

# **The Teachings of Amos**

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# **The Teachings of Amos**

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First Edition on 7/27/2025

# Introduction

One of the ways I've been studying the Word of God is by making a list of everything that each book of the Bible teaches. This has resulted in more than a thousand pages of material. Although it's interesting and I've learned a lot from writing it, that's a lot of bullet points to read through!

This isn't intended to summarize each book of the Bible because that's what my "Chapter Summary of the Bible" is for. It's also not intended to offer in-depth commentary because that's what my regular commentary is for. This book is simply a collection of points that I found interesting.

I hope there's some material here that you find edifying.

Jon Cooper

4/29/2024

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# Chapter 1

**Amos 1:1:** "The words of Amos, who was among the herdmen of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel, two years before the earthquake."

- This book contains the words of Amos.
- Amos was a prophet.
- Amos was a herdman (a keeper of livestock).
- Amos was from Tekoa.
- God called a herdman (a keeper of livestock) to be a prophet.
- This prophecy is about Israel (not Judah).
- This prophecy was given to Amos when Uzziah was king of Judah.
- This prophecy was given to Amos when Jeroboam was king of Israel.
- Jeroboam was the son of Joash.
- This prophecy was given two years before a significant earthquake.

**Amos 1:2:** "And he said, The LORD will roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the habitations of the shepherds shall mourn, and the top of Carmel shall wither."

- The Lord will roar from Zion.
- The Lord will speak from Jerusalem.
- When the Lord speaks, the shepherds will mourn.

- When the Lord speaks, the top of Carmel will wither.
- When the Lord speaks, judgment comes.
- There are times when the Lord speaks with a loud voice.

**Amos 1:3:** "Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron:"

- The Lord gave Amos a prophecy against Damascus (a city in Syria).
- God was going to punish Damascus for four transgressions.
- God was going to punish Damascus because of the terrible things they did to Gilead (which was Jewish territory east of the Jordan river).
- There are times when God punishes nations because of what they do to the Jews.
- The Syrians waged war against the Jews and killed many of them with weapons of iron.
- God becomes angry when people kill the Jews.
- It's wrong for nations to wage war against the Jews.
- It's wrong for people to kill the Jews.
- God holds nations accountable for how they treat the Jews.

**Amos 1:4:** "But I will send a fire into the house of Hazael, which shall devour the palaces of Benhadad."



- Because of what the Syrians did to the Jews, God was going to set the house of Hazael (king of Damascus) on fire.
- Because of what the Syrians did to the Jews, God was going to burn down the palaces of Benhadad (son of Hazael).

**Amos 1:5:** "I will break also the bar of Damascus, and cut off the inhabitant from the plain of Aven, and him that holdeth the sceptre from the house of Eden: and the people of Syria shall go into captivity unto Kir, saith the LORD."

- Because of what the Syrians did to the Jews, God was going to destroy Damascus.
- Because of what the Syrians did to the Jews, God was going to kill everyone in the plain of Aven.
- Because of what the Syrians did to the Jews, God was going to kill all of the rulers from the house of Eden.
- Because of what the Syrians did to the Jews, God was going to send the Syrians into captivity.
- When the Syrians were taken captive, they would be brought to Kir (a place east of the Euphrates river, in Iraq).
- There are times when God kills those who kill the Jews.
- There are times when God destroys nations because they killed the Jews.
- There are times when God sends entire nations into slavery because they killed the Jews.

**Amos 1:6:** "Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of

Gaza, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they carried away captive the whole captivity, to deliver them up to Edom:"

- The Lord gave Amos a prophecy against Gaza (a city of the Philistines).
- God was going to punish the Philistines for four transgressions.
- God was going to punish the Philistines because they took Jews captive and delivered them to the Edomites (a nation that hated the Jews).
- The Philistines enslaved the Jews.
- When the Philistines enslaved the Jews, they gave them to the Edomites.
- It's wrong to enslave the Jews.

**Amos 1:7:** "But I will send a fire on the wall of Gaza, which shall devour the palaces thereof:"

- Because of what the Philistines did to the Jews, God was going to burn down the wall that protected the city of Gaza.
- Because of what the Philistines did to the Jews, God was going to burn down the palaces of Gaza.
- There are times when God burns down cities because of what their inhabitants did to the Jews.

**Amos 1:8:** "And I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod, and him that holdeth the sceptre from Ashkelon, and I will turn mine hand against Ekron: and the remnant of the Philistines

shall perish, saith the Lord GOD."

- Because of what the Philistines did to the Jews, God was going to kill the inhabitants of Ashdod.
- Because of what the Philistines did to the Jews, God was going to kill the rulers of Ashkelon.
- Because of what the Philistines did to the Jews, God was going to wage war against Ekron.
- Because of what the Philistines did to the Jews, God was going to kill the remnants of the Philistines.
- There are times when God kills the rulers of nations because of what they did to the Jews.
- There are times when God destroys entire nations, and all of their inhabitants, because of what they did to the Jews.
- God was going to utterly destroy the nation of the Philistines. Not even a remnant would be left.

**Amos 1:9:** "Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Tyrus, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they delivered up the whole captivity to Edom, and remembered not the brotherly covenant:"

- The Lord gave Amos a prophecy against Tyre.
- God was going to punish Tyre for four transgressions.
- God was going to punish Tyre because they took Jews captive and delivered them to the Edomites (a nation that hated the Jews).
- God was going to punish Tyre because they broke the covenant that they made with the Jews.
- There are times when God punishes nations for breaking

their covenants.

- God requires nations to keep their covenants and do what they promised to do.
- The people of Tyre enslaved the Jews.
- When the people of Tyre enslaved the Jews, they gave them to the Edomites.
- Tyre had made a covenant with the Jews.
- The rulers of Tyre didn't keep the covenant they made with the Jews.

**Amos 1:10:** "But I will send a fire on the wall of Tyrus, which shall devour the palaces thereof."

- Because of what Tyre did to the Jews, God was going to burn down the wall that protected the city.
- Because of what Tyre did to the Jews, God was going to burn down the palaces of the city.

