

## **Amos 3**

### Sin and Wealth

#### **Introduction**

**Question:** When have you found yourself so intent on others that you have lost sight of your own sins? Why do you think that happens?

Disaster often comes unexpectedly. The people of Israel were wealthy, self-centered and complacent. Little did they realize that the full weight of God's judgment was about to fall on them.

#### **Amos 3:1-8**

**Question:** Why does God call Israel a “family” and refer to the rest of the inhabitants of the earth as “families” (v. 2)? How should this have affected Israel’s response to God, both before this oracle and now that they have heard it?

**Question:** How does God’s intimate, loving, knowledge of Israel lead to/require His punishment? Would the people of Israel have expected God’s intimate knowledge of them to lead to punishment, or to something else? Does God still work this way?

**Question:** In verses 3-6, what is the line of reasoning that the Lord develops in these words of admonishment to His people? What is the expected answer to each of the questions asked? What are we to learn from this?

**Question:** Why is God’s revelation to His prophets beneficial to His people (v. 7)? What does this tell you about the character and work of God?

**Question:** What is the expected answer to the two questions in verse 8? How does God speak/roar today?

## **Amos 3:9-15**

**Question:** What do verses 9-10 say about Israel's morality and lifestyle in comparison with the pagan nations?

**Question:** What do you learn about the fierceness of this judgment (vv. 11-12)? What do you learn about the mercy of God even during this judgment?

**Question:** Why did God promise to destroy the altars (v. 14)?

**Question:** What was God addressing by promising to destroy these houses (v. 15)?

## **Reflection**

How does the church in America resemble the nation of Israel whom Amos prophesied?  
How do you resemble the condition of the nation to whom Amos spoke?