

## **Amos 6:1-14**

### Security

#### **Introduction**

**Question:** Why do you think people are willing to sacrifice so much to obtain success, wealth, power, and prestige?

Success, wealth, power, prestige — these are eagerly sought by many today. People are willing to sacrifice their marriages, their families and even their health to obtain these goals. But in the end, most discover that the rewards were not worth the cost. Amos tells us how to avoid this tragedy in our lives.

#### **Amos 6:1-14**

**Question:** What repeated words or phrases do you see in this passage?

**Question:** To what city does Zion refer to? Why should her mention grab our attention?

**Question:** Why should people feel at ease there? Why would people feel secure on the mountains of Samaria?

**Question:** In what ways are you at ease and secure in the church? In what ways is our church at ease and secure?

**Question:** Summarize in one sentence what Amos is saying about Israel in verses 4-6. Now summarize it in one word. Is God against these things or is He saying something else through Amos?

**Question:** Would these words be applicable to the church today? If so, how, and if not, why not? In what ways do these statements describe you?

**Question:** How does the “therefore” that begins verse 7 connect what precedes with what follows?

**Question:** What do you think of when you read that God hates something (vv. 8-10)?

**Question:** What do you learn in verse 11 about the people who will be judged (ex. rich, poor, both)? What is the expected answer for the questions in verse 12a, and how do these questions set up the formal accusation in 12b?

**Question:** Amos mentions two real towns in verse 13 (Lo Debar means “nothing” and Karnaim means “horns”). How does knowing these meanings help you understand what Amos is saying? What is the main indictment against Israel in this verse? Does this formal accusation describe the 21st century church as well? Why or why not?

### **Reflection**

In their complacency and security, Israel failed to grieve over the ruin of their nation. In what ways can the church live to avoid God’s describing us in the same way?