**Amos 1:11:** "Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Edom, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he did pursue his brother with the sword, and did cast off all pity, and his anger did tear perpetually, and he kept his wrath for ever:"

- The Lord gave Amos a prophecy against Edom.
- God was going to punish Edom for four transgressions.
- God was going to punish Edom because they killed the Jews.
- God was going to punish Edom because they refused to pity the Jews.

- God was going to punish Edom because they were perpetually angry with the Jews.
- There are times when God punishes nations that kill the Jews.
- There are times when God punishes nations that refuse to take pity on the Jews.
- There are times when God punishes nations that are angry with the Jews.
- It's wrong to kill the Jews.
- It's wrong to refuse to pity the Jews.
- It's wrong to have perpetual anger at the Jews.

**Amos 1:12:** "But I will send a fire upon Teman, which shall devour the palaces of Bozrah."

- Because of what Edom did to the Jews, God was going to set Teman (a city in Edom) on fire.
- Because of what Edom did to the Jews, God was going to burn down the palaces of Bozrah.

**Amos 1:13:** "Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of the children of Ammon, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have ripped up the women with child of Gilead, that they might enlarge their border:"

- The Lord gave Amos a prophecy against Ammon.
- God was going to punish Ammon for four transgressions.
- God was going to punish Ammon because they killed pregnant Jews in Gilead.

- The Ammonites slaughtered pregnant Jewish women.
- The reason the Ammonites slaughtered pregnant Jewish women was to enlarge their territory.
- The Ammonites waged war against the Jews and took their territory.
- It's wrong to murder pregnant Jewish women.

**Amos 1:14:** "But I will kindle a fire in the wall of Rabbah, and it shall devour the palaces thereof, with shouting in the day of battle, with a tempest in the day of the whirlwind:"

- Because of what the Ammonites did to the Jews, God was going to burn down the wall that protected Rabbah.
- Because of what the Ammonites did to the Jews, God was going to burn down the palaces of Rabbah.
- Because of what the Ammonites did to the Jews, God was going to send war against Rabbah.

**Amos 1:15:** "And their king shall go into captivity, he and his princes together, saith the LORD."

- Because of what the Ammonites did to the Jews, God was going to send their king into captivity.
- Because of what the Ammonites did to the Jews, God was going to send their princes into captivity.
- There are times when God sends rulers into slavery because of what they did to the Jews.
- God holds rulers accountable for how they treat the Jews.
- God doesn't permit rulers to do as they please. There are

consequences for their actions.

## Chapter 2

**Amos 2:1:** "Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Moab, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he burned the bones of the king of Edom into lime:"

- The Lord gave Amos a prophecy against Moab.
- God was going to punish Moab for four transgressions.
- God was going to punish Moab because the king of Moab took the bones of the king of Edom and burned them.
- Even though God was angry with Edom and was going to punish them, God didn't approve of what the king of Moab did to the king of Edom.
- Just because God is angry with someone, and is going to punish them, doesn't give us the right to take our own private vengeance.
- It's a terrible thing to burn someone's bones.
- God becomes greatly offended when someone's bones are burned.
- Cremation is bad.
- The king of Moab burned the bones of the king of Edom.
- Burning someone's bones was such a serious offense that God punished an entire nation for it.
- God holds rulers accountable for their actions.
- God holds rulers accountable for how they treat the

rulers of other nations.

- God holds rulers accountable for how they treat the dead bodies of other rulers.
- There are times when God punishes nations because of how they treated a dead body.

**Amos 2:2:** "But I will send a fire upon Moab, and it shall devour the palaces of Kirioth: and Moab shall die with tumult, with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet:"

- Because the king of Moab burned the bones of the king of Edom, God was going to set the country of Moab on fire.
- Because the king of Moab burned the bones of the king of Edom, God was going to burn down the palaces of Kirioth.
- Because the king of Moab burned the bones of the king of Edom, God was going to destroy the nation of Moab.
- Moab was going to be destroyed.
- Moab was going to be destroyed by a tumult (an angry mob).
- Moab was going to be destroyed with shouting.
- Moab was going to be destroyed with the sound of a trumpet (which most likely called people to battle).

**Amos 2:3:** "And I will cut off the judge from the midst thereof, and will slay all the princes thereof with him, saith the LORD."

- Because the king of Moab burned the bones of the king of Edom, God was going to kill the judges of Moab.



- Because the king of Moab burned the bones of the king of Edom, God was going to kill the princes of Moab.

**Amos 2:4:** "Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Judah, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have despised the law of the LORD, and have not kept his commandments, and their lies caused them to err, after the which their fathers have walked:"

- The Lord gave Amos a prophecy against Judah.
- God was going to punish Judah for four transgressions.
- God was going to punish Judah because the nation despised His Law.
- We must not despise the law of God.
- God destroys nations for despising His Law.
- The nation of Judah despised the Law of God.
- God has given us a Law.
- God requires us to obey His commandments.
- God was going to punish Judah because the nation didn't keep His commandments.
- We must keep God's commandments.
- God destroys nations for failing to keep His commandments.
- God was going to punish Judah because they were disobedient, just like their fathers before them.
- The people of Judah had been breaking God's commandments for multiple generations.
- The people of Judah were telling lies.

- The lies of the people of Judah were causing people to err (do things that were wrong).
- Lies are dangerous.

**Amos 2:5:** "But I will send a fire upon Judah, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem."

- Because the nation of Judah despised the Law of God, the Lord was going to set Judah on fire.
- Because the nation of Judah despised the Law of God, the Lord was going to burn down the palaces of Jerusalem.

**Amos 2:6:** "Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Israel, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they sold the righteous for silver, and the poor for a pair of shoes;"

- The Lord gave Amos a prophecy against Israel.
- God was going to punish Israel for four transgressions.
- God was going to punish Israel because they sold the righteous into slavery.
- God was going to punish Israel because they sold the poor into slavery.
- The people of Israel sold the righteous into slavery in exchange for silver.
- The people of Israel sold the poor into slavery in exchange for a pair of shoes.
- The people of Israel coveted silver.
- The people of Israel coveted shoes.

