

Sermon Notes

Concerns for the Family

#6 – “The Central Aspect of Family Life – The Word of God”

I. Introduction.

A. The importance of the Word of God.

1. Jesus and the Word – integrated. John 1:1; Hebrews 1:1-2
2. Diminishing of the Word of God is as old as Adam.
 - a. Pirates and the skull and cross bones. Gen. 3:1, 4-5
3. Satan’s standard attack – Diminish the Scripture.

B. Times when the Word of God is held high.

1. Reformation period.

C. Times when the Word of God is diminished.

1. Diminished, distorted and denied.
2. Today is a day of all three.
3. Diminished in spite of all the exposure to the Word of God.
 - a. Examples
4. There is a growing famine for the true Bread of Life.
 - a. Recent comment by R.C. Sproul

D. Today’s Text – Amos 8:11-14

II. Exposition

A. Background on Amos

1. Country and ministry

B. Amos 8:11

1. God will stop speaking.

2. The future would reveal no prophetic voice.

3. The nature of famines

- a. Examples
- b. A powerful metaphor

C. Amos 8:12-13

1. The longing for food caused the people to stagger.
2. The Word lost – Luke 17: 22; John 7:34

D. Amos 8:14

1. “Guilt” or “Shame”
 - a. Connection to idol worship.
 1. II Chronicles 24:18; 33:23

III. Applications

A. Today’s famine for God’s Word (reasons)

1. Lack of churches systematically preaching the Word of God.
 - a. Testimony of people who arrive here.
2. The problem of idolatry – People choosing to worship God with false ways and means.
 - a. Preaching the Word but the Word not heeded.

IV. Points for Reflection

A. Be a hearer and doer of the Word.

1. James 1:22-25

B. Let our children hear and see the Word of God’s operation in our lives.

C. Closing illustration.