

SERMON NOTES

May 24 & 25, 2008

Rev. Ray Cortese

THE BEAUTY OF HUMILITY

Amos 5:18-24; Amos 6:1-14

I. THE GOD WHO LOVES HUMILITY EXPOSES OUR PRIDE.

• PRIDE IN NATIONAL PROMINENCE

(Amos 6:1-2) Woe to you who are complacent in Zion, and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria, you notable men of the foremost nation, to whom the people of Israel come! Go to Calneh and look at it; go from there to great Hamath, and then go down to Gath in Philistia. Are they better off than your two kingdoms? Is their land larger than yours?

• PRIDE IN SPIRITUAL POSITION

(Amos 6:1) Woe to you who are complacent in Zion, and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria, you notable men of the foremost nation, to whom the people of Israel come! (Amos 5:18) Woe to you who long for the day of the LORD! Why do you long for the day of the LORD? That day will be darkness, not light.

• PRIDE IN RELIGIOUS PERFORMANCE

(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.

• PRIDE IN PROSPERITY

(Amos 6:4-6) You lie on beds inlaid with ivory and lounge on your couches. You dine on choice lambs and fattened calves. You strum away on your harps like David and improvise on musical instruments. You drink wine by the bowlful and use the finest lotions, but you do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph.

II. THE GOD WHO LOVES HUMILITY EXPUNGES OUR PRIDE.

(Amos 6:7-8) Therefore you will be among the first to go into exile; your feasting and lounging will end. The Sovereign LORD has sworn by himself—the LORD God Almighty declares: “I abhor the pride of Jacob and detest his fortresses; I will deliver up the city and everything in it.” (1 Peter 5:5) All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

• GOD IS GRACIOUS TO REVEAL PRIDE’S FOLLY.

• GOD IS GRACIOUS TO REVEAL PRIDE’S PRESENCE.

• GOD IS GRACIOUS TO REVEAL PRIDE’S ANTIDOTE.