- The people of Israel sold people into slavery.
- It's wrong to sell the righteous into slavery.
- It's wrong to sell the poor into slavery.
- There are times when God punishes nations for their involvement in slavery.

**Amos 2:7:** "That pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the poor; and turn aside the way of the meek: and a man and his father will go in unto the same maid, to profane my holy name:"

- God was going to punish Israel for oppressing the poor.
- God was going to punish Israel for oppressing the meek.
- God was going to punish Israel for sexual immorality.
- Sexual immorality profanes the name of God.
- The name of God is holy.
- It's possible for us to profane the name of God through sin.
- It's wrong to oppress the poor.
- It's wrong to oppress the meek.
- It's wrong for a father and son to have sex with the same woman.
- There are times when God punishes nations for oppressing the poor.
- There are times when God punishes nations for oppressing the meek.
- There are times when God punishes nations for sexual immorality.

- The people of Israel were oppressing the poor.
- The people of Israel were oppressing the meek.
- The people of Israel were sexually immoral.

**Amos 2:8:** "And they lay themselves down upon clothes laid to pledge by every altar, and they drink the wine of the condemned in the house of their god."

- God was going to punish Israel for idolatry.
- The people of Israel were worshiping false gods.
- The people of Israel were pledging themselves to false gods.
- The people of Israel were drinking wine in pagan temples.
- There are times when God punishes nations for idolatry.
- There were pagan altars in Israel.
- There were pagan temples in Israel.
- Fathers and sons were having sex with the same woman in pagan temples, as an act of worship to idols. God hated this and was angry about it because it profaned His holy name.

**Amos 2:9:** "Yet destroyed I the Amorite before them, whose height was like the height of the cedars, and he was strong as the oaks; yet I destroyed his fruit from above, and his roots from beneath."

- When God gave Israel the promised land, He destroyed the Amorites who once inhabited that territory.
- The Amorites were exceedingly tall. They were giants.

- The Amorites were exceedingly strong.
- Even though the Amorites were tall and strong, God destroyed them and gave their land to Israel.
- God destroyed the Amorites from above.
- God destroyed the Amorites from below.
- Even though God destroyed the Amorites and gave their land to Israel, the Israelites profaned the name of God and refused to keep His commandments.

**Amos 2:10:** "Also I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and led you forty years through the wilderness, to possess the land of the Amorite."

- God rescued the Israelites from Egypt.
- God was the one who brought the Israelites out of Egypt.
- God led the Israelites through the wilderness for 40 years.
- The Israelites spent 40 years in the wilderness.
- God led the Israelites out of Egypt and through the wilderness and then gave them the land of the Amorites.

**Amos 2:11:** "And I raised up of your sons for prophets, and of your young men for Nazarites. Is it not even thus, O ye children of Israel? saith the LORD."

- God raised up prophets out of the Israelites.
- God raised up Nazarites out of the Israelites.
- Prophets come from the Lord.
- Nazarites come from the Lord.

- Prophets are a blessing from God.
- Nazarites are a blessing from God.
- There were prophets who came from Israel.
- There were Nazarites who came from Israel.

**Amos 2:12:** "But ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink; and commanded the prophets, saying, Prophecy not."

- The Israelites despised the Nazarites that God gave them.
- The Israelites despised the prophets that God gave them.
- The Israelites tried to get the Nazarites to drink wine, even though the Mosaic Law forbade them from drinking wine.
- The Israelites tried to get the prophets to stop prophesying, even though God commanded them to prophesy.
- The Israelites despised the Law of God.
- The Israelites tried to get other people to break God's commandments.
- The Israelites didn't want to hear what God had to tell them.

**Amos 2:13:** "Behold, I am pressed under you, as a cart is pressed that is full of sheaves."

- The sins and wickedness of the Israelites was oppressing God.
- It's possible for the sins of a nation to oppress God.
- God compared Himself to a cart that was loaded down

with a heavy cargo of sheaves.

**Amos 2:14:** "Therefore the flight shall perish from the swift, and the strong shall not strengthen his force, neither shall the mighty deliver himself:"

- Because of the wickedness of the Israelites, God was going to turn them over to their enemies.
- Because of the wickedness of the Israelites, those who were swift among the people would lose their ability to run.
- Because of the wickedness of the Israelites, those who were strong would lose their strength.
- Because of the wickedness of the Israelites, those who were mighty would lose their might.
- A day of judgment was coming against Israel, and their soldiers wouldn't be able to save the nation. In fact, their mighty men wouldn't even be able to save themselves because God would harm their effectiveness.
- There are times when God punishes a nation by destroying the effectiveness of their army.

**Amos 2:15:** "Neither shall he stand that handleth the bow; and he that is swift of foot shall not deliver himself: neither shall he that rideth the horse deliver himself."

- Because of the wickedness of the Israelites, archers would lose their effectiveness.
- Because of the wickedness of the Israelites, those with the ability to run quickly would lose that ability and wouldn't be able to save themselves.

- Because of the wickedness of the Israelites, those who rode on horses wouldn't be able to save themselves.
- A day of judgment was coming against Israel. In that day the nation wouldn't be saved by archers or speed or horses. The places where the nation put their confidence wouldn't help them.

**Amos 2:16:** "And he that is courageous among the mighty shall flee away naked in that day, saith the LORD."

- Because of the wickedness of the Israelites, those who were courageous would flee.
- A day of judgment was coming against Israel, and when it came even the courageous would flee.
- A day of judgment was coming against Israel, and when it came even the courageous would lose everything.
- There would be no victory for Israel in their coming day of judgment.
- God is the one who decides who wins the battle. If God is against a nation then they can't win.

