

**Emmanuel Service**  
**6.9.2020**

**Sermon Notes:**  
**Amos 1:3-2:3**

How does God view mankind/the UK?

- In our passage we see the Lord judging the nations surrounding Israel
- We need to ask why God judged them before asking whether we deserve the same judgment

**1. Why did God judge those Kingdoms?**

Have a look through the passage to see why God judged 6 Kingdoms surrounding Israel.

- Damascus
- Gaza
- Tyre
- Edom
- Ammon
- Moab

We could summarise it by saying they treated people as things and valued things higher than people.

- Don't you agree that those nations deserved God's judgment for what they did?

**2. What about the United Kingdom?**

How do we compare?

- Well we have been made more aware recently through the Black Lives Matter movement of the UK's involvement in the slave trade in the past.
- But we still have a country where the colour of a person's skin can mean they face barriers in their lives
- Furthermore we rely on child labour in other countries for the production of our mobile phones and our clothes
- On top of that each year in the UK, according to government statistics, over 200,000 babies are aborted (that is greater than the population of the town of Bournemouth!).
- Do we treat people as things and value things higher than people? Sadly we do.
- And therefore we have to say that we deserve God's judgment just as much as the Kingdom's surrounding Israel.
- But so does every nation.

**3. What's the solution?...The Kingdom of God**

800 years after Amos prophesied Jesus started his public ministry by saying: 'The Kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news.'

- Jesus is the King of God's Kingdom
- Jesus showed what it means to love people and not treat them as things
- And amongst his followers were the marginalised and the rejected

- But also...those who mistreated others!
- Matthew was a tax collector, as was Zacchaeus – they valued money far more than they valued people.
- Jesus said he had not come to call the righteous but sinners (Mark 2:17)
- That means he came for people who have had abortions, slave traders, the selfish, the greedy and...us!
- He came to die to take our sin, to wash us clean and change our hearts by his love so we can love one another.
- God's solution is to set up His Kingdom – a kingdom of sinners changed by Jesus.
- Will you, if you haven't yet, come to Him to be washed clean and transformed by His grace?
- In the service we then sing the song 'Amazing Grace' written by John Newton a slave trader transformed by the gospel. If you can how about listening to that song or singing it?