

that if they want to be, they can be resurrected to Heaven on the Judgment Day (1 Corinthians 15) if they become a disciple of Jesus by being baptized into His blood for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38) and observing all that He commands (Matthew 28:20), These are God's words not our own. We need to take comfort in this and take pride in the work God has chosen for any and all His people to do.

By Curtis Carwile



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Faithful Sayings

Olsen Park Church of Christ

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Services

Sunday: 9:30 a.m.
10:20 a.m.
6:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.

Elders:

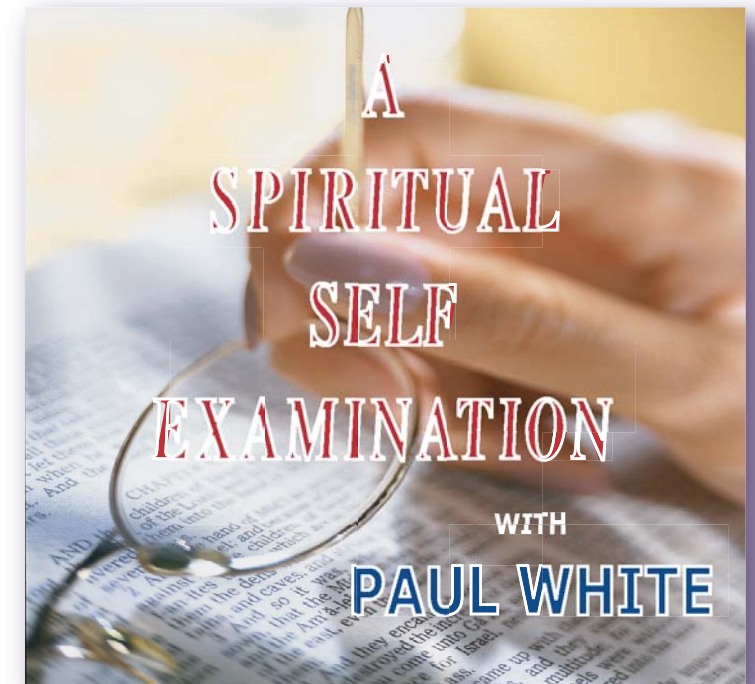
Ken Ford
Charles Kelley
Pat Ledbetter

Deacons:

Dean Bowers
Eddie Cook
Bill Davis
Pat Goguen
Neil Ledbetter
Jeff Nunn
Fred Perez
Rusty Scott

Evangelist:

Kyle Pope



September 21st - 26th

Sunday at 9:30am, 10:20am and 6:00pm
Monday through Friday at 7:30pm

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“I Was No Prophet”

(Amos 7:10-17)

A few weeks ago, in Kyle’s absence, one of our elders, Charles Kelley, taught the Sunday morning Bible call. He taught from the Old Testament book of Amos. As I went over the book, I noticed something within Amos 7:10-17 that deals with a problem we all face at one time or the other.

I’d like to start with a little bit of background information regarding Amos and his prophecy. Amos was from the Southern Kingdom of Judah during the reign of Uzziah. However, even though Amos was from Judah, he prophesied in the Northern Kingdom of Israel during the reign of Jeroboam II. During the time of Jeroboam II, Israel was prospering, partly due to the rampant “shadiness” that went on in the marketplace. Amos was sent by God to Israel to proclaim God’s judgment on Israel due to its wickedness.

In our passage for consideration, Amos goes to Bethel (where Jeroboam I

set up one of the two golden calves for the people in Israel to worship instead of going back to Jerusalem) and confronts Amaziah the priest. Amos tells the false priest that Jeroboam II is going to die and Israel will be taken into captivity (Amos 7:10-11). Amaziah tells Amos to leave and never to return (Amos 7:12-13). That’s when Amos reiterates what he said at the beginning of his prophesy (Amos 3:1-8), that he is just saying what God has told him to say (Amos 7:14-17).

What I would like for us to notice is in verse 14. Amos tells Amaziah “**I was no prophet.**” In fact, Amos takes it a step further and says that he isn’t even the SON of a prophet. Amos explains that he was a sheepbreeder and a tender of sycamore trees. What Amos was trying to get across was that he really wasn’t anybody all that important. He wasn’t some religious leader or some great politician. He was just a “regular old Joe” out there busy with his own work.

However, despite Amos not being anyone special, God had a job for him to do. God chose Amos to leave his everyday life, and even his country, to go proclaim God’s word in Israel. Amos was to tell them because of their wickedness, God was going to send judgment upon them and that they would be taken into captivity (Amos 2:6-16; 3:9-4:5). God tells Amos to remind them of His patience with them and all the blessings He gave them along with all of the opportunities to repent (Amos 4:6-13). Yet, because they didn’t remember or repent, God laments the fate of Israel (Amos 5:1-4). God chose Amos to preach this message to the wicked nation of Israel even though he was “nobody important.”

Today, God has a job for everyone who is a Christian. In Matthew 28:19-20a, Jesus tells His disciples for all times to “**Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you.**” Everyone who is a disciple of Christ is given the job to preach God’s message everywhere we go.

The problem a lot of us have is that we look at ourselves and say something similar to what Amos said, “**I was no prophet, nor was I a son of a prophet.**” We just don’t see ourselves as “anything special” or we see ourselves as “nobody important.” We think, “Well, I’m not a preacher or an elder or a deacon or even a Bible class teacher. Nobody is going to listen to what I have to say.” Unfortunately, too many of us have let that silence us from doing the work God has for us to do.

We need to shake ourselves from that type of thinking. God chose us, Christians, to do His work and what a glorious honor it is. We need to realize what Amos realized: that, really, it isn’t us speaking, but God speaking through us in the words of the Bible. When we tell people about our Lord and King Jesus we need to understand that those words are true regardless of who says them because God said them first. We need to tell them that Jesus left His throne in Heaven to put on a fleshly body (John 1:1). He walked among us (John 1:14), died on the cross, was buried and resurrected from the grave (Luke 24:46-47). We must tell them