

SERMON NOTES

May 17 & 18, 2008

Rev. Adam Jones

A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH

Amos 5

I. CONFRONTING THE DEAD

- **A TRAGIC VISION OF DEATH**

(Amos 5:2) Fallen is Virgin Israel, never to rise again, deserted in her own land, with no one to lift her up. (Revelation 3:1b-2) I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God. (Psalm 39:4) Show me, O LORD, my life's end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting is my life.

- **THE FUTILITY OF WEALTH**

(Deuteronomy 6:10-12) When the LORD your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, be careful that you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

II. CALLING FOR REPENTANCE UNTO LIFE

- **A LIFE UNCHANGED**

(Amos 5:5) 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. (Amos 5:21-23) "I hate, I despise your religious feasts; I cannot stand your assemblies. Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them. Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps." (Amos 5:12-13) "For I know how many are your offenses and how great your sins. You oppress the righteous and take bribes and you deprive the poor of justice in the courts. Therefore the prudent man keeps quiet in such times, for the times are evil."

- **A CHANGED LIFE**

(Luke 19:8) But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

III. FROM DEATH TO LIFE

(Amos 5:6a) Seek the LORD and live...