## Chapter 3

**Amos 3:1:** "Hear this word that the LORD hath spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying,"

- This prophecy is against the entire nation of Israel.
- In the past, God brought the entire nation of Israel out of Egypt.



- God is the one who rescued Israel from Egypt.
- At one point in the past Israel was in Egypt.
- At one point in the past Israel was held captive in Egypt.
- This prophecy is something that God spoke against Israel.
- This prophecy came from God.
- There are times when God speaks against nations.
- There are times when God speaks against Israel.
- God referred to Israel as a family.

**Amos 3:2:** "You only have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities."

- God said that Israel was the only family that He knew of all the nations in the world.
- God had a special relationship with Israel.
- The relationship that God had with Israel was unlike the relationship that He had with any other nation.
- Since God had a special relationship with Israel, He was going to punish them for their sins.
- The nation of Israel had sinned against God.
- God was going to punish Israel for all their sins.
- The special relationship that Israel had with God didn't allow them to get away with their sins.

**Amos 3:3:** "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?"

- In order for two people to walk together they have to be in agreement.

- When God said that people must be in agreement in order to walk together, He was talking about His relationship with Israel. Since Israel was sinning against Him, He could no longer walk with them because they were no longer in agreement.
- If nations don't walk with God then God won't walk with them.

**Amos 3:4:** "Will a lion roar in the forest, when he hath no prey? will a young lion cry out of his den, if he have taken nothing?"

- A lion roars when he has prey.
- A young lion cries out when he has taken something.
- God didn't cry out against Israel for no reason.
- God didn't cry out against Israel in vain.

**Amos 3:5:** "Can a bird fall in a snare upon the earth, where no gin is for him? shall one take up a snare from the earth, and have taken nothing at all?"

- A trap that's laid for birds needs some kind of bait in order to capture the bird.
- A trap that has no bait isn't going to capture any birds.
- In ancient times people laid traps for birds.

**Amos 3:6:** "Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? shall there be evil in a city, and the LORD hath not done it?"

- In ancient times, when the trumpet was blown in the city the people became afraid. The trumpet was a sign of danger.
- The Lord is the one who brings evil things against cities (such as invasions or disasters).
- There are times when the Lord brings evil against cities.

**Amos 3:7:** "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets."

- Before God does something He first reveals it to the prophets.
- God reveals what He's doing to the prophets.
- God reveals His secrets to the prophets.
- The prophets are the servants of God.
- There's more than one prophet.
- There are times when God takes action in history.

**Amos 3:8:** "The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord GOD hath spoken, who can but prophecy?"

- The roar of a lion brings fear.
- When God speaks to prophets, they must prophecy.
- There are times when God speaks.
- There are times when God speaks to prophets.

**Amos 3:9:** "Publish in the palaces at Ashdod, and in the palaces in the land of Egypt, and say, Assemble yourselves

upon the mountains of Samaria, and behold the great tumults in the midst thereof, and the oppressed in the midst thereof."

- God wanted a message to be published in the palaces of Ashdod (a Philistine city).
- God wanted a message to be published in the palaces of Egypt.
- God wanted the Philistines to assemble in the mountains of Samaria.
- God wanted the Egyptians to assemble in the mountains of Samaria.
- There are times when God has messages for Gentile nations.
- God wanted the Philistines to view the great tumult (the violent action of an angry mob) in Samaria.
- God wanted the Philistines to view the oppression that was going on in Samaria.
- God wanted the Egyptians to view the great tumult (the violent action of an angry mob) in Samaria.
- God wanted the Egyptians to view the oppression that was going on in Samaria.
- There was a great tumult going on in Samaria.
- There was great oppression going on in Samaria.

**Amos 3:10:** "For they know not to do right, saith the LORD, who store up violence and robbery in their palaces."

- The people who lived in Samaria didn't do what was right in the sight of God.

- The people who lived in Samaria were violent.
- The people who lived in Samaria were thieves.
- The leaders of Samaria were violent.
- The leaders of Samaria were thieves.
- It's wrong to be violent.
- It's wrong to oppress others.
- It's wrong to steal.

**Amos 3:11:** "Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; An adversary there shall be even round about the land; and he shall bring down thy strength from thee, and thy palaces shall be spoiled."

- God was going to bring an adversary against Samaria.
- The adversary was going to surround Samaria.
- The adversary was going to destroy the strength of Samaria.
- The adversary was going to loot the palaces of Samaria.
- The reason God was going to bring an adversary against Samaria was because of their sins.

**Amos 3:12:** "Thus saith the LORD; As the shepherd taketh out of the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear; so shall the children of Israel be taken out that dwell in Samaria in the corner of a bed, and in Damascus in a couch."

- There are times when a lion eats a sheep and all that's left are two legs.
- There are times when a lion eats a sheep and all that's

left is a piece of an ear.

- After God brought an adversary against Samaria, the only thing left of that nation would be a few small scraps.

**Amos 3:13:** "Hear ye, and testify in the house of Jacob, saith the Lord GOD, the God of hosts,"

- God referred to Israel as the house of Jacob (because they were the descendants of Jacob).
- God is the God of armies.
- God is the Lord.
- God wanted Amos to testify against Israel.

**Amos 3:14:** "That in the day that I shall visit the transgressions of Israel upon him I will also visit the altars of Bethel: and the horns of the altar shall be cut off, and fall to the ground."

- Israel had transgressed against God.
- The reason God was bringing an adversary against Israel was because the nation had transgressed against Him.
- There was a day of judgment coming for Israel.
- When God punished Israel for their sins, He was also going to destroy the altars of Bethel.
- At this time there were pagan altars in Bethel.

**Amos 3:15:** "And I will smite the winter house with the summer house; and the houses of ivory shall perish, and the great houses shall have an end, saith the LORD."

- God was going to smite the winter houses in Israel.
- God was going to smite the summer houses in Israel.
- God was going to smite the ivory houses in Israel.
- God was going to destroy the great houses of Israel.
- God was going to bring destruction and death upon Israel to punish them for their sins.

