

HEAR THIS DIRGE

A Sad Song ...

Amos 5

Listen to this sad song about a sinning people.

I. THE RECORD

- Six sad songs in this album

A. A SAD REALITY (2-3)

- Despair and decimation await

1. Israel's condition (2)
2. Israel's casualties (3)

B. A SAD WARNING (5-9)

- Remember the person of God more than the place of God

1. No safety in their sanctuaries (5)
2. No protection for the corrupt (6b-7)
3. No security for the strong (8-9)

C. A SAD COMMENTARY (10-13)

- Evil workers abound

1. Their indignation (10)
2. Their indulgence (11)
3. Their injustice (12)
4. Their intimidation (13)

D. A SAD JUDGMENT (16-17)

- Wailing everywhere!

1. The Cries (16-17a) > Everywhere and everyone
2. The Cause (17b) > Because the Lord passed through them

E. A SAD DECEPTION (18-20)

- Disappointed and disillusioned

1. Their Desire (18a) > The Day of the Lord
2. God's Description (18b-19a) > Darkness not light and danger not deliverance
3. Amos' Declaration (19b) > A time of really gloomy darkness is coming

Over please >

F. A SAD REACTION (21-27)

- God says, “get out!”

1. God’s Rejections (21-23)
2. God’s Requirements (24)
3. God’s Recollections (25-26)
4. God’s Retribution (27) > Leave My country ... exile awaits

II. THE REMEDY (4 & 6a with 14-15)

- Overcoming sadness

A. SEEK GOD (4 & 6a)

1. A passionate pursuit
 - a. Putting forth effort ... to be intent ... a disciplined devotion
 - b. Seeking implies a realization that we’ve not yet arrived ... keep striving
2. A purposeful pursuit
 - a. That you may live
 - b. Avoiding the various calamities such as neglect (2), death (3), fire (6), destruction (9) wailing (16-17), disillusionment (18-19), rejection (21) and exile (27).

B. SEEK GOOD (14-15)

1. The command: Seek good and not evil
2. The comfort: “Survival is conditioned upon seeking” [Shalom Paul, “Amos,” p. 176]
3. The contrast: Hate evil and love good
4. The consideration: Perhaps God will be gracious to a remnant

CONCLUSION:

Amos utters a lament against the whole nation

- They are dying in their sins (v. 3)
- They are doomed without repentance (v. 27)

Amid the sadness, there is certainty

- God-seekers will live (vs. 4, 6)
- Good-seekers will remain (vs. 15b)

Will you be sad or saved?

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