

\* Oracle #2 (6:1-14): Woe to your \_\_\_\_\_ life!

A. Affluence without influence creates false \_\_\_\_\_ (vv 1-3)

1. You lose capacity to distinguish \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ security
2. You see greed in \_\_\_\_\_ but not in \_\_\_\_\_

B. Affluence without influence makes one \_\_\_\_\_ to the needs of others (vv 4-6)

1. Am I more powerful than you are?
2. If so, it is incumbent upon me to take it from you

C. Affluence without influence will lead to “\_\_\_\_\_” because it is worthless to God (vv 7-14)

# —Generations—

January 22

January 29

February 5

February 12

February 19

March 4

Teen Years

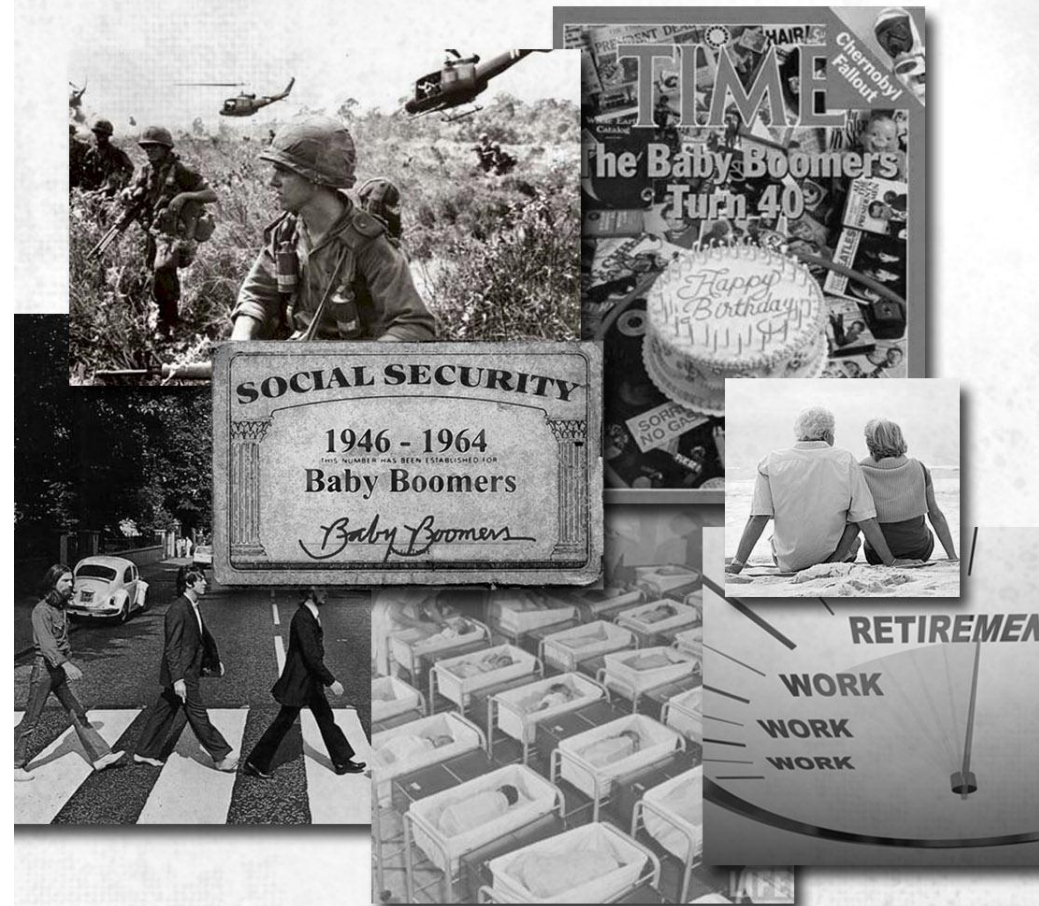
Emerging Adults

Generation X

**Boomers**

Golden Years

Generation Z



# Affluence without Influence

*Amos 6:1-14*

(This is the 4th in a series of messages on Generations)

**Baby Boomers...**there are lots and lots of them too. To be exact **80 million** baby boomers were born between **1945-1965**. Every day in America for the next nineteen years, 10,000 turn age 65. Boomers can be proud of what they have done to this point. Walter Mead encapsulated the contributions in the following.

“My generation has some real accomplishments under its belt, especially in the worlds of science and technology. And we made important progress in making American society a more open place for people and groups who were once excluded. In every field of American life, there are Boomers who have made and are making important, selfless contributions: in hospitals, in classrooms, in government, in business, in the military. You name it and we are there.”

*Unfortunately this is not the whole story.* At the level of public policy and moral leadership, as a generation Boomers have largely failed. The Boomer Progressive Establishment in particular has been a huge disappointment to itself and to the country. The political class slumbered as the entitlement and pension crisis grew to ominous dimensions. Boomer financial leadership was selfish and shortsighted, by and large. This is the generation that brought Enron, WorldCom, insider trading scandals and sub-prime mortgages.

Here is how another Boomer sized it up –

“What the Boomers as a generation missed (there were, of course and thankfully, many honorable individual exceptions) was the core set of values that every generation must discover to make a successful transition to real adulthood: maturity.”

About 2700 years ago, a prophet named Amos stepped up to confront the narcissistic attitudes of that generation. **“Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,”** was his opening words to his oracle in 6:1. In short: **Affluence without influence is worthless to God.** Let’s see the rest of it.

## Oracle #1 (5:18-27): Woe to your \_\_\_\_\_ life!

A. “We are \_\_\_\_\_, and, therefore, God must think we are \_\_\_\_\_”

B. “We will \_\_\_\_\_ God so that we can be more \_\_\_\_\_ and get more riches”

C. \_\_\_\_\_ worship becomes \_\_\_\_\_  
worship! (vv 21-27)