## Chapter 4

**Amos 4:1:** "Hear this word, ye kine of Bashan, that are in the mountain of Samaria, which oppress the poor, which crush the needy, which say to their masters, Bring, and let us drink."

- God called the people in Samaria who were oppressing the poor "cows" (as an insult).
- There are times when God insults people by comparing them to animals.
- There are times when God insults people.
- There were mountains in Samaria.
- The people of Samaria were oppressing the poor.
- We shouldn't oppress the poor.
- The people of Samaria were crushing the needy.
- We shouldn't crush the needy.
- The people of Samaria were living a comfortable life while oppressing the poor. This made God angry.
- It's bad for the rich to oppress the poor.
- God takes note when the poor and needy are oppressed.

- God cares about the poor and needy.
- We should care about the poor and needy.
- God defends the poor and needy.

**Amos 4:2:** "The Lord GOD hath sworn by his holiness, that, lo, the days shall come upon you, that he will take you away with hooks, and your posterity with fishhooks."

- The Lord swore an oath that He was going to punish the people in Samaria for what they had done.
- There are times when the Lord swears oaths.
- God swore an oath by His holiness.
- God is holy.
- God was going to enslave the people of Samaria and lead them away with hooks.
- God was going to take away the prosperity of the people of Samaria.
- The reason God was going to punish the nation of Samaria was because they had oppressed the poor and needy.
- There are times when God punishes nations that oppress the poor and needy.
- It's bad for nations to oppress the poor and needy.
- God has the power to enslave entire nations.
- God has the power to take away a nation's prosperity.
- There are times when God enslaves entire nations.
- There are times when God takes away a nation's prosperity.



**Amos 4:3:** "And ye shall go out at the breaches, every cow at that which is before her; and ye shall cast them into the palace, saith the LORD."

- God once again called the people of Samaria cows.
- In the coming judgment, the people of Samaria were going to be removed from the land and taken away.

**Amos 4:4:** "Come to Bethel, and transgress; at Gilgal multiply transgression; and bring your sacrifices every morning, and your tithes after three years:"

- God talked about the Israelites transgressing at Bethel. (One of Jeroboam's golden calves were put at Bethel.)
- The people who God mocked as being "cows" worshiped golden cows.
- The worship of Jeroboam's golden calves was a transgression against God.
- The people brought sacrifices to the golden calves every morning.
- The people brought their tithes to the golden calves every three years.
- The people were sacrificing, but they were sacrificing to idols and not to God.
- The people were tithing, but they were tithing to idols and not to God.
- The Israelites only tithed every three years.
- The people were multiplying their transgressions by worshiping idols instead of the Lord.

**Amos 4:5:** "And offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving with leaven, and proclaim and publish the free offerings: for this liketh you, O ye children of Israel, saith the Lord GOD."

- When the people sacrificed to the golden calves, they put leaven in their sacrifices. (Leaven is symbolic of sin and wasn't permitted in sacrifices to God.)
- The people publicly worshiped idols.
- The people gave offerings to idols.
- The Israelites worshiped idols instead of the Lord.
- The Lord was aware of the idolatry of the Israelites.

**Amos 4:6:** "And I also have given you cleanness of teeth in all your cities, and want of bread in all your places: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD."

- God sent famine upon Israel and took away their food supply, and yet they still didn't stop worshiping their idols. Instead of worshiping God they continued to serve their idols instead.
- God sent a famine upon Israel.
- God took away food from the nation of Israel.
- God took food away from all of the cities in Israel.
- God has control over a nation's food supply.
- God is able to take food away from a nation.
- The reason God sent a famine upon Israel was to turn them back to Him.
- God sent a famine upon Israel to punish them for their

idolatry.

- God sent a famine upon Israel to turn the nation back to Him.
- The Israelites refused to repent of their sins and turn back to God in spite of the judgment that He sent upon them.

**Amos 4:7:** "And also I have withholden the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered."

- God sent a drought upon Israel three months before the time of harvest.
- God caused it to rain on one city in Israel but not in another.
- God caused the crops of Israel to wither.
- God has control over the rain.
- God controls which cities get rain.
- There are times when God causes it to rain on one city but not on another.
- There are times when God punishes a nation by withholding rain.
- There are times when God withholds rain for the purposes of destroying crops.
- God said that the crops withered. He didn't say that they "died". (The Bible consistently says that plants wither, not die. Plants aren't alive the same way that people and animals are.)

**Amos 4:8:** "So two or three cities wandered unto one city, to drink water; but they were not satisfied: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD."

- Because God withheld rain from parts of Israel, the people of the cities that had no water went to the cities that did have water.
- During the drought, people moved to cities that had water. However, there wasn't enough water to satisfy everyone.
- Even though God sent a drought upon Israel, the people refused to repent of their idolatry and turn back to Him.
- God sent a drought upon Israel in order to turn them back to Him.

**Amos 4:9:** "I have smitten you with blasting and mildew: when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased, the palmerworm devoured them: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD."

- God sent diseases upon the crops of the Israelites.
- God sent mildew upon the crops of the Israelites.
- God sent pests upon the gardens of the Israelites, which devoured them.
- God sent pests upon the vineyards of the Israelites, which devoured them.
- God sent pests upon the fig trees of the Israelites, which devoured them.
- God sent pests upon the olive trees of the Israelites,

which devoured them.

- There were gardens in ancient Israel.
- There were vineyards in ancient Israel.
- There were fig trees in ancient Israel.
- There were olive trees in ancient Israel.
- Even though God destroyed the crops of the Israelites, they still refused to repent of their idolatry and turn back to Him.
- The Israelites were unwilling to repent of their idolatry.
- The Israelites were unwilling to obey God.
- God punished the Israelites by sending diseases upon their crops.
- God punished the Israelites by sending pests to eat their crops.
- God controls whether crops become plagued with disease.
- God controls whether crops are eaten by insects.
- There are times when God sends disease upon crops in order to punish that nation for its sins.
- There are times when God sends pests to eat crops in order to punish that nation for its sins.
- God has control over diseases.
- God has control over insects.
- Figs grow on trees.
- Olives grow in trees.

