

MON) September 16**Ch. 13 - When they were full, they became arrogant**

This chapter points out two sins of Israel. Israel became so strong that surrounding nations trembled (during the time of Jeroboam II). They did not realize that this was from God. What are the two sins pointed out in this chapter?

- 1) V. 1: They was exalted (.....).
 2) V. 2: They make for themselves (.....).

*From the beginning, there was no savior other than God (verse 4). Everything is protected by God. When Israel was full, they forgot God who had cared for them so much in the wilderness. This was despite Moses's dire warning (Deut. 8:11-20). It is a sad reality that a comfortable life, a life of blessings given by God, actually causes people to forget God?

Ch. 14 - Who is wise and intelligent enough to understand these things?

The chapter consists of a final appeal to return to God (vv. 1-3) and a promise of blessings for those who return (vv. 4-9). If Israel, who had turned away from God in pride and idolatry, repented and returned to God with the Word (v. 2), God promised to forgive their rebellion and love them (v. 4). Who understood Hosea's message?

"Whoever is wise, let him understand these things; whoever is discerning, let him know them; for the ways of the Lord are right, and the upright (.....) in them, but transgressors (.....) in them."

TUE) September 17**Joel 1 - Therefore, the joy of man has dried up.**

The land was devastated by the plague of locusts (verse 4) and all the produce of the land was destroyed (verse 12). As a result, the grain offerings and drink offerings in the temple of the Lord were cut off. (verse 13) What did Joel prophesy the nation to do? "Consecrate a (.....); call a solemn (.....). Gather the (.....) and all the inhabitants of the land to the house of the Lord your God, and (.....) out to the Lord."

*The saints must always keep their ears open to hear God's teachings through the suffering they experience in this world and in life. When God takes away the pleasures of our lives, it is the time to listen to what God wants to say.

Ch. 2 - After that, I will pour out my spirit on all people

The day of the Lord that is coming will not be a day of salvation but a day of judgment. Before that day comes, people should repent and turn to God. The prophet's message that follows describes the grace of restoration that is given after repentance (vv. 18-27). God will also pour out His Spirit on all people. This is not only for the restoration of Judah, but also for the restoration of God's chosen people throughout the world.

"And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the (.....) shall be (.....)."

Ch. 3 - The Lord will be the refuge, the stronghold for His people

Joel's message, began in chapter 1 with God's judgment on locusts, expands to a universal judgment. Ultimately it is the way God fulfills His promise of gracious restoration for His people.

"Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision But the Lord is a (.....) to his people, a (.....) to the people of Israel."

WED) September 18**Amos 1 - For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four – Part 1**

Amos was a prophet who delivered the message during the time when the kingdom of Judah and the kingdom of Israel were enjoying their greatest economic and military golden age since the reign of Solomon. The Israelites took their wealth and prosperity for granted as God's blessings, but Amos had to say that it was not a blessing but a curse and that they were under God's imminent judgment. How will these nations (Israel and its five neighboring nations) receive judgment from God?

Ch. 2 - For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four – Part 2

Chapter 2 continues (from chapter 1) the prophecy of judgment against Moab, Judah, and Israel. The prophet points out the sins of the kingdom of Israel (verses 6-8) and reminds them of the grace God had shown to the Israelites in the past (verses 9-12). In particular, God not only gave them the Nazirites who were devoted to God's holiness, but also sent prophets to proclaim His words. But how did people treat the Nazirites and the prophets?

Ch. 3 - I will punish you for all your sins.

In this chapter, God speaks of the situation of the Israelites under judgment with seven questions. (Verses 3-8) Let us reflect on whether Israel, which received many prophecies and warnings through the prophets but failed to faithfully keep its covenant with God, is like us. God is still admonishing us with His words. "For the Lord God does nothing without revealing his (.....) to his servants the prophets."

Ch. 4 - Prepare to meet your God.

According to verses 4-11, God gave many warnings to Israel (famine, drought, various disasters, blight, mildew, pestilence, swords, etc.). What was Israel's response?

THU) September 19**Ch. 5 - Seek the Lord, and you will live**

Amos expected the Israelites to hear the word, repent, and return, but as in chapter 4, the Israelites' response was completely different. The prophet laments the coming destruction of Israel and delivers a message of hope that if they seek the Lord, they will live. "Seek (.....) and live; but do not seek Bethel, and do not enter into Gilgal or cross over to Beersheba; for Gilgal shall surely go into exile, and Bethel shall come to nothing."

