an indication of God’s absolute control during this time. Iron is an unbendable metal and is an indication of God’s unbending leadership during the Millennium.
   3. God tells Israel through Amos… that the kingdom and the palaces and the great walls that have been destroyed will be built again.
   4. Israel, who has been scattered and fragmented will be built up again. The ten tribes were taken into captivity first and then Judah. But God will bring all the broken pieces of the nation back together and heal the *breaches*. God will restore it to its former glory… *and even better… Satan will be bound these thousand years!*
2. **THE REUNION OF “*THAT DAY”*,** vs. 12 –
3. During this time God tells them that they will possess the *remnant* of Edom, the brother of Israel. (*Genesis 36:8 Esau is Edom*). If you’ll remember, in chapter 1:11, 12, God judged Edom for their persecution of Israel. (Turn there).
4. Though there is only a remnant left after God’s judgment, now, in the Millennium, they are taken into the fold, the family of God.
5. And not only them, but ALL of the heathen that are *called by my name.* God *calls* them, they *receive* the call and then God calls them *by His name.* The heathen turn to the Lord!
6. This is a verse that James references in **Acts 15:16**  **After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up**: **Acts 15:17 That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things**.
7. James is using these verses to encourage the early church to receive Gentiles into the church. So these verses in Amos are clearly speaking about how the Edomites... Gentiles... would come to the Lord.
8. This is speaking about two specific timeframes: (1. The gospel age when millions of Gentiles would come to the Lord and (2. Also when the Gentiles would come to God during the Thousand Year Reign of Christ!
9. HEY!! Those better days for Israel somehow have included the Gentiles! Amen! We who were so contrary to Israel in the OT have been shown mercy and have been grafted in! Thank God for His mercy!

**III. THE ABUNDANCE OF “*THAT DAY”,*** vs. 13, 14 –

1. God describes how abundant the crops would be during this Millennial Reign. The crops will be so abundant that those who are trying to get the large quantity of crops in will be overtaken by those who are ready to plow the fields for the next planting. The crops will be so plentiful that it takes more than an entire harvest season to gather them.
2. What a nice problem! It will just be evidence of what things could be like if God was in full control. What a lesson for us today!
3. God’s people will come back to rebuilt cities and enjoy the abundant harvest and blessing of God. This is in contrast to how it used to be when Israel would plant vineyards and sow grain in the fields only to have their enemies come as they are ripening and violently rob them of their bounty. God will be in control during this time and He will prevent any thievery or looting.
4. What an encouragement for us today to make sure God is in control of our lives so that we can enjoy the full benefit of His blessings rather than have Satan spoil us and rob us of God’s best for us! **Malachi 3:11** teaches us... “**And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts**.” This promise was conditional on us obeying his command to tithe.
5. Today we are to obey God’s Word as well and allow Him to provide our needs. **Matthew 6:33 “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you**.”
6. Many passages and verses reference this great Millennial Kingdom and its conditions: Isaiah 2:2-4, 65:25, Micah 4:1-3, Zechariah 8:3, 14:16 among many others. These are exciting verses that give us a glimpse of what “*that day”* is going to be like!

**IV. THE PERMANENCE OF “*THAT DAY”,*** vs. 15

Reference verses: Dan. 2:44, 7:27 Isaiah 60:21 Jeremiah 24:6 Ezekiel 37:25

1. Everybody seems to want Israel to back out of their own land today and give it to the Palestinians. (Much could be expounded on here today). But in *that day* Israel will come and partake of the fruit of the land and… *will never be moved out of their land again… ever!* It was given to them by God and God will ensure that they will own it forever.
2. If there were any Jews who had not backslidden to the point of scoffing at Amos but were actually listening to this message of hope, they would have to be encouraged to know that somewhere down the road better days were coming.
3. **Ezekiel 34:28**  tells the Jews, “**And they shall no more be a prey to the heathen, neither shall the beast of the land devour them; but they shall dwell safely, and none shall make *them* afraid**.”
4. **Isaiah 11:6**  gives us a peek into the kind of protection and peace the Jews will be provided...   
   “**The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them**.” Sounds like some kind of utopia right?
5. And that’s exactly what it’s going to be... after Israel’s repentance from their rebellion against God for the last time, God sets up His millennial kingdom with Christ as the King and His people experiencing a *“Garden of Eden”*  existence.
6. For the Christian today, there’s a message of hope for us! We may be experiencing days of hopelessness and bondage. Times may be difficult and health may be failing. You may be discouraged and wondering if this is all there is to this life…
7. But God tells us "**And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.**"  **Galatians 6:9...** Also we are told,  **“...weeping may endure for a night, but joy *cometh* in the morning."  Psalms 30:5**

**Discuss:**

1. We are told earlier that Israel would possess the *remnant of Edom.* What was Edom’s relationship to Israel?
2. When does “*that day”* occur on God’s prophetic, end time calendar?
3. Describe in as many examples as you can what “*that day”* will be like.
   1. Concerning crops
   2. Concerning safety
   3. Concerning duration