

hear, something that was true, it was God's Word, but it was something that was not displeasing to the people, something they liked to hear. Then after gaining this respectful attention he gave them something they didn't like to hear. He went on and gave God's denunciation against the sin and wickedness of the people of Israel. So that continues to the next several chapters and up to chapter 7, verse 10, where we read that "Amaziah, the priest of Bethel (you remember where Bethel is) sent to Jeroboam king of Israel saying, Amos has conspired against me in the midst of the house of Israel and the land is not able to bear all his words. And Amaziah said to Amos, oh, thou seer, flee thee away into the land of Judah and go and prophecy there, but prophecy not any more in Bethel. It is the king's chapel and it is the king's court." He said "you have a good message and it would be a fine thing to go into that other country and give them the message. They really need it over there. But he said, really we don't need it over here in Bethel." It reminds me of the--I don't know whether I have said it in this class before-- the man who told me of the time he preached in Trenton in a church and his son had worked there. I think I did mention that incident in this class. Didn't I? Well, he told how his son had worked in the fall and the son had been very much impressed with corrupt practices on the part of the employer so when the father was invited to preach in a church there of which his employer was a member, he gave a sermon on righteousness in business and he just laid it on as hard as he could thinking, now I've got the man where he has got to listen to me and I'm going to really lay him out. He went in strongly on righteousness in business. When he got through he saw that man coming right straight up toward him. He thought he was going to hit him or something and was worried. When the man got there his face was covered with a smile and said, "That was a wonderful sermon. My competitors ought to hear that sermon. Let me publish it and distribute it to them." He knew it was just exactly what his competitors needed but he never dreamed of it being having any relevance to himself. *End of pp.*