

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further ***International Bible Lessons***

Amos 2:4-16

Sunday June 7, 2015

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. How do you think the Israelites felt when they heard Amos foretelling their neighbors, who were their enemies, would be punished by God?

They probably rejoiced at the good news, and they probably believed that God would make them victorious over the neighbors in battle, since they were God’s chosen people.

2. What did God say the Kingdom of Judah had done, and what was the result of their choices that led to God’s judgment?

They had rejected the law of the LORD and the statutes that He had decreed for them to govern their kingdom justly. Therefore, the lies of pagan priests and idols misled them.

3. What did God mean when He said, “I will not revoke the punishment”?

He would surely justly punish the nation because it had not and would not repent.

4. Was anyone righteous in the Kingdom of Israel? Give a reason for your answer.

Yes. Amos 2:6 says the wicked sold “the righteous for silver.”

5. How did God expect the poor to be protected and have their needs met?

God gave laws or statutes to the twelve tribes of Israel to protect the poor and meet their needs; such as, the laws regarding gleaning by the poor (see the Book of Ruth). “Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world” (James 2:27).

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