**Amos 4:10:** "I have sent among you the pestilence after the manner of Egypt: your young men have I slain with the sword, and have taken away your horses; and I have made the stink of your camps to come up unto your nostrils: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD."

- God sent diseases upon the Israelites themselves.
- God sent the diseases of Egypt upon the Israelites.
- God killed the young men of Israel with the sword.
- God took away the horses of Israel.
- God filled the camps of the Israelites with horrible smells.
- When God sent a famine upon Israel, they didn't repent. When God sent a drought upon Israel, they didn't repent. When God destroyed their crops, they didn't repent. When God killed them with the sword, they still didn't repent. The Israelites ignored all of God's judgment and continued to worship the golden calves in spite of all of it.
- God sent a whole series of judgments against Israel, but the Israelites refused to repent. In spite of all the terrible judgments that God sent upon the nation, they still refused to repent.
- There are times when God punishes a nation by killing its inhabitants.
- There are times when God punishes a nation by taking away its horses.
- There are times when God punishes a nation by making it stink.
- God controls whether the inhabitants of a nation live or die.
- God wanted the Israelites to repent of their sins and turn

back to Him.

- The purpose of all these judgments was to turn the Israelites back to Him. God wasn't trying to utterly destroy them.

**Amos 4:11:** "I have overthrown some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and ye were as a firebrand plucked out of the burning: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD."

- God destroyed Sodom.
- God destroyed Gomorrah.
- Sodom was destroyed.
- Gomorrah was destroyed.
- Sodom was a real city that actually existed.
- Gomorrah was a real city that actually existed.
- The Bible's account of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah is true. It was a real historical event that actually happened.
- God destroyed some cities in Israel.
- God compared His destruction of some cities in Israel to His destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.
- There are times when God destroys cities.
- God saved some of the Israelites out of the destruction that He poured out upon their cities.
- Even though God destroyed some of their cities, the Israelites still refused to repent of their idolatry and turn to Him.

- There are times when God punishes a nation by destroying its cities.
- God's punishments upon Israel continually escalated and yet they still refused to repent. Even though His judgments got worse and worse, the people still refused to repent.
- God compared the survivors who were still in Israel to a firebrand that was plucked out of a fire.
- The only reason there were still survivors in Israel was because God saved them, but they still refused to repent of their idolatry and turn to Him.

**Amos 4:12:** "Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel."

- Since the Israelites wouldn't repent of their idolatry even after all the judgments that God poured out upon them, God was going to destroy them.
- God told the Israelites to prepare to meet Him because He was about to kill them for their sins.
- Since the Israelites wouldn't repent, God was going to kill them.
- The verse that says "prepare to meet thy God" is given in the context of judgment. God was telling a wicked and idolatrous nation to prepare to meet Him because they were about to die as punishment for their sins.
- God punishes nations for their sins.
- God was merciful to Israel. He sent judgments of increasing severity upon them to get them to repent.



When they refused to repent in spite of everything, all that was left for them was death.

**Amos 4:13:** "For, lo, he that formeth the mountains, and createth the wind, and declareth unto man what is his thought, that maketh the morning darkness, and treadeth upon the high places of the earth, The LORD, The God of hosts, is his name."

- God formed the mountains.
- God created the wind.
- God declared to people what they were thinking.
- God knows our thoughts.
- God created the morning.
- God treads upon the high places of the earth.
- God is the Lord.
- God is the God of hosts.
- One of God's names is the God of hosts (the God of armies).
- God told the Israelites that the God of armies was going to judge them for their sins. (In spite of that they didn't repent.)
- The God who was coming against Israel to kill them was the God who made the mountains and created the wind. They couldn't possibly defend themselves against such immense power, and yet they still didn't repent of their idolatry.
- The God who was coming against Israel was a God who knew their very thoughts, and yet they still didn't repent

of their idolatry.

## Chapter 5

**Amos 5:1:** "Hear ye this word which I take up against you, even a lamentation, O house of Israel."

- The Lord spoke a prophecy against the house of Israel.
- The Lord referred to Israel as a house.
- The word that the Lord spoke against Israel was a lamentation.
- God told the Israelites about the coming judgment before it happened. However, they still refused to repent.
- God gave Israel a chance to repent, but they didn't repent.

**Amos 5:2:** "The virgin of Israel is fallen; she shall no more rise: she is forsaken upon her land; there is none to raise her up."

- God called Israel a virgin.
- In the coming judgment, Israel would fall.
- Israel wouldn't recover after the coming judgment. Instead she would be exiled from the land and wouldn't return.
- When Israel fell in the judgment, there was no one to help her. She was alone and wouldn't recover.

**Amos 5:3:** "For thus saith the Lord GOD; The city that went

out by a thousand shall leave an hundred, and that which went forth by an hundred shall leave ten, to the house of Israel."

- In the coming judgment, 90% of those who lived in the cities of Israel would be killed. Only a tenth would remain.
- In the coming judgment, God wasn't going to kill everyone in Israel. He was going to leave a small remnant.

**Amos 5:4:** "For thus saith the LORD unto the house of Israel, Seek ye me, and ye shall live:"

- God gave the Israelites a chance to repent and be saved.
- If the Israelites had repented and sought the Lord, they would have been saved.
- The national judgment that was coming upon Israel could have been prevented if the people had repented.
- Those who seek God will live.
- If you want to live then you must seek God.

**Amos 5:5:** "But seek not Bethel, nor enter into Gilgal, and pass not to Beersheba: for Gilgal shall surely go into captivity, and Bethel shall come to nought."

- God commanded Israel to not seek after the golden calf that was at Bethel.
- Those who were in Gilgal were going to go into captivity. They would be enslaved and removed from the land.
- Those who were in Bethel were going to be destroyed.
- Those who followed after idols would be destroyed.

Those who sought the Lord would live.

