

HIGH LIVING WON'T LAST

Amos 6:1-8

Introduction: Amos preached in a period much like today. A peacetime, unsuspected peril, a day of unrivaled national power and unparalleled material prosperity and religious activities were popular. With great insight Amos diagnosed the sickness of his nation and pronounced its coming death. Less than 40 years Israel was to be carried off into captivity by Assyria. The same sickness that destroyed Israel has affects our own nation. We have a cure, we need to use it!

I. THE CHARGE: Spiritual Complacency

1. The condition of complacency described:
 - (v4) Their customs, dress, perfumes were the richest.
 - (v4b) They enjoyed the richest food and rarest delicacies.
 - (v5) The pursuit of pleasure was number one.
 - (v6) They drank in excess.
2. The causes of complacency described:
 - Enjoying an unprecedented era of prosperity.
 - Can react like Israel, becoming proud and boastful, living extravagantly and take all the credit.
 - Can react with an attitude of humility. How one reacts to prosperity will reveal and determine his/her true character.
 - Trusted in military and political resources for security (v1).
 - Dismissed all serious thoughts (v3).
 - Pursuit of prosperity was number one (v4).
 - Were not concerned about the sickness of their nation (v6b).

II. THE CURSE OF COMPLACENCY

1. In Amos' Day:
 - Complacency led to Israel's downfall.
 - Complacency caused Israel to reject their divine mission (to share God with the world).
 - Complacency denied to Israel their destiny.
2. In Our Day:
 - Complacency robs God of consecrated servants.
 - Complacency robs the Christian of unspeakable joys here and rewards beyond the wildest imagination in Heaven.
 - Complacency causes millions to not be able to hear the Gospel story.

III. THE CURE FOR COMPLACENCY

1. Begin to try to grasp the love God has for mankind (for you).
2. Think about the value of salvation to a lost person.
3. Turn over in the mind the issues and values of Eternity.
4. Listen to the Lord's command.

CONCLUSION:

1. Unsaved: If you are at ease about your soul, it would be wise for you to become alarmed.
2. Saved: Preoccupation with material things can cause you to become complacent and unconcerned about your spiritual state and that of others.
3. Both conditions: Seek the Lord today! Call upon Him! It is dangerous to be unconcerned about your relationship with the Lord!