



## AT EASE IN ZION

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### *Amos 6:1*

*1 Woe to you who are **at ease in Zion**,*

### *Zephaniah 1:12*

*12 “ And it shall come to pass at that time  
That I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
And punish the men  
Who are settled in **complacency**,  
Who say in their heart,*

*‘ The LORD will not do good,  
Nor will He do evil.’*

**Complacency:** *The original Hebrew word used here is this portion of scripture, translated to complacency, literally means on their lees, that is, settled like the dregs of wine*

**The word used here carries with it the idea of settling into a place of comfort or ease. The place or path of least resistance.**

### *Lee*

- 1. Protective shelter: The lee of the rock gave us some protection against the storm.*
- 2. The side or part that is sheltered or turned away from the wind: We erected our huts under the lee of the mountain.*

**Lees** - *the insoluble matter that settles from a liquid, esp. from wine; sediment; dregs.*

### *Jeremiah 48:11-12*

*11 “ Moab has been at ease from his youth;  
He has settled on his dregs,  
And has not been emptied from vessel to vessel,  
Nor has he gone into captivity.  
Therefore his taste remained in him,  
And his scent has not changed.*

12 “ Therefore behold, the days are coming,” says the LORD,

“ That I shall send him wine-workers  
Who will tip him over  
And empty his vessels  
And break the bottles.

**Psalm 55:19**

19 God will hear, and afflict them,  
Even He who abides from of old.  
**Because they do not change,  
Therefore they do not fear God.**

**If we sit back on our lees and do not change or grow we are in danger of having our bottles tipped and our wine spilt out. If we sit in our pews and become complacent it is because we have lost our fear of God. We say,**

‘ The LORD will not do good,  
Nor will He do evil.’

**We come to the knowledge of God and a more complete understanding of who He is when we fear Him. It is when we have a reverence for Him, a deep respect of Him, that we are able to begin to know Him on a deeper level. If we become complacent by sitting back on our lees we enter into a dangerous place. We are in danger of sinning against Him by presuming on His grace, taking Him for granted and becoming unprofitable to Him by not revealing His Son.**

**Proverbs 2:5**

5 Then you will understand **the fear of the LORD,**  
**And find the knowledge of God.**

**1 Chronicles 16:25**

25 For the LORD is great and greatly to be praised;  
**He is also to be feared above all gods.**

**Psalm 96:4**

4 For the LORD is great and greatly to be praised;  
**He is to be feared above all gods.**

**Romans 3:10-19**

10 As it is written:

*“ There is none righteous, no, not one;  
11 There is none who understands;  
There is none who seeks after God.  
12 They have all turned aside;  
**They have together become unprofitable;**  
There is none who does good, no, not one.”  
13 “ Their throat is an open tomb;  
With their tongues they have practised deceit”;*

*“ The poison of asps is under their lips”;  
14 “ Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.”  
15 “ Their feet are swift to shed blood;  
16 Destruction and misery are in their ways;  
17 And the way of peace they have not known.”  
18 “ **There is no fear of God before their eyes.**”*

**We need to have a healthy fear of God. A fear that will drive us to our knees to seek Him and know Him. A fear that will cause us to walk in His ways. To walk forward in the light of obedience to the will of the Father. A fear that will cause us to enter into labour with Christ for His Church and the lost. Paul filled up in his flesh the afflictions of Christ that were lacking for Christ’s church. It is the fear of God that will move us forward into the Fathers will so that we will do the same.**

***Colossians 1:24***

*24 I now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and **fill up in my flesh what is lacking in the afflictions of Christ, for the sake of His body, which is the church,***

**The Old Testament offerings were a picture of Christ. They represented the offering of Christ giving Himself completely to the Father. They represented Christ’s total submission and obedience to the will of the Father. They were given to God by fire to represent the consuming fire of God’s holy nature to burn up the flesh and consume sin.**

***Exodus 24:17***

*17 The sight of the glory of the LORD was like **a consuming fire** on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel.*

***Deuteronomy 4:24***

*24 For the LORD your God is **a consuming fire, a jealous God.***

***Hebrews 12:29***

*29 For our God is **a consuming fire.***

**It is the burning of God that sets the sacrifice ablaze and produces the smoke, the incense, the aroma. The aroma becomes the smell of self-less love. It is the love of the Son for the Father revealed through the burning. Christ who gave himself as an offering and a sacrifice to God the Father.**

***Exodus 29:18***

*18 And you shall burn the whole ram on the altar. It is a burnt offering to the LORD; it is a sweet aroma, an offering made by fire to the LORD.*

