

## Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

*Part 429 – Woe Through Captivity Beyond Damascus (Amos 5:18-27)*

### 1. What day did they ignorantly desire to come?

“The day of the Lord”: *“Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light” (Amos 5:18).*

- “The day of the Lord” is a phrase indicative of a judgment day of which there have been several (**Isaiah 13:1-14:23, Isaiah 34:1-8**, etc.).
- We read in Isaiah a similar thought that Israel had wherein they essentially dared God to do something (**Isaiah 5:18-19**).
- They dared the prophets (**Jeremiah 17:15** and **Ezekiel 12:22**).
- They thought God would not do anything to them (**Jeremiah 5:11-13**).
- People in the first century also reached a point wherein they thought judgment would never come (**II Peter 3:1-14**).
- Those in sin, don’t want to see any day of judgment from God (**Genesis 18:23-19:29, Isaiah 1:28, Isaiah 47:1-3, Lamentations 2:22, Joel 2:1-11, Amos 9:10, Micah 5:15, and Zephaniah 1:7-14**).
- Even when we think of THE Judgment Day, it is not a day sinners should desire to see (**Matthew 25:31-46, John 5:28-29, and II Thessalonians 1:7-9**).
- How many people fail to consider “to what end” it is for them (**Hosea 7:1-2**)?
- To them, the day of the Lord was one that was going to be darkness rather than light (**Isaiah 5:25-30** and **Isaiah 9:14-19**). \*Point made again in vs. 20.

### 2. How did the Lord illustrate to them that what they were seeking wasn’t intelligent?

*“(19) As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him. (20) Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it” (Amos 5:19-20)?*

- Where will they run (**Psalms 139:7-13, Proverbs 15:3, Jeremiah 23:23-24, and Jeremiah 49:10**)?
- Wherever they end up, it won’t be good for them (**Isaiah 24:17-18** and **Jeremiah 15:1-4**).
- See notes on verse 18 for the darkness they would face.

### 3. How did the Lord view their worship towards Him?

He hated their offerings: *“(21) I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies. (22) Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts. (23) Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not hear the melody of thy viols” (Amos 5:21-23).*

- **Proverbs 15:8, Proverbs 15:29, Proverbs 21:27, Proverbs 28:9, Isaiah 1:3-16, Isaiah 66:3, Jeremiah 7:22-23, Hosea 6:4-7, Micah 6:6-8, John 9:31, I Corinthians 11:23-32, and I Peter 3:12**

4. What did the Lord desire to see run down like waters and a mighty stream?

*“But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream”*  
(**Amos 5:24**).

- Earlier in this chapter, we read the turned judgment into wormwood (**Amos 5:7**).
- If you tie this statement to what was said in verses 21-23, consider these verses: *“Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD.... To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice”* (**Psalms 4:5** and **Proverbs 21:3**).
- Consider Jesus’ conversation with a scribe (**Mark 12:28-34**).
- God loves righteousness and judgment (**Psalms 33:4-5**).

5. Looking back to their distant past, though they offered sacrifices to the Lord in the wilderness; was He truly their God?

No: *“(25) Have ye offered unto me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel? (26) But ye have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your images, the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves”* (**Amos 5:25-26**).

- This is looking way back (**Numbers 13-27**) and having them think about the errors of the past that they were guilty of in the present and how God looked at it historically (**Deuteronomy 32:12-19**).
- How did God feel about their false gods (**Exodus 20:1-5** and **Leviticus 20:1-5**)?

6. As this chapter concludes, what did the Lord say He was going to cause?

Them to go into captivity: *“Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus, saith the LORD, whose name is The God of hosts”* (**Amos 5:27**).

- **II Kings 17:1-18:16**