

## Monday Night Discipleship: Week 26

Overview:

1. Biblical Interpretation: What are some right/wrong ways to study the Bible?
2. Longman Chapter 27 discussion:
  - a. Content: What Is Amos About?
  - b. Authorship and Date: Who Wrote Amos and When?
  - c. Genre: What Style of Literature Is Amos?
  - d. Connections: How Does Amos Connect to the Gospel?

### Biblical Interpretation: What are some right/wrong ways to study the Bible?

Five Unhelpful Approaches to Studying the Bible:

1. The Xanax Approach:
  - a. What is it?  
 In this approach, readers ultimately seek to find comfort, gratification, or emotional satisfaction from isolated passages of the Bible. Like the prescription drug, Xanax, this approach reflects the understanding that the Bible contains a \_\_\_\_\_ for what I am feeling.
  - b. What are some examples of this approach?
  - c. How is this approach dangerous?
    - i. The reader becomes the ultimate focus-
    - ii. Promotes illiteracy-
2. The Pinball Approach:
  - a. What is it?  
 In this approach, readers casually \_\_\_\_\_ whatever passage they happen to turn to without forethought or helpful guidance of any kind.

- b. What are some examples of this approach?
    - c. How is this approach dangerous?
  
3. The Magic 8 Ball Approach:
  - a. What is it?

In this approach, readers employ, at random, a passage from the Bible to give them \_\_\_\_\_ to difficult life questions.
  - b. What are some examples of this approach?
  - c. How is this approach dangerous?
  
4. The Personal Shopper Approach:
  - a. What is it?

This is a popular form of a topical Bible study approach, in which the reader \_\_\_\_\_ their responsibility of doing their own studying of what the Bible has to say on this topic, and instead allows others to do the hard work for them (particularly the works of famous writers, pastors, etc.).
  - b. What are some examples of this approach?
  - c. How is this approach dangerous?
    - i. It gives the appearance of Biblical literacy/maturity without actually developing it-
    - ii. We will become dependent on what others think about Scripture without learning how to understand it for ourselves-

5. The Picky Eater Approach:

a. What is it?

In this approach, readers will gravitate to certain portions of the Bible that are more relatable or easily accessible to them, \_\_\_\_\_ other sections based on their preferences.

b. What are some examples of this approach?

i. Affinity Group Studies-

ii. Neglect of the Old Testament-

c. How is this approach dangerous?

Based on our previous discussions, what were some general principles of interpreting the Bible?  
How did each principle inform the way we approach the Bible?

Longman Chapter 26 discussion:

1. Content: What Is Amos About?

a. Introduction:

- i. First writing prophet-
- ii. Amos's Social Status-
- iii. Quintessential defender of God's cause-
- iv. Received much attention in the 20th century-

b. Outline:

- i. Eight Prophecies Against the Nations (Amos 1-2) -
- ii. Sermons of God's Judgment (Amos 3-6)-
- iii. Five Visions, One Message (Amos 7:1-9:10) -
- iv. God's Promise of Restoration and Renewal (9:11-15) -

2. Authorship and Date: Who Wrote Amos and When?
  - a. Author: \_\_\_\_\_ from Tekoa
  - b. Date: Between \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ BC.
3. Genre: What Style of Literature Is Amos?  
Minor Prophets-
4. Connections: How Does Amos Connect to the Gospel?
  - a. God cares for the poor and needy-
  - b. New Testament references of Amos-

### **R.E.A.P.**

Amos 9:11-15

<sup>11</sup> “In that day I will raise up  
the booth of David that is fallen  
and repair its breaches,  
and raise up its ruins  
and rebuild it as in the days of old,  
<sup>12</sup> that they may possess the remnant of Edom  
and all the nations who are called by my name,”<sup>[1]</sup>  
declares the Lord who does this.

<sup>13</sup> “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.

<sup>14</sup> 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.

<sup>15</sup> 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.”<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Holy Bible: English Standard Version (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles, 2016), Amos 9:11-15. All passages of Scripture will come from this translation unless otherwise referenced.

1. **Read** aloud together
  
2. **Explain** by answering the three questions: What does this passage teach us about \_\_\_\_\_?
  - a. God:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - b. Man:
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  - c. Christ:
  
3. **Ask-** What question/s would help you understand the text more fully?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. **Pray-** Using some of your observations and questions, write out a prayer to God.