*We often seek other things such as "Bethel" or "Gilgal" when faced with problems in our lives. God tells us that this is not the way to God.

Ch. 6 - I hate the glory of Jacob, I hate the palaces

Amos warns Israel, whose hearts were proud due to the success and prosperity of their king, Jeroboam II (verse 1). The prophet first declares that God will destroy their economic power (4-7), and then God will destroy the military power they relied on (8-14). At that time, the leaders of Israel lived luxuriously (verse 4) and indulged in pleasures (verse 5), but what did they not worry about?

Ch. 7 - Israel will surely be taken captive and removed from the land.

This chapter records three visions (visions of locusts, fire, and plumb line) that Amos saw. Amos prayed, and God relented so as not to judge Israel with judgment of locusts and fire. But, the judgment of the plumb line will be executed by God. A plumb line is a tool used to measure whether or not a building is erected vertically straight. Amos must have seen the crooked building of Israel next to the plumb line that the Lord had. If we imagine God standing before us, our families, and our churches holding a plumb line, how do we measure up before God?

Ch. 8 - Famine of not hearing the word of the Lord

This chapter records Amos' fourth vision in which God shows Amos a basket of perishable summer fruit to announce the imminence of judgment. When the Lord sends a famine on the land, what kind of famine will it be (not a famine of bread or water)?

FRI) September 20**Ch. 9 - I Will Plant Them in Their Land**

This chapter records the vision of the temple threshold (vv. 1-6) and the salvation and restoration of Israel. All five visions recorded in chapters 7 to 9 are visions related to God's imminent judgment. Nevertheless, God promises Israel's restoration. "I will (.....) them on their land, and they shall never again be uprooted out of the land that I have given them."

Obadiah Ch. 1 - As you have done, so it will be done to you

Obadiah was from Judah and is believed to have prophesied after the fall of Jerusalem (586 BC) and the fall of Edom to Babylon (553 BC). When Judah, which God regarded as the apple of His eye, was destroyed by Babylon, the Edomites rejoiced and tried to use the situation to their advantage. For this reason, Edom could not escape God's judgment. "The house of (.....) shall be a fire, and the house of (.....) a flame, and the house of (.....) stubble"

Jonah Ch. 1 - The Lord has already prepared a great fish

Jonah receives a mission to preach to Nineveh, which is full of sin, but he refuses and boards a ship heading in the opposite direction to Tarshish (Spain). As the storm at sea grows stronger, Jonah tells them to throw him into the sea (v. 12). What had God prepared for Jonah?

Ch. 2 - Jonah prays to the Lord in the belly of the fish

Jonah, in the belly of the fish, repents and decides to obey the mission to go to Nineveh. What did Jonah do while suffering the pain of death during his three days in the belly of the fish?

"When my life was (.....) away, I (.....) the Lord, and my (.....) came to you, into your holy temple."

SAT) September 21**Ch. 3 - God Changes His Mind**

Jonah boldly entered the city, walked around all day, and cried out, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" Ninevites' response was surprising. They did not oppose Jonah, but repented. What did God see in the people of Nineveh that made him change his mind and not bring about the disaster he had promised?

*Through today's message, we can see that we perish not because of our sins, but because we do not repent of our sins.

Ch. 4 - Should I not spare them?

God accepted Nineveh's repentance and changed his mind about judging them. However, Jonah's heart was greatly hurt by God's mercy (1). Although he finally obeyed and fulfilled his mission as a prophet after many twists and turns, Jonah hated the results of his ministry and even became angry at God. God taught Jonah about God's mercy and salvation through a gourd plant. Just as Jonah pitied the gourd plant, what did God pity?

Micah Ch. 1 - Jacob's transgression and the sins of the Israelites

The first message that prophet Micah delivered, like the messages of other prophets, was a message of judgment. When God comes out of the temple, the dwelling place of God, and treads on the high places of the earth to judge, the mountains melt and the valleys split apart (4). What is the cause of this judgment?

Ch. 2 - The one who opens the way goes up before them

The powerful and the rich in Israel lived only thinking about how to use their power to accumulate more wealth, and they did not care about unfair methods. In addition, too many prophets sold themselves to wine and strong drink. God's judgment will come for this, but the fact is clear that even in the midst of this, God testifies that He will save His remnant. When God restores, who will be the one who opens the way (their king)? (vv. 12-13)