How Do You Measure Up?

Greg Kline · Amos 7:7–9

INTRODUCTION

- Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves.
- If we fail to do what he says, if we fail to read his word, study what he has asked us to do, we will slowly drift away.
- It is not Christian propaganda to say that if you remove the anchor of God from your lives, that you too will drift away.

1 God Has a Plumb Line

Amos 7:7–9; Joshua 24:14–22

- Behold, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel. I will never again pass them by.
- A plumb line is a weight, usually with a pointed tip at the bottom, and its purpose, suspended by a string, is to determine how vertically straight something is.
- God was going to judge the people by how closely they stayed to the Word of God.
- But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.
- These people knew they chose to serve God.

2 They Fell Away, but the Law Did Not Change

Deuteronomy 21

- What happened in that time period? Well, they fell away.
- There were no loopholes or actions. There was nothing that was considered not that big of a deal.
- This law was serious. This law had serious consequences, whether good or bad, according to whether or not they obeyed or transgressed that law.

3 The Word of Christ Is Our Standard

John 12:47–48; 2 Corinthians 13:5

- The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge. The word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day.
- Brothers and sisters, we have our standard today. It's our Bible. It's the words of Christ.
- If there is one Bible, how can there be hundreds of churches?

4 How Do I Test Myself?

- We will be judged, whether straight or crooked, by the word of God. That is what will decide our fate.
- The easy answer is to use it as the mirror. Test yourself. Decide, is this how I act? Do I act like Jesus did?
- Be pure. Take time away from your television sets for two weeks.

- If we're not meditating on those things which are good, then those things which are bad will creep in and distort our understanding of truth.

5 Who Is the One Measuring Us?

Psalm 9:7–10; Psalm 9:16

- God is the holder of the plumb line, even as he was for the people of Israel.
- He has established his throne for justice. And he judges the world with righteousness.
- God is powerful, yes. God is loving. Yes. God is just. And God will save. But God will punish.
- But it is the same God in the Old and the New Testament.
- God expects his will to be obeyed. And that is the end of the matter.

6 Two Choices: Choose Life

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

- He's given us two choices, the same two choices the people of Israel had.
- See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil.
- Therefore, choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice, and holding fast to him.

THE CHALLENGE

How straight are you this morning? If the plumb line was set up against you, would you be found straight? Would you be found pleasing to God, taking the Word of God, dealing with it justly, rightly dividing God's truth.

MY NOTES