

A NAME CALLING SERMON

TEXT: Amos 6:1 Woe to them that are at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, which are named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came!

THESIS: To attempt to wake God's people from their careless, comfortable state and alarm the unconverted.

INTRO.: A. Today I am going to call the roll of this church. When **your name** is called – **answer!** When I mention **you** – **respond!**

ILLUS.: We sing "*When the Roll is Called Up Yonder, I'll Be There*" – but I wonder if you will be happy or sad when your name is called? Have you ever trembled at the sound of your name being called?

1 Jn. 2:28 *And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming .*

B. The context of our text speaks of Judah about to be overrun by the Assyrians, while Judah is "**at ease**." But we will apply it to those who are "**at ease**" in the church. We have slumbering souls and sleeping saints in our midst. God calls out to all to **wake up!** One of the fastest ways to waken someone is to call their name.

I. ROLL CALL OF THE SAINTS: "*at ease in Zion...*"

A. A Call to the Sleeping Saint:

1. When the "shout" comes at the rapture not one "**dead in Christ**" will be missed.
2. The sleeping saint in their earthen caskets or those buried at sea will come forth.
3. No believer's body, wherever it may have been scattered will be missing at that "**meeting in the air.**"

B. A Call to the Spiritual Saint:

1. To rest in the Lord is not sinful, in fact every saint should be at peace w/Him.
2. The "**wicked are like the troubled sea**" and can never truly rest or enjoy peace.

Isaiah 57:20 *But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.*

C. A Call to the Sinning Saint:

1. There is a different scenario here – to be called while in a state of unconfessed sin will be serious business.
2. Woe to the backslidden believer at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

2 Cor 5:10 *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.*

QUOTE: "Oh, I pray God I may never be found among the list of preachers who let their congregations continue peacefully in their sins." C.H. Spurgeon

a. The first name I call is "**Presumption**": "*Woe...they trust in the mountain of Samaria*" v.1

- 1) These are they who presume on the grace of God and offer imperfect obedience.
- 2) These are the self-righteous, the satisfied, the complacent, who trust in their eternal security to squeak by but fail to serve faithfully.

b. The next name I call is "**Procrastination**": "*Woe...ye put far away the evil day*" v.3

- 1) "I will do more for the Lord...tomorrow..."
- 2) "I cannot give now...but later..."
- 3) " I will serve the Lord when my family is grown & I have more time..."
- 4) "I will begin a devotional time soon..."

5) "I will go soul winning when I feel more confident..."

ILLUS.: Satan whispers: "Serve the Lord, but not now!" You think the rapture is a long way off – the Judgment Seat of Christ is a doctrine of prophecy for some distant day.

3. The third name I call is "Pleasure Seeker": "Woe...that lie upon beds of ivory" vv. 4-6

- a. "I want to enjoy the luxuries of the 'good life' - life is short!"
- b. "I want to indulge my selfish interests."
- c. "I need to take advantage of my wealth, position, possessions, etc."

ILLUS.: Someone said: "Fullness of bread often brings emptiness of heart." Some are thinking "That is not MY NAME he is calling" – are probably the most guilty. Oh the carnality of God's people today. We live in the age of blasphemy, sexuality, sensuality and instant gratification of fleshly sins on TV, the internet, movies, etc. Hey Christian – hey YOU – what is YOUR name? **Presumption? Procrastination? Pleasure Seeker?**

II. ROLL CALL OF THE SINNER: "Woe to YOU..."

A. The First Name I Call is "CARELESS": "Woe...to them that drink wine in bowls..." v.6a

1. He is asleep, but knows his danger.
2. He is asleep, but has frequent arousings:
 - a. You know your sin will destroy your body, yet continue in it.
 - b. You know your sin will destroy your soul, yet continue in it.

ILLUS.: You have heard the gospel, but have shunned it. You have been called to awake but you ignore the call. ***This message, this Bible, this baptistry, this communion table, these pews, these people, this church... will be a witness against you.***

B. The Next Name I Call is "CALLOUSED": "Woe...ye have not grieved for the affliction of Joseph" v. 6b

1. He has become hardened.
2. He has heard warning after warning, the Gospel thunders but he tunes it out.
3. He has become impervious; he has been moved again and again but shuts out the warning.

ILLUS.: He is like the butterfly in the warm sun of summer but doesn't give any thought to the approaching winter.

C. The Last Name I Call is "COMFORTABLE":

1. He is like the battle hardened soldier who sleeps in spite of the artillery.
2. He has learned to fluff off convictions and warnings & settles back in ease forgetting that ***"it is appointed unto man once to die, and after this the judgment."***

CONCL.: Christian, did I call your name today? **Presumption...Procrastination...Pleasure Seeker?**

Sinner, did I call YOUR name today? **Careless...Calloused...Comfortable?**

His is a "wake up call"! Usually those who hear the Gospel a few times, respond. But the longer they hear it without responding, the harder it is to wake up. Why not now? Oh, why not NOW?!

