

June 7, 2020
La Jolla Christian Fellowship
Sparking The Flames Of Revival
Episode 2: The Day Of The Lord.
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Amos 5:18-24

¹⁸Woe to you who long for the day of the LORD! Why do you long for the day of the LORD? That day will be darkness, not light. ¹⁹It will be as though a man fled from a lion only to meet a bear, as though he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall only to have a snake bite him. ²⁰Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light—pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness? ²¹“I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me. ²²Even 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. ²³Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. ²⁴But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!

Add Amos 5:24 to the list of most misunderstood verses in the bible.
Vs. 24 *But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!*

Understanding The Day Of The Lord

- *The day of the Lord is a day of judgment, true justice and salvation for those covered by the blood of Jesus.*
- **Old Testament** prophetic voices speak of a day of judgment upon the people of God while often using military imagery.
 - **Isa 2:12** *For the day of the **LORD of hosts** shall be upon every one that is proud and lofty, and upon every one that is lifted up; and he shall be brought low:*
- **New Testament** imagery and language speak also of a day of the Lord as terrible judgment and glorious salvation.
 - **1 Thessalonians 5:1-3** *Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ²for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” **destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.***
 - **Acts 2:20-21** *The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. **21** And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’*

Question: Which do you long for more: the justice and judgment of God or the grace and salvation brought through Jesus on the cross?

Vs. 18 *Woe to you who long for the day of the LORD! Why do you long for the day of the LORD? That day will be darkness, not light.*

Most of us want an ounce of justice but not a pound.

Romans 3:10-12 *As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God.¹² All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one."*

James 2:10 *For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.*

The greatest injustice ever committed was mankind killing the Son of God.

God's response to this injustice was to offer grace to those who committed the injustice by the very blood they shed.

Food For The Journey

Questions for digging deeper in personal reflection or in one of our small groups.

1. Are you a just person and if so would you be willing to stand before the Lord on the merits of your thoughts and actions?
2. Why do you think the prophet Amos issues a warning for those who long for the day of the Lord?
3. Are you a person who longs for the day of the Lord and if so, why?
4. Is it wise to preach against injustice without also preaching a message of salvation?
5. Instead of punishment for injustice, God offered grace. How does this understanding affect your view of justice?