

I. A Covenant Broken

- A. God is a covenant maker and keeper but because Israel had trampled underfoot the weak, poor, and disadvantaged among them, because they had not worshipped God only, they had become a nation of covenant breakers. What did God say would happen if Israel broke the covenant?

Deuteronomy 11:26-28, "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you listen to the commandments of the Lord your God, which I am commanding you today; and the curse, if you do not listen to the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way which I am commanding you today, by following other gods which you have not known."

Amos 9:8a, "Behold, the eyes of the Lord GOD are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from the surface of the ground ..."

- B. But a remnant would be spared

Amos 9:8b –10 "...except that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob," declares the LORD. "For behold, I will command, and shake the house of Israel among all the nations as one shakes with a sieve, but no pebble shall fall to the earth. All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, who say, 'Disaster shall not overtake or meet us.'

1. Shake with a sieve: An important step in harvesting wheat, following the cutting of the stalks and hitting of the heads of grain, was the sieve. The wheat passed through a sieve to remove the straw and chaff that had been intermixed with the wheat. The chaff is what is referenced as the "kernel" that would not fall to the ground. Notice when God would do this with Israel, not a "kernel" or "pebble" would fall to the ground. Not one false believer or sham Christian would escape!
2. All the guilty would perish. Who were the guilty? 9:10b, "...those who say, 'The calamity will not overtake or confront us.'"
3. Who would be saved?

"The true people of God is a company of sinners bearing the mark of moral and spiritual concern. They know about the sieve and are concerned to be found making the grade; they know about the plumb-line and are concerned ever to hold their sinful selves within the compass of grace and to live lives conformably to law. They will remain

sinner, but they will ever be sinners longing to war a good warfare against their sin, longing for holiness, loving the law of their God and resting on His grace. And they will be found worthy. The war which rages against pretence, fought with all the power of divine omnipotence, never hurts a hair of their heads." - Motyer

- I. Words of Hope – God loves those whom he disciplines, just as a father loves his children enough to correct them and train them and discipline them. The purpose of judgment is to bring repentance, and therefore restoration.

- A. The Promise of a great and glorious new day

Amos 9:11-12, "In that day I will raise up the fallen booth of David, and wall up its breaches; I will also raise up its ruins, and rebuild it as in the days of old; that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations who are called by My name," declares the Lord who does this."

1. "booth" - the idea of a temporary shelter. Like a lean-to or a shack, or it could refer to just a tent. Booths were utilized when the Jews were in their exodus from Egypt and they had no time to build a house. But though they had only these small temporary shelters, God was with them.
 2. The picture of the booth is a type of Christ. Christ came in a humble way. He was born of a virgin and laid in a feed trough in a no-place town called Bethlehem. He was born into a family that was of no esteem or no hierarchy or no special spiritual or ecclesiastical heritage. Just a carpenter's son, they would call him. Very humble, just like a booth, nothing special about him. Jesus died in shame and in shambles. In the eyes of the world, he was not much but he was God. In weak things, God forms his purposes and his power.
 3. David was a great king but his kingdom didn't last. His kingdom morally and spiritually fell apart. Israel, the house of David, if you will, became a wreck as we know it. David sinned and he was weak like a booth, but the true and strong unfading house was yet to be built and it would be built through the line of David. So even in the fallenness and in the weakness of David's lineage, God promised the Messiah would come.
 4. Edom is a representation of the hostility of the world to the kingdom of God and the overthrow is the real and complete end of all opposition.

5. All the nations who are called by My name – Means those that are God's particular possession. God will possess the nations and they will submit to him. God's character will be seen in the people that are named. God will rule over them and they will be his people.

Deuteronomy 28:10 And all the peoples of the earth shall see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they shall be afraid of you.

Isaiah 43:7 "everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Jeremiah 15:16 "Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

6. In Acts 15:12 – 19 James quotes this passage as scriptural justification for the decision that the Gentiles were eligible for co-equal membership in the things of the Lord Jesus.

C. The Promise of a Glorious, Unshakable Kingdom

Amos 9:13–15 ""Behold, the days are coming," declares the LORD, "when the plowman shall overtake the reaper and the treader of grapes him who sows the seed; the mountains shall drip sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it. I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel, and they shall rebuild the ruined cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine, and they shall make gardens and eat their fruit. I will plant them on their land, and they shall never again be uprooted out of the land that I have given them," says the LORD your God."

1. Covenant Promise of Restored fortunes –

Deuteronomy 30:1–3 "And when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse, which I have set before you, and you call them to mind among all the nations where the LORD your God has driven you, and return to the LORD your God, you and your children, and obey his voice in all that I command you today, with all your heart and with all your soul, then the LORD your God will restore your fortunes and have mercy on you, and he will gather you again from all the peoples where the LORD your God has scattered you.

- a) the land will no longer stingily yield its fruit- recall that the earth's productivity was barred from man on account of the fall (cf. Genesis 3:17-18; Romans 8:20).

- b) The abundance will be so great that it will exceed our needs
- 2. Promise of Eternal security - God's people would inherit a land from which they never again would depart!
 - a) Set free from the presence and penalty of sin - the reason God's people were removed from the Promised Land was because of their sin! From this we conclude that in order for God's people never again to be dispossessed from the land they must no longer have sin!
 - b) God has committed Himself to Us! – vs 15 "says the Lord your God."

Numbers 23:19 "God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?"

Col 1:13-14 "He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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