- The nation of Israel wouldn't survive if it continued to worship idols.
- God is the one who decides the fate of nations.

**Amos 5:6:** "Seek the LORD, and ye shall live; lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel."

- If the nation of Israel sought the Lord, it would live.
- Those who seek the Lord will live.
- If the nation of Israel didn't seek the Lord, He would destroy the nation.
- If God's judgment fell upon Israel, there would be none to save them.
- God said that if the house of Joseph didn't repent then He would destroy it.
- God warned the nation of Israel that when He sent His judgment against them, no one would be able to save them. Their only hope was to seek the Lord.

**Amos 5:7:** "Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth,"

- The Israelites corrupted judgment.
- The Israelites weren't righteous.
- The nation of Israel was very wicked and unjust.
- God was against Israel because of their wickedness.
- God was going to send His judgment against Israel

because they were unjust and evil.

- God doesn't ignore the sins of nations.
- God cares about whether a nation is just.
- God cares about whether a nation is righteous.
- God destroys unjust nations.
- God destroys wicked nations.
- We must not corrupt judgment.
- We must do what's right.

**Amos 5:8:** "Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name:"

- God made the seven stars.
- God made Orion.
- The Bible refers to the constellation of Orion.
- The constellation of Orion was recognized in the ancient world, when this prophecy was given.
- God turns the shadow of death into morning.
- God turns the day into darkness.
- God sends floods upon the world.
- God's name is the Lord.
- God is the one who created the stars.
- God is the one who created the constellations.

- God created light.
- God sends darkness.
- God has control over the sea.
- God's power is infinite and mighty. Those who fight against Him are fools because they can't win.

**Amos 5:9:** "That strengtheneth the spoiled against the strong, so that the spoiled shall come against the fortress."

- God gives strength to those who were robbed.
- God empowers those who were robbed so that they can attack fortresses.
- God has the ability to empower those who were weak and defeated to win.
- If we want strength then we must seek it from God, for He is the one who empowers the weak.

**Amos 5:10:** "They hate him that rebuketh in the gate, and they abhor him that speaketh uprightly."

- The Israelites hated those who rebuked sin.
- The Israelites abhorred those who spoke uprightly.
- God was going to punish the nation of Israel because it hated those who rebuked sin.
- God was going to punish the nation of Israel because it abhorred those who spoke what was right.
- God punishes nations that love sin.
- God punishes nations that hate the truth.

- God punishes nations that hate righteousness.
- We must not hate those who rebuke sin.
- We must not abhor those who speak righteousness.
- It's good to rebuke sin.
- It's good to speak uprightly.

**Amos 5:11:** "Forasmuch therefore as your treading is upon the poor, and ye take from him burdens of wheat: ye have built houses of hewn stone, but ye shall not dwell in them; ye have planted pleasant vineyards, but ye shall not drink wine of them."

- The Israelites oppressed the poor.
- The Israelites stole the food of the poor.
- God was angry at the Israelites for how they treated the poor.
- There are times when God punishes nations because of what they did to the poor.
- We must not oppress the poor.
- We must not rob the poor.
- The Israelites had built houses of stone.
- Because the Israelites oppressed the poor, God wouldn't allow the Israelites to live in the houses they had built.
- The Israelites had planted vineyards.
- Because the Israelites oppressed the poor, God wouldn't allow the Israelites to enjoy the fruit of their vineyards.
- One of the punishments that God put upon Israel was not allowing them to drink the wine from their vineyards. Not

being able to drink wine was a punishment and a curse for sin.

- There are times when God punishes those who oppress the poor.

**Amos 5:12:** "For I know your manifold transgressions and your mighty sins: they afflict the just, they take a bribe, and they turn aside the poor in the gate from their right."

- The Israelites had committed many transgressions.
- The Israelites had done terrible things and committed terrible sins.
- The Israelites afflicted the just.
- The Israelites took bribes.
- The Israelites denied the poor their rights.
- We must not afflict the just.
- We must not take bribes.
- We must not deny the poor their rights.
- God punishes nations for afflicting the just.
- God punishes nations for taking bribes.
- God punishes nations for denying the poor their rights.
- God cares about the just.
- God cares about justice.
- God cares about the poor.
- God requires nations to not deny the poor their rights.



**Amos 5:13:** "Therefore the prudent shall keep silence in that time; for it is an evil time."

- When the times are evil, it's prudent to keep silent.
- It's not always a good idea to speak up. There are times when the best course of action is to remain silent.
- We must seek to be prudent.
- We must learn when it's wise to speak.
- We must learn when it's not wise to speak.

**Amos 5:14:** "Seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the LORD, the God of hosts, shall be with you, as ye have spoken."

- We must seek good.
- We must not seek evil.
- If we seek good then we will live.
- If we seek evil then we will not live.
- If we seek good then God will be with us.
- If we seek evil then God will not be with us.
- God is the God of armies.
- God is with those who seek good.
- God is not with those who seek evil.

**Amos 5:15:** "Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgment in the gate: it may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph."

- We must hate evil.

- We must love good.
- We must establish judgment. Nations must be just.
- If Israel had repented and done what was right, God would have been gracious to the house of Joseph.
- God gave Israel a chance to repent and be saved, but they didn't repent.
- God told Israel what they had to do in order to be saved, but they refused to listen to Him.
- God didn't destroy the nation of Israel without warning. He told them that judgment was coming and He also told them what they had to do to be saved.
- God is gracious to those who repent.
- God is gracious to those who hate evil and love good.
- We must never tolerate evil, or make peace with evil, or come to accept evil. Instead we must hate evil.
- God wants us to hate evil.
- It's not enough to love good. We must hate evil as well.
- It's not enough to hate evil. We must love good as well.

**Amos 5:16:** "Therefore the LORD, the God of hosts, the LORD, saith thus; Wailing shall be in all streets; and they shall say in all the highways, Alas! alas! and they shall call the husbandman to mourning, and such as are skilful of lamentation to wailing."

