



Sunday, November 22, 2009: Being A Man of God

Scripture: Amos 7

Speaker: Joe Boot

Sermon Notes:

1. This text answers the question about the promise made to God's elect: what does it mean to be a man of God?
2. In history God always preserves a remnant of faithful people.
3. According to Deuteronomy 7:7-8, God calls some people simply because He has set His love upon them.
4. As a creature under God, you can't work out in your own mind the mystery of everything God has revealed to us concerning His electing love.
5. **I. To be a man of God means we're to be intercessors (people of prayer).**
6. Prayer is one of the means God uses to bring about His purposes in history.
7. Amos takes God's side, stands with God's Word and prays according to His Word.
8. We're called to take God's side; we're not to take the side of sin, even if it involves conflict with our loved ones.
9. Amos intercedes, invoking God's covenant promises.
10. Though total judgment would have been righteous, God "relents" in Amos 7 verse 3 and 6.
11. God doesn't make mistakes as He governs history. God uses the term "relents" to communicate to the human mind that He is not an unfeeling God of impersonal fate.
12. Similarly in Genesis 18 God "relents" of His plan for destruction of Sodom if there be 10 righteous people in the city.
13. **II. To be a man of God is to be a man or woman of the covenant.**
14. God's Word, His self-revelation, is the plumb line – Amos 7:8
15. The law is the verbal revelation of God's character to His people. Leviticus 19:2
16. In Romans 1 we see that the law of the covenant is known to unbelievers as well as God's people.
17. The grace of law and the law of grace make up the plumb line of God's covenant with His people.
18. God's covenant condemns those who seek righteousness by the law, and it also condemns those who claim the privilege of grace to reject obedience to the law.
19. In the high places of Israel the people committed ritual fornication, an occult practice to increase fertility.
20. Similarly, today, in an attempt to 'govern reality,' TV preachers say visualize it and get it, or 'think positive' and it shall be.
21. Sovereignty speaks to the ultimate authority to which we owe allegiance.
22. Courts claim deity when they act as the source of law.
23. **III. Being a man of God is to be a man or woman of courage.**
24. Amos 7:12 – Amos receives veiled threats, but he relies on the authority of his calling and the authority of God's revelation.
25. So Amos spoke God's word boldly back to Amaziah.
26. When we preach Christ as sovereign, it is an attack on all other claimants to sovereignty.
27. The state and the church are both to be ministers under God.

Application Questions:

1. How does knowing that we are creatures help us to submit to the mysterious truths God has revealed to us?
2. In what ways is God challenging me in Amos 7 to be more of a man or woman of God in Prayer, the Word, and Courage?
3. If God makes no mistakes governing history, explain why the Bible says God "relents" of judgment.
4. What is the place of grace and what is the place of law in the believer's relationship with God?
5. What is the reason God calls some people? See Deut 7:8-11
6. Discuss aspects of the believer's security in Romans 8:31-39
7. How is Amos like the apostles in Acts 5:28-29?
8. Is Christ my King, or do I have another sovereign in my life?
9. Are there areas of my life where my opposition to God's word is bringing destruction on my family? Cf Amos 7:17