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"Lets study and learn together about the living word of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ'



9 A.M each Sunday morning on 740 AM Radio



This is Friday Morning Devotion 10/18/2019

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The Good News Journal

"A Guide to Individual Improvement - Spiritually, Mentally & Physically"

Contact: Ronnie Miller Cell: 336-710-0217

E Mail: the_millers2001@yahoo.com Web Site: www.themillersbiblestudy.com

There must be a change of heart.

Amos 5:18 Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light. 19 As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him. 20 Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?

Amos was a shepherd and fig tree farmer. He lived in a small town called Tekoa which was located about 11 miles from the city of Jerusalem. But God called Amos to be a prophet and gave him a very important message to give to the nation of Israel. Amos made his prophecies around 750 BC according to history. During this period of time both the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah enjoyed wealth and reached a great political and military strength. But it was also a time of idolatry, fancy living, immorality and corruption in their leadership. Israel was politically secure and proud of their religious life style. They were content in their immorality and comfortable in their sin. But, they were confident they had a good relationship with God. Sounds like America today doesn't it? I personally believe there are many similarities to the nation Israel of 750 BC and the United States of America now.

To most people today America is the only remaining Super Power in the world. Although we have our troubles with the economy and many other things it is still one of the strongest in the world. But unfortunately the picture painted of America today is not what it is. Don't get me wrong I am proud of our country because I have seen the peace and harmony in America and how God blessed us after WW2 in our economy and the blessings of rural family life. Our churches were full and people were thanking God because they knew all blessings came from Him. I have watched as our country had many conflicts and wars in my life. But, came back stronger because we were worshipping and giving our Lord honor. Today America is corrupted, divided, self-centered political leadership that doesn't need God anymore. Crime and violence continue to increase. Especially violent crimes committed against our children and by our children.

Like school shootings, the killing of innocent family members and children being used as slaves by sick or possessed humans. But there is something even more disturbing to me and that is the spiritual outlook of America is darker now than it has ever been. Something has happened spiritually to America. I believe Gnosticism was a big part which means a doctrine of various religious. I believe Gnosticism was forced in our country by our own constitution of freedom rights. I wonder what Amos message would be today if he were prophesying to America? Would he say judgment is just around the corner? God keeps giving chance after chance for those to turn from their wicked way and turn to Him. Our God is merciful with much patience. Has America got time to change before judgment comes? If not, individuals do. Ask yourself a few questions and be very honest.

- 1. Can you see the sin of your neighbor and not see your own?
- 2. Are you doing the same sin without asking forgiveness and turning from it?
- 3. You think it's OK in Gods eyes if you are doing that same sin and never turning from it?
- 4. Why are you really going to church? Dump question? Think about it and answer yourself truthfully or why you don't go?
- 5. Do you see Jesus decorating you with honor for being such a good person?
- 6. Do you really know Jesus?
- 7. Most important individual question ever. Does Jesus know you?

Sin must be dealt with either here by forgiveness through Jesus Christ by asking Him into your life and a change must be evident according the Bible; 2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. If Amos were living today I believe he could say to America. You spend millions of dollars on convicted killer's prison for comfort yet you allow thousands of unborn babies to be murdered each year. You fill your movies theaters, TV with violence, invent games for children to teach them how to kill and then wonder why your children are murdering children. You fill the airways with alcohol commercials, legalize drugs, openly drink it in front of your children then you wonder why America has so many teenage addictions. There must be a change of heart! It would do everyone good to read Deuteronomy chapter 6 especially if you disagree with me. God doesn't expect us to be perfect but He does expect us grow in our walk with Him, if you belong to Him. Let's be honest with ourselves about our love for God and what Jesus Christ has done for us. Try to live a life as though He were watching you because He is.

Love in Christ Jesus Ronnie Miller www.themillersbiblestudy.com