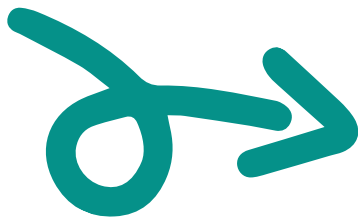


Amos 8

Youth Church

This week we are back onto the book of Amos. Looking at the penultimate chapter. Take a few minutes to read over chapter 8 and answer the questions in task one!

Task one: Bible Study



What is the key verse?
What are the repeated words?
What surprises you?
What do you think it means?
How does this passage applies to your life as a Christian?

You can write the answers here!

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Amos 8

This is what the Sovereign Lord showed me: a basket of ripe fruit. 2 "What do you see, Amos?" he asked. "A basket of ripe fruit," I answered. Then the Lord said to me, "The time is ripe for my people Israel; I will spare them no longer. 3 "In that day," declares the Sovereign Lord, "the songs in the temple will turn to wailing. Many, many bodies—flung everywhere! Silence!"

4 Hear this, you who trample the need and do away with the poor of the land, 5 saying, "When will the New Moon be over that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath be ended that we may market wheat?"—skimping on the measure, boosting the price and cheating with dishonest scales, 6 buying the poor with silver and the needy for a pair of sandals,

selling even the sweepings with the wheat. 7 The Lord has sworn by himself, the Pride of Jacob: "I will never forget anything they have done. 8 "Will not the land tremble for this and all who live in it mourn? The whole land will rise like the Nile; it will be stirred up and then sink like the river of Egypt. 9 "In that day," declares the Sovereign Lord, "I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight. 10 I will turn your religious festivals into mourning and all your singing into weeping.

I will make all of you wear sackcloth and shave your heads. I will make that time like mourning for an only son

and the end of it like a bitter day. 11 "The days are coming," declares the Sovereign Lord, "when I will send a famine through the land—not a famine of food or a thirst for water, but a famine of hearing the words of the Lord. 12 People will stagger from sea to sea and wander from north to east, searching for the word of the Lord, but they will not find it. 13 "In that day "the lovely young women and strong young men will faint because of thirst. 14 Those who swear by the sin of Samaria—who say, 'As surely as your god lives, Dan,' or, 'As surely as the god of Beersheba lives'—they will fall, never to rise again."

**How did you
get on with
the
questions?**

Once you have finished
task one have a look at the
'some thoughts' section,
then complete task 2 and
3!

Some thoughts...

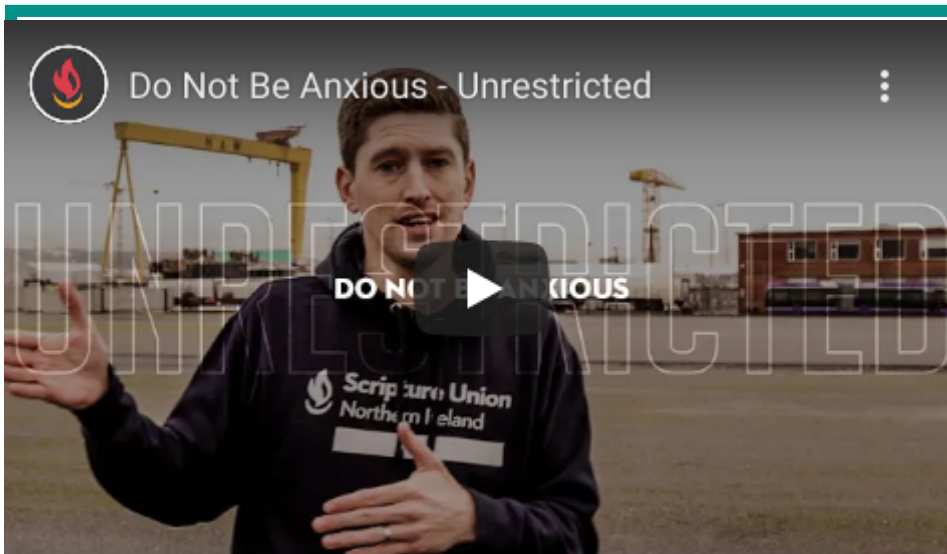
In this chapter, we see that Amos returns to the familiar theme of injustice, the people of Israel are making their money from mistreating the poor and vulnerable. In verse 2–6 it talks about a 'new moon' here we are told that although they kept the Sabbath outwardly, inside the people rejected the Sabbath and couldn't wait for it to be over. The passage goes on to talk about a famine, but this isn't a famine of food or water, but rather, from hearing God's word. 1 Thessalonians 2:13 describes the way to hear the Word of God 'When you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.'

Just like we need food and water everyday to survive we also need spiritual food, such as talking to God and reading our Bibles to get to know Him better. Matthew 4:4 reminds us of this, 'Since it is true that man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' We need to be actively seeking God in our everyday lives. Think back to last week when we looked at Colossians and this idea of faith, hope and love. The people of Israel did not have faith in Christ as they trusted their own ways over His, nor did they have love for all people as they mistreated the poor or have a hope for heaven. In Amos, the people of Israel are not a good example to follow, instead we should trust in God's promises just like the Colossians did.

Task 2: Have a think...

- How often are you seeking God? Is there something small you could try do everyday to get closer to Him?
- Is there anything in your life that is pulling you away from God? What could you change to prevent this?

Task 3: Video



This is the second video in Scripture Union's 'Unrestricted' series. This week its based on Philippians 4:4–7 which is a book we have looked at before in Youth Church. It centres round the theme of not being anxious, worth a watch!