

SERMON NOTES

May 10 & 11, 2008

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PREPARE TO MEET YOUR GOD

Amos 4

I. MEET GOD IN HIS INDICTMENTS OF OUR IDOLATRY.

- **SELF-INDULGENT LIFESTYLE**

(Amos 4:1) Hear this word, you cows of Bashan on Mount Samaria, you women who oppress the poor and crush the needy and say to your husbands, "Bring us some drinks!"

- **SELF-INDULGENT RELIGION**

(Amos 4:4-5) "Go to Bethel and sin; go to Gilgal and sin yet more. Bring your sacrifices every morning... ..Burn leavened bread as a thank offering and brag about your freewill offerings—boast about them, you Israelites, for this is what you love to do," declares the Sovereign LORD.

II. MEET GOD IN THE HARDSHIPS HE SENDS.

(Amos 4:6, 7a, 10a) "I gave you empty stomachs in every city and lack of bread in every town, yet you have not returned to me," declares the LORD. "I also withheld rain from you... ..I sent plagues among you as I did to Egypt... ..Yet you have not returned to me." (Hebrews 12:7) Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father?

III. MEET GOD IN HIS COVENANT OF LOVE.

(Amos 4:12) "Therefore, this is what I will do to you, Israel, and because I will do this to you, prepare to meet your God, O Israel." (Psalm 22:6a) But I am a worm and not a man... (Psalm 22:13) Roaring lions tearing their prey open their mouths wide against me.