

“A CALLING PATTERN”

Amos 1:1-2

Pre-conference: We see a calling pattern in a man named Amos.

I. RELATIONSHIP STRUCTURE

A. We see a pattern of a man who can be called by God

1. **God calls workers:** Disciples often think their job is unimportant

a. They resent the time they have to give b. They are a different man at work than at church

1. Amos 7:14-15 Amos said... "I was no prophet, Nor was I a son of a prophet, But I was a sheepbreeder And a tender of sycamore fruit. ¹⁵ Then the LORD took me as I followed the flock, And the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to My people Israel.'

b. Ministry involves work: Lazy men make lousy Pastors c. You learn things at work

2. **God calls us connected to others:** *V1 I was among the herdmen of Tekoa...*

a. Your relationships are what form and shape you

1. You learn to get along 2. You learn to communicate 3. You work on your own selfish tendencies

b. We learn to resist the temptation of competition: *Disciples – who's the greatest?*

3. **God calls us to be under authority:** *V1 in the days of Uzziah, King of Judah*

a. Men who are proud and independent can't be used by God

1. Either they are never chosen 2. Or they wind up hurting their usefulness

II. A VISION FOR MORE

A. Calling comes as it often does: An interruption

1. While working a job – God shows him something higher; God has something more for your life!

a. Disciples: Fishing b. Matthew: Taxes c. Moses: Shepherd

B. 2 great words of calling:

1. **Seeing:** *V1 which he saw concerning Israel...*

a. Involves seeing needs:

b. Involves seeing possibilities:

2. **Hearing:** *Amos 7:15 the LORD took me as I followed the flock, And the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to My people Israel.'*

a. He heard from God his part in the purposes of God

b. This is actually where destiny flows out from: Being able to hear from God

1. Conference: God is going to speak to you – individually!

2. In everyday life: God prompts/inspires/stirs/moves on...

c. Each time God speaks is a test and an opportunity

1. A test: Can God speak – will you obey

2. An opportunity: A chance to grow – to be able to hear further from God

a. John 7:17 If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine...

III. THE TIMING OF CALLING

A. One of the common reactions to calling is to delay

1. I'm willing...but there's a lot I want to do; I'm willing...eventually

2. There is a timing issue involved in the call: *V2 Before the earthquake...*

a. He was to warn the people of something that was to come – so they could prepare

b. If he refused/if he delayed – they are going to be destroyed without warning

B. Think about what's involved in delay

1. There are people who are suffering the effects of sin

2. There are people who will go out into eternity – not ready to stand before God

3. There are people who will miss the rapture – and face the judgment of God

C. But we can do something about this

1. A chooses a man to speak for him – and change other people's lives

a. You determine whether people live or die

b. You determine whether people are bound or free

c. You determine whether people spend eternity in heaven or hell