***Ephesians 5:2***

*2 And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.*

**There is an ongoing offering that is being made by fire. It is an offering in righteousness, the offering of Christ. It is a sacrifice and it burns on an altar. The altar is our hearts set ablaze with a consuming love fire for God. It releases the revelation of Christ through His body, the church. It aligns us with and reflects Christ's willingness to be the seed that falls into the ground to die in order to bring forth much fruit. It is the call of the church, the body of Christ, to reveal the aroma of the Son. An aroma that expresses our true worship the sweet incense of the fragrance of Christ made by fire.**

***2 Corinthians 2:14-16***

*14 Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. 15 For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. 16 To the one we are the aroma of death leading to death, and to the other the aroma of life leading to life. And who is sufficient for these things?*

**We are to God the fragrance, or aroma, of the sacrifice of Christ. We diffuse the fragrance of Christ in the earth. We are the fragrance of the Son to the Father. The Son who does always please the Father.**

***John 8:28-29***

*28 Then Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. 29 And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him."*

***2 Peter 1:17***

*17 For He received from God the Father honour and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."*

***Isaiah 53:10***

*10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him;*

*He has put Him to grief.*

*When You make His soul an offering for sin,*

*He shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days,*

*And the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.*

The Father is pleased to bruise the Son and call forth the sacrifice. The Father now waits and calls for the ongoing sacrifice of the Son through His body the Church. Like Paul, we are called to fill up the offering. We are called to diffuse the aroma of the Son in every place. The aroma of Christ can only rise over a burning Church. It is the fire of God burning on the altar of our hearts that burns the sacrifice and causes the aroma of the Son to rise into the face of the Father. It is this aroma that turns the face of the Father toward the Son. It turns the face of the Father toward all the sons and daughters who through sacrifice and burning raise the incense and typify Christ.

***Exodus 29:18***

*18 And you shall burn the whole ram on the altar. It is a burnt offering to the LORD; it is a sweet aroma, an offering made by fire to the LORD.*

Every time the sweet aroma offering is spoken about in the old testament it is said to be an offering made by fire. It is the fire of God that produces the offering.

***Numbers 28:8***

*8 The other lamb you shall offer in the evening; as the morning grain offering and its drink offering, you shall offer it as an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the LORD.*

We can not create this incense by our own good works. It is revealed through the burning of God. It is by walking in submission to the will of God, through obedient sacrifice, produced through doing the will of the Father that the aroma is released and rises before His face. It is when we walk in obedience to the Spirit, the will of the Father, that the flesh is cut and put to death. The flesh is offered up everyday, every time and in everyplace we obey. This is taking up your cross daily to follow the Son. This is dying to self. It is obedience that fans the flame to consume the sacrifice of flesh and produce the fragrance of the Son.

***Isaiah 64:6-7***

*6 But we are all like an unclean thing,  
And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags;*

***Malachi 3:3***

*3 He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver;  
He will purify the sons of Levi,  
And purge them as gold and silver;  
That they may offer to the LORD  
An offering in righteousness.*

***Amos 6:1***

*1 Woe to you who are at ease in Zion,*

*“They rob me of my Son.” They love to come before me with celebration, music and dancing, but it is the sacrifice of flesh that they parade before me. They think I delight in their flesh, but it is a stench before me. The only offering I can receive is the offering of my Son. I am looking for the revelation of Christ in and through my church. Christ always pleases me. He is my high priest, He is my intercessor, He is burdened for the lost. He weeps for those who do not know me. He labours for the harvest of souls. He is the lord of the harvest looking for labourers He can send into the harvest. He is the lord of Hosts, leading my army into battle. He trains my soldiers for war. He calls up my army, equips them for the battle and leads them to victory. If you reveal Him you will reveal my will. If you do not reveal Christ you reveal the stench of your own sinful nature, your flesh. I will vomit the sin of flesh out of my mouth. The lukewarm I will spew out. My Son is Spirit and those who reveal Him must worship me in Spirit and in truth. To reveal my son to me you must be willing to die. Die to the flesh and surrender all to me. You must be filled with the Spirit and be clothed in the purity and holiness of Christ. You must put on the armour of God, that is my Son, walk in the light, that is my Son and enter the battle of my warrior Son. My Son is fighting with you, for you and the lost. He is given to bringing before me an offering in righteousness. He is given to bringing many sons to redemption and presenting them holy before my throne. Will you enter this battle with my Son? Will you reveal the work of my Son? Will you reveal my Son? Or will you, like the lukewarm church, rob me of my Son? All who love the comfort of the harlot church hate me. They despise my reign. They refuse my authority and love ease and the comfort. They love the comfort of Jezebel. They love the comfort of the harlot and drink at her breast. They love to hear and answer her call to come away from the battle to enjoy her ease, comfort and prosperity. She rewards her own and pays them for their love of her. With the promise of ease and prosperity, she seduces my servants to steal the offering of my Son away from me.*