

THEME: EMPTY RELIGION

INDULGENCES

AMOS 3:1-15

05.11.12.2019

“What questions must we ask ourselves to avoid indulgences that lead to empty religion?”

Amos 3:1 Here this word that the Lord has spoken against you, O people of Israel, against the whole family that I brought up out of the land of Egypt:

2 “You only have I known of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

3 **“Do two walk together, unless they have agreed to meet?”** **4** Does a lion roar in the forest, when he has no prey? Does a young lion cry out from his den, if he has taken nothing? **5** Does a bird fall in a snare on the earth, when there is no trap for it? Does a snare spring up from the ground, when it has taken nothing?

6 Is a trumpet blown in a city, and the people are not afraid?

6a Does disaster come to a city, unless the Lord has done it?

QUESTION #1: WHAT AREAS OF MY LIFE IS GOD TRYING TO GET MY ATTENTION?

QUESTION #2: WHAT AREAS OF MY LIFE COULD GET OUT OF CONTROL?

7 “For the Lord God does nothing without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets.

8 The lion has roared; who will not fear? The Lord God has spoken who can but prophesy?”

9 Proclaim to the strongholds in Ashdod and to the strongholds in the land of Egypt, and say, “Assemble yourselves on the mountains of Samaria, and see the great tumults within her, and the oppressed in her midst.”

QUESTION #3: WHAT AM I NEGLECTING IN MY LIFE BECAUSE OF THESE INDULGENCES?

10 **“They do not know how to do right,”** declares the Lord, “those who store up violence and robbery in their strongholds.”

QUESTION #4: WHAT AREAS OF MY LIFE DO I NEED ACCOUNTABILITY?

11 Therefore thus says the Lord God: “An adversary shall surround the land and bring down your defenses from you, and your strongholds shall be plundered.”

12 Thus says the Lord: “As the shepherd rescues from the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear, so shall the people of Israel who dwell in Samaria be rescued, with the corner of a couch and part of a bed.

Hebrews 4:7 "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts."

QUESTION #5: WHAT AREAS OF MY LIFE DO I NEED TO LISTEN TO GOD'S VOICE?

13 "Hear and testify against the house of Jacob," declares the Lord God, the God of hosts, **14** "that on the day I punish Israel for his transgressions, I will punish the altars of Bethel, and the horns of the altar shall be cut off and fall to the ground.

15 I will strike the winter house along with the summer house, and the houses of ivory shall perish, and the great houses shall come to an end," declares the Lord.

Proverbs 30:7 (taken from NCV) "I ask two things from you, Lord. Don't refuse me before I die.

8 Keep me from lying and being dishonest. And don't make me either rich or poor; just give me enough food for each day. **9** If I have too much, I might reject you and say, 'I don't know the Lord.' If I am poor, I might steal and disgrace the name of my God.

QUESTION #6: WHERE HAVE I TURNED HIS BLESSINGS INTO MY GODS?