

**AMOS 5:1-17** 

SEEK THE LORD, AND LIVE!

#### ISAIAH 61:1-2

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor, He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

**LUKE 4:21** 

He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

"IF THE THINGS THAT BREAK THE HEART OF GOD, NO LONGER BREAK OUR HEARTS THAN OUR HEART IS BROKEN!"

## ANU GEORGE CANJANATHOPPIL,

International Justice Mission of Canada

There are 50 million people that are trapped in human slavery, exposed to violence, injustice and dehumanizing conditions. We must be haunted by the silence and indifference. Indifference in the presence of injustice is damming.

#### REVELATION 3:1

I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead! Wake up!

# PASTOR CRAIG TRIERWEILER,

Perhaps while we are busy celebrating our successes, God is in heaven grieving our funeral.

"No matter how dark your path, or deep your sin, or malignant your complacency, you are one decision away from life!"

Wake up!

SEEK THE LORD AND LIVE!

Amos speaks with clarity and courage calling Israel to see two realities:

# A HARSH INDICTMENT A HOPEFUL INVITATION

#### A HARSH INDICTMENT

1) "the road ahead is grim..." vv. 1-3, 16-17

"Hear this word, Israel, this lament I take up concerning you..."

#### A FALLEN VIRGIN

"Fallen is Virgin Israel, never to rise again, deserted in her own land, with no one to lift her up." v.2

#### A DECIMATED ARMY

"This is what the Sovereign Lord says to Israel: Your city that marches out a thousand strong will have only a hundred left; your town that marches out a hundred strong will have only ten left." v.3

# A DEVASTATING JUDGEMENT

"Therefore, this is what the Lord, the Lord God Almighty, says: "There will be wailing in all the streets and cries of anguish in every public square. The farmers will be summoned to weep and the mourners to wail. There will be wailing in all the vineyards, FOR I WILL PASS THROUGH YOUR MIDST." vv.16-17

## A HARSH INDICTMENT

- 2) "your evil has been exposed..." vv. 7,10-13
- "For I know how many are your offenses and how great your sins." v.12a

# YOU TURNED JUSTICE INTO BITTERNESS

"There are those who turn justice into bitterness (wormwood)..." v.7a

"There are those who oppress the innocent and take bribes and deprive the poor of justice in the courts." v.12b

# YOU CAST RIGHTEOUSNESS DOWN TO THE GROUND

- "...and cast righteousness to the ground." v.7b
- "You levy a straw tax on the poor and impose a tax on their grain." v.11 a

#### YOU HATED THE TRUTH

"There are those who hate the one who upholds justice in court (in the gate) and detest the one who tells the truth"...v.10



## GOD SEES, GOD KNOWS AND GOD ACTS

# You will not live in your mansions

"Therefore, though you have built stone mansions, you will not live in them..." 11b

# You will not drink the wine from your vineyards

"...though you have planted lush vineyards, you will not drink their wine." 11c

#### A HOPEFUL INVITATION

"No matter how dark your path, or deep your sin, or malignant your complacency, you are one decision away from life!"

"Seek me and live..."v.4

"Seek the Lord and live..."v.6

"Seek good, not evil, that you may live..." v.14

# PASTOR CRAIG TRIERWEILER,

To have no greater goal, to have no deeper desire, to have no higher aim, than to love Jesus and do His will.

#### SEEK GOD AUTHENTICALLY

"Seek me and live; do not seek Bethel, do not go to Gilgal, do not journey to Beersheba. For Gilgal will surely go into exile, and Bethel will be reduced to nothing. 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." vv. 4-6

#### **SEEK GOD HUMBLY**

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. With a blinding flash he destroys the stronghold and brings the fortified city to ruin." vv.8-9

#### SEEK GOD OBEDIENTLY

"Seek good, not evil, that you may live. Then the Lord God Almighty will be with you, just as you say he is. Hate evil, love good: maintain justice in the courts. Perhaps the Lord God Almighty will have mercy on the remnant of Joseph." vv. 14-15

# QUESTIONS TO PONDER.....

Are you seeking God authentically, humbly and obediently?

What is the next step you can take to pursue justice in your place of influence?