

SESSION 2: The Poverty of Prosperity: Starved of the Word of God

Song Selection: Trinity #619 *A Shelter in the Time of Storm*

Scripture: Amos 8:11-12

Q: what does it mean to have a famine of the word?

- Amos 8:11-12 “Behold, the days are coming,” declares the Lord GOD, “when I will send a famine on the land—not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD. *They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, to seek the word of the LORD, but they shall not find it.*”
- WCF 1.4, 1.6, 1.9, 1.10
- 1.4 The authority of the holy Scripture, for which it ought to be believed and obeyed, dependeth not upon the testimony of any man or church, but wholly upon God (who is truth itself), the Author thereof; and therefore *it is to be received, because it is the Word of God.*
- 1.6 *The whole counsel of God, concerning all things necessary for his own glory, man’s salvation, faith, and life, is either expressly set down in Scripture, or by good and necessary consequence may be deduced from Scripture: unto which nothing at any time is to be added, whether by new revelations of the Spirit, or traditions of men. . . .*
- 1.9 The infallible rule of interpretation of Scripture is the Scripture itself; and therefore, when there is a question about *the true and full sense of any scripture (which is not manifold, but one)*, it must be searched and known by other places that speak more clearly.
- 1.10 *The Supreme Judge, by which all controversies of religion are to be determined, and all decrees of councils, opinions of ancient writers, doctrines of men, and private spirits, are to be examined, and in whose sentence we are to rest, can be no other but the Holy Spirit speaking in the Scripture.*

1. The necessity of standards (illustrations)
2. Spiritual anemia
3. The problem of “experiential” knowledge
4. Scripture as the “plumb line”
5. Troubling statistics
6. Two views of scripture: Jehoiakim and Josiah