

The 12: Amos - One
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Reflection & Discussion Questions

Amos has a lot to say about injustice

We need openheartedness and humility to see ourselves in his words.

Read and discuss Jonah 5:6-12(NIV)

⁶ *Seek the LORD and live,
or he will sweep through the tribes of Joseph like a
fire;
it will devour them,
and Bethel will have no one to quench it.*

⁷ *There are those who turn justice into bitterness
and cast righteousness to the ground.*

⁸ *He who made the Pleiades and Orion,
who turns midnight into dawn
and darkens day into night,
who calls for the waters of the sea
and pours them out over the face of the land—
the LORD is his name.*

⁹ *With a blinding flash he destroys the stronghold
and brings the fortified city to ruin.*

¹⁰ *There are those who hate the one who upholds
justice in court*

and detest the one who tells the truth.

¹¹ *You levy a straw tax on the poor
and impose a tax on their grain.
Therefore, though you have built stone mansions,
you will not live in them;
though you have planted lush vineyards,
you will not drink their wine.*

¹² *For I know how many are your offenses
and how great your sins.
There are those who oppress the innocent and take
bribes*

and deprive the poor of justice in the courts.

*What do these verses teach us about God? What do they say about people?

*How is Amos challenging hearers to step into God's dream for his people?

Justice is in God's very nature; He is perfectly just

We have to use God's standard to evaluate injustice.

*How can we honor progress we've made in societal or cultural injustice while working towards His perfect standard?

God hates our spirituality when we ignore injustice

God evaluates our spiritual health by our alignment with him.

Read and discuss Jonah 5:21-24(NIV)

²¹ *"I hate, I despise your religious festivals;
your assemblies are a stench to me.*

²² *Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them.*

*Though you bring choice fellowship offerings,
I will have no regard for them.*

²³ *Away with the noise of your songs!
I will not listen to the music of your harps.*

*24 But let justice roll on like a river,
righteousness like a never-failing stream!*

*How is worship about aligning with God?

*Do these verses shake you a little bit?

To worship God we have to care about justice and work against injustice

3 questions that can help us:

Are you volitionally responsible for injustice?

Are you accidentally complicit in injustice?

Are you in a position to help with injustice that has nothing to do with you?

*How are humility and openheartedness essential to asking and answering these questions?

*How would you use this framework to address an injustice you see in our world?

*What do you sense God is inviting you to see about injustice or His dream for His people?

Visual reflection (Visio Divina)* [Justice Like Waters](#) by Unknown Artist

Song for reflection [Instead of a Show](#) by Jon Foreman