

^{Amos}
~~L~~asea VI. 1. There is no Condition more dangerous
to the Souls of men than to be in the Church with-
- out the enjoyment of Religion -

Those who are at ease in the Church are slumber-
- ing upon the brink of ruin, quietly asleep in the arms
of their delusion.

The wholesome truths of the Gospel are in danger of
being derided & neglected -

The text was addressed to the antient Israelites, when
they had become self confident &c - will apply to
lukewarm Christians in every age of the world -

We are not to conclude from the language of the text,
that there is no real happiness in the service of God.
The genuine sons & daughters of Zion are not destitute
of peace & joy -

But the woe mentioned in the text, is denounced vs.
persons of quite a different Character -

1. Those who are at ease are ignorant of the great
importance of spiritual & eternal things.

2. We remark in the next place, that the persons
described in the text, are the subjects of some con-
stitutional weakness &c -

3. Those who are at ease in Zion feel little or no
concern for the prosperity of the Church -

4. Those who are at ease, are disposed to procrast-
- inate what they know to be their present duty.

II. We shall consider in the second place ^{Some} of the causes of this evil.

1. It may sometimes arise from the popular favor which Christianity has gained in the eyes of the world — There is but little reproach connected with Religion in the present age of the world.

We do not say that the want of persecution is the cause of all this evil, neither should we seek the reproaches of the world —

2. Another Cause of Carnal security, may arise from worldly prosperity. Religion can bear any thing better than worldly prosperity — Many men of Talent & piety have been ruined by a change of fortune.

3. Another Cause may arise from a mistaken view of the practical duties of Religion.

Idleness is a menour evil —

III. We shall notice in the last place the influence and danger of those who are at ease in Zion.

1. They are a hinderance to all who behold their conduct — Had it not been for the bad example of professed Christians — — —

2. Those who are at ease in Zion are in danger of dying impenitent — — —

3. They will loose their reward —