

The Falling Fire

Description

[RG AUDIO 071013](#)

Amos 1:11—2:5

In Scripture fire often symbolizes the presence of God (think of Moses at the burning bush). In the book of Acts fire was a symbol of the purifying work of the Holy Spirit (Acts 15:8-9). In Amos, fire speaks of judgment. God repeatedly says, “I will send fire.” God will judge the nations. Dr. W. T. Purkiser viewed divine wrath as “The unfailing opposition of God’s holy love to all that is evil.” Certainly God’s holy love opposes those who commit brutal crimes against people God had created.

Amos warns the falling fire is sent not only upon pagan nations but upon God’s own people. They had turned from the God who had chosen them, freed them from bondage, and entered into a covenant agreement with them. Claiming to be a covenant partner with the Sovereign Lord carries a responsibility to live in accordance with His revealed word. Jesus stressed this same responsibility to His disciples. “If you love me, keep my commands” (John 14:15). May we show our love for Christ today, especially through our love for others.

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