

Amos

Chapter 3

7- For the Sovereign Yahoah will not do anything unless he reveal his secrete counsel to his servants the prophets¹.

Chapter 5

24 Let judgment flow down as the water and righteousness as an ever flowing stream².

¹ God's secret counsel is with the righteous and with them that fear him (Psalm 25:14; Proverbs 3:32). Never was there a prophet like Samuel, whose every word was fulfilled (1 Samuel 3:19). He was the one who had been consecrated to God, and who found his place of rest in the holy place near to the ark of the covenant; while Eli laid down in his blindness and death, and his sons Hophni and Phineas laid down with the women who came to worship (1 Samuel 3:3). Even as a child, Samuel's life was about tending to the light of revelation within the holy place. Out of such a consecration arose one who heard the audible voice of God, and made known to a nation (and subsequently to all nations) the will and purposes of the Almighty and Sovereign God.

Unfortunately, many have turned the grace of God into lasciviousness, just like Hophni and Phineas. They have forsaken the word of God; and have run after profit, as did Balaam. They speak after the counsel of their own lust and deceit, instead of the counsel of the Spirit of God. Even as in the days of old when the prophet and the priest erred in their visions, and stumbled in judgment through strong drink; so do these modern-day staggerers (Isaiah 28:7). The worst part of it all is that God's people seem to be unable to discern the difference.

Yet even now by the mercies of God, there is still a faithful priesthood who will speak His words faithfully. He has a company of servants to whom He can make known His secret counsel, and through whom he can speak His words of life. The Holy Spirit has come to us to give us revelation, so that we might know those things that are to come (John 16:13; John 14:26). He has come to speak the words of God through our lips, so that we may be even as the oracles of God (1 Peter 4:11; 2 Corinthians 3:3). If we will live consecrated lives and walk in obedience, then Jesus will come and manifest himself to us; and we will discover the glorious insights and revelation of the Almighty (John 14:21; Ephesians 1:17-19).

² We should all find it amazing that we want the sinners to stop sinning while all the time sin and iniquity runs ramped among our ranks. The churches are filled with people who sing great songs and listen to sermons geared towards their success and self-importance. Yet how often are they confronted by the stern rebuke of a watchman who demands that they turn from their sins and follow after God.

We were transformed from sinners to saints by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24; 2 Corinthians 5:21). Jesus set forth our primary focus to place the Kingdom of God and His righteousness first in all that we desire and do. If the church does not walk in the Spirit who produces righteousness and true holiness then we are powerless. Our decaying society around us reveals that the wall

against iniquity was daubed with untempered mortar and the hinderer of iniquity forsaken (Ezekiel 13:10-15).

God is not interested so much in all the niceties that we present Him in our churches. He redeemed us from sin and darkness so that we might walk in the beauty of holiness and the majesty of His righteousness. If we think that somehow God is going to be pleased with all the things that we supposedly do for Him while all the time we continue in sin then we are wrong. God wants our lives to be filled with His Spirit and with His ways. He wants us to stand in the place of Jesus and declare to the world around us the goodness and beauty of His mercy, love and glory. All creation is crying out to see the Kingdom of God revealed in our lives through judgment and righteousness (1 Corinthians 15:34).