

# SERMON NOTES

April 26 & 27, 2008

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## THE BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY

Amos 2:4-16 (NIV)

### I. THE BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY IS FORGED THROUGH CONFRONTATION.

- **God's people no longer LISTEN TO HIM.**

*(Amos 2:4, 11-12) This is what the LORD says: "For three sins of Judah, even for four, I will not turn back. Because they have rejected the law of the LORD and have not kept his decrees, because they have been led astray by false gods, the god their ancestors followed...I also raised up prophets from among your sons. Is this not true, people of Israel?" declares the LORD. "But you commanded the prophets not to prophesy."*

- **God's people no longer CHERISH JUSTICE.**

*(Amos 2:6, 7a) This is what the LORD says: "For three sins of Israel, even for four, I will not turn back. They sell the righteous for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals. They trample on the heads of the poor as upon the dust of the ground and deny justice to the oppressed."*

- **God's people no longer ARE DISTINCT.**

*(Amos 2:6a, 7b-8) This is what the LORD says: "For three sins of Israel, even for four, I will not turn back. Father and son use the same girl and so profane my holy name. They lie down beside every altar on garments taken in pledge. In the house of their god they drink wine taken as fines."*

### II. THE BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY IS FORGED THROUGH CLEANSING.

*(Amos 2:13-16) "Now then, I will crush you as a cart crushes when loaded with grain. The swift will not escape, the strong will not muster their strength, and the warrior will not save his life. The archer will not stand his ground, the fleet-footed soldier will not get away, and the horseman will not save his life. Even the bravest warriors will flee naked on that day," declares the LORD.*