

Review

- Affluence in Genesis (Servant Dominion vs. Serpent Dominion)
- Affluence in the Exodus
 - Release from oppressive work
 - Poverty vs. slavery
 - The Law - Poverty and Affluence
 - Gleaning and the Jubilee Year

Affluence and the Conquest

- Promised blessing in the land (Deut 8:7-10)
- Spiritual danger of affluence (Deut 8:11-20; 30:15-20)
- Land inheritance (Num 26:52-56)
- Consequence of complacency (Deut 4:25-40; 8:11-22)
- Blessings for obedience (Deut 7:12-15)
- Slavery (Deut 15:12-18; Ex 21:16; Amos 1:6)



Discussion

Affluence offers the potential for delight good, but it is dangerous in proportion to the freedom that it brings. Yet God delivered the Israelites into a condition of extreme material prosperity and power. What were the implications for them as they entered the land? What are the implications for us today?

Affluence and the Exile

- The exile was a reversal of the Exodus, from affluence to slavery. (Amos 6:4-7; 3:1-2; 9:7-8)
- Divine punishment is the expected response to misuse of affluence. (Amos 2:6-7; 5:10-11; 3:15-4:3; 8:5-6)
- This is not abated by religious enthusiasm (Amos 5:21-24)
- Judgment on the Nations (Amos 1:3-2:16)

Discussion

What is the proper balance of poverty to riches? (Prov 30:7-9) Is there a right way to handle affluence?

Consider the readings above from Amos. How might the United States be judged as a nation in comparison with the nations surrounding Israel in Amos 1-2? How does our personal stewardship of our own wealth hold up against the Lord's standards outlined in these passages?

