

Embrace
Holy
Living

RE- FLECTING GOD

07/15/13 - God's Broken Heart

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Amos 4:1-13

Amos, chapter 4, seems harsh. "The time will surely come," God tells His people, "when you will be taken away with hooks, the last of you with fishhooks" (4:2). A terrible image! It gets worse: "I gave you empty stomachs in every city" (v. 6). "I sent plagues among you" (v. 10). "I killed your young men" (v. 10).

Verse 4 gives us a clue as to why God was so angry with His people: "Go to Bethel and sin; go to Gilgal and sin yet more. . . . This is what you love to do" (vv. 4-5). Five times in these 13 verses, God says, "yet you have not returned to me" (vv. 6, 8, 9, 10, 11). Do you hear the heartbreak in God's voice? God had given His people ample opportunity to turn from their sins, but they would not. Even when disasters befell them, they did not examine their lives to see if they could be the cause of their own misery.

Even when we turn our backs on God, He will go to great lengths to recapture our attention. This is a great and redemptive love!

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