

The Lord's Prophet

November 8, 2015

Text: Amos 3:3-8

I. A Series Rhetorical Questions (3:3-6)

- A. The Functions of the Questions
- B. Walking Together in Agreement – God & His People (3:3)
- C. A Roaring Lion & His Prey (3:4; 1:2; 3:8)
- D. A Bird in a Snare (3:5; Eccl 9:12; Prov 7:21-23)
- E. Disaster in a City (3:6; Isa 45:6-7)

II. The Lord & His Prophets (3:7-8)

- A. The Source of Prophecy: The LORD
 - 1. Contrast: True & False Prophets (3:7; Jer 23:18, 21-22)
- B. The Necessity of Prophecy (3:8; Jer 20:9)
- C. The Purpose of Prophecy (3:8; Jer 23:28-29)

III. The Final Prophet

Quotations

“The future which was the subject of his prediction was not merely ‘coming events’, an exercise in crystal-gazing or fortune-telling; it was ‘God’s future’, the coming acts of God as arising out of the nature of God and His reaction to affairs on earth... The point is that it is not correct to speak of a prophetic privilege of prognostication but of a *prophetic privilege of knowing God. Prediction came about as part of the prophet’s conscious fellowship with the Lord.*” —Alec Motyer, emphasis added

“The true prophet cannot ignore Yahweh’s voice any more than sensible people can ignore the roar of a lion.” —Douglas Stuart

“Amos, as a faithful prophet of the Lord, must himself sound a warning of judgment that is not unlike that trumpet blast. In a similar fashion, the prophetic warnings in the Bible as a whole anticipate the trumpet blasts that will sound when the Lord returns with his hosts to work judgment on the earth and redemption for his people.” —Jeff Niehaus

Reflection Questions (for personal reflection and family conversation):

- 1. What parallels do you see between the prophecy of Amos and the teaching of Jesus in the gospels?
- 2. What is the relationship between prophecy in the Old Testament period and preaching today?
- 3. What role do Christians have today to be modern day “prophets”? Having learned God’s secret counsel revealed in his Word, do you feel a burden to warn others of the coming judgment?