

RESTORATION AFTER JUSTICE
(AMOS 9)
MARCH 22, 2026

Justice Rolls

1. God's righteousness exposes imperfections (Amos 9:1-4).

- When I respond to God's righteousness in obedience, I experience the peace of Psalm 139.
- When I respond to God's righteousness in rebellion, I experience the terror of Amos 9:2-4.
- Imperfection requires justice. Seeking escape from justice steals the peace that the consequences are designed to restore.
- It may be time to stop forming the next lie to escape justice and seek out the first step of obedience.

2. God's righteousness demands worship (Amos 9:5-6).

- Sinful flesh cannot stand in the presence of God's glory (Psalm 104).
- Humility before God allows me to come into his presence through Jesus.
- Humility before God will not come without pain. Another word for pain is grace (Genesis 32:22-32).
- Pain forces a choice between worship (life) and rebellion (death).
- It may be time to embrace who God is and stop trying to worship who I want him to be.

3. God's righteousness is the standard of accountability (Amos 9:7-10).

- God's standard is consistent because his righteousness never changes.
- Sin is not excused on the basis of another's actions.
- Sin is judged on the basis of Jesus' actions.
- Comparisons excuse imperfections because they deceive me into believing that I control the standard of accountability. An inconsistent standard produces chaos and confusion.
- It may be time to submit to God's standard of judgment for my life rather than justifying my choices based on other people's failures.

4. God's righteousness protects the joy of his people (Amos 9:11-15).

- Religion without righteousness incurs judgment.
- When God's righteousness is restored, relational restoration follows.
- Going through motions hoping to gain God's favor so that he will fulfill your desires is a vain pursuit.
- It may be time to stop going through motions for personal gain and worship Jesus from a pure heart.

1. God's righteousness exposes imperfections. That process causes shame that we are uncomfortable dealing with. Our discomfort will tempt us to seek escape from justice rather than embrace it.

Read Psalm 139:7-12 and Amos 9:2-4. What is the difference in perspective between the Psalmist (David) and the heads of the people seeking to escape justice? Why is it important to embrace justice rather than to try and escape it?

2. Every experience of pain demands a response. I will either worship Jesus or rebel against him. Pain is a necessary catalyst to hope, because without it, we would remain comfortable in the things that are destroying us.

Read Psalm 104 and Amos 9:5-6. What do these passages tell us about who God is. Why is it painful to follow God's way, and what makes the pain worth enduring?

3. Israel believed that their heritage was enough to protect them from their enemies.

In Amos 9:7-10, we see God including them in the judgment of the nations. He brings them all together to shake them as if they were in a sieve. Israel, for many centuries, based their standard of accountability on the customs of other nations.

Why is it dangerous to base my standard of accountability on other people's successes or failures? Read Romans 6:1-14. What does it look like to live according to God's standard of accountability?

4. The reason that Israel had incurred so much judgment was not because of a lack of religion.

On the contrary, it was their religion that was so detestable to God because they were going through rituals while their hearts were far from God. God's judgment is always carried out to restore righteousness. Once righteousness is restored, the fruits of the Spirit can be produced.

Read Amos 9:11-15 and Acts 15:13-21. How was righteousness restored to correct the thinking of the early church leaders, and how did that affect relationships that followed?

February: **Lamentations/Obadiah - Hope in Sorrow**

Memory Verse: Lamentations 3:22-23

Date	Sermon Text	1	2	3	4	5	6
Feb. 1	Lam. 1	Lam. 1:1-4	Lam. 1:5-8	Lam. 1:9-12	Lam. 1:13-16	Lam. 1:17-20	Lam. 1:21-22
Feb. 8	Lam. 2-3	Lam. 2:1-7	Lam. 2:8-15	Lam. 2:16-22	Lam. 3:1-22	Lam. 3:23-44	Lam. 3:45-66
Feb. 15	Lam. 4-5	Lam. 4:1-7	Lam. 4:8-15	Lam. 4:16-22	Lam. 5:1-7	Lam. 5:8-15	Lam. 5:16-22
Feb. 22	Obadiah	Ob. 1-4	Ob. 5-8	Ob. 9-12	Ob. 13-15	Ob. 16-18	Ob. 19-21