- In the coming judgment, people would wail in the streets.
- In the coming judgment, the people would mourn.
- The coming judgment would bring tremendous grief upon

the nation.

- The coming judgment would be very terrible.

**Amos 5:17:** "And in all vineyards shall be wailing: for I will pass through thee, saith the LORD."

- In the coming judgment, those who worked in the vineyards would wail.
- In the coming judgment, God was going to pass through the nation of Israel and bring great distress upon the people.
- When God passes through a wicked and vile nation, the people wail and mourn.

**Amos 5:18:** "Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light."

- It was very foolish for the Israelites to desire the Day of the Lord.
- The book of Amos mentions the Day of the Lord (the seven-year tribulation era).
- The Day of the Lord would be a terrible day for the Jews.
- For the Jews, the Day of the Lord would be a time of darkness, not a time of light.
- The Jews thought the Day of the Lord was going to be a wonderful time for them, but they were very wrong.
- God kept telling the Jews (in prophet after prophet) that the Day of the Lord would be a very terrible time for the Jews. However, the Jews didn't listen.

- Those who desire the Day of the Lord (the tribulation era) are very foolish, because it's a time of tremendous suffering and pain.
- The Day of the Lord is a day of darkness.
- The Day of the Lord will bring woe, not light.

**Amos 5:19:** "As if a man did flee from a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him."

- God compared the tribulation era to a man fleeing from a lion and encountering a bear.
- God compared the tribulation era to a man who entered his house and leaned on a wall, and got bitten by a serpent.
- In the tribulation era there's no escape. Those who flee from one danger will be caught by another.
- The tribulation will be an incredibly terrible time. It will be a time of great suffering, woe, and death.
- God told the Jews not to desire the Day of the Lord.

**Amos 5:20:** "Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?"

- The Day of the Lord is a day of intense darkness.
- The Day of the Lord isn't a day of light.
- The Day of the Lord is very dark. There's no brightness in it at all.

**Amos 5:21:** "I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies."

- God hated the feast days that Israel celebrated.
- God despised the feast days that Israel celebrated.
- God hates the celebrations of the wicked.
- God despises the celebrations of the wicked.
- God refused to have anything to do with the solemn assemblies of Israel.
- God hated it when the wicked and idolatrous Israelites gathered to worship Him. He despised it and wanted nothing to do with it.
- God doesn't accept the worship of unrepentant idolaters. He hates the worship of the wicked and won't accept it.
- In order to worship God we must first repent and become right with Him. Our sins must be forgiven before He will accept us.

**Amos 5:22:** "Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts."

- The Israelites offered God burnt offerings.
- The Israelites offered God meat offerings.
- God rejected Israel's burnt offerings.
- God rejected Israel's meat offerings.
- God doesn't accept the offerings of the wicked. He won't accept sacrifices from those who haven't repented.
- The Israelites offered God peace offerings.

- God rejected Israel's peace offerings.
- Those who are wicked can't become right with God by offering Him sacrifices or gifts.
- God rejects the sacrifices of the wicked.
- God rejects the gifts of the wicked.
- God only accepts the offerings of those who are righteous.
- If you want God to accept you and your gifts then you must first repent.
- The Israelites were offering fat beasts to God, but He didn't accept them. Even though the sacrifices were expensive, God rejected them because the Israelites were wicked and vile.
- The expensive gifts of the wicked don't impress God.
- We shouldn't be impressed by expensive gifts from the wicked. We must understand that the wicked can't gain favor from God by giving expensive gifts, and the gifts they give aren't a sign that their heart is right with God. Instead the gifts of the wicked are offensive to God and make Him angry.

**Amos 5:23:** "Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not hear the melody of thy viols."

- The Israelites sang songs to the Lord.
- God commanded the wicked Israelites to stop singing to Him. He didn't want to hear their songs.
- God rejects the songs of the wicked. He won't listen to their praise.

- If you want God to listen to your songs and accept them then you must repent. Your sins must be forgiven and you must be right with God.
- God has no respect for the songs of the wicked.
- God refused to listen to the songs of the wicked.
- God refused to listen to the melody of the instruments that the wicked were playing.
- We shouldn't be impressed when the wicked sing praises to God. God hates the songs of the wicked and doesn't accept them. When the wicked sing praises to God, that's not a sign that they're right with God or that God approves of what they're doing.
- We must get right with God before He will accept our praise and our songs.
- God is offended by the praise of the wicked. Their songs of praise offend Him.
- The church shouldn't have respect for the songs of the wicked. When wicked people right worship music, or sing it, or play it, we must not have regard for it and we must not use it in churches because God hates it.
- The church must not have wicked in its midst because the wicked are poison. God commands the church to be pure and its praise to be pure. The church can't be pure if there are evildoers in its midst.
- It's wrong for the church to accept gifts from the wicked because God doesn't accept them.
- It's wrong for the church to allow the wicked to join them in songs of praise because that's a great offense to God.
- The church must exclude the wicked entirely from its

praise and its worship.

- It's evil for churches to encourage the wicked to give to the Lord, because the Lord hates their gifts.
- It's evil for churches to encourage the wicked to sing to the Lord, because the Lord hates their songs and won't listen to them.
- It's evil for churches to encourage the wicked to join them in worship and praise, because the Lord wants nothing to do with them.
- Churches must not give their approval to things that God hates.

**Amos 5:24:** "But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream."

- God commanded Israel to do what was just.
- God commanded Israel to do what was right.
- God requires nations to be just.
- God requires nations to be righteous.
- God holds nations accountable for their actions.
- We must be just.
- We must be righteous.
- If a nation wants to be saved then it must do what's just.
- If a nation wants to be saved then it must do what's right.

**Amos 5:25:** "Have ye offered unto me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel?"



- When the Israelites were in the wilderness for 40 years they offered sacrifices, but God didn't believe they were truly offering them to Him. Even in those days Israel was idolatrous and their heart was far from Him.
- Israel offered God sacrifices while they were in the wilderness for 40 years.
- The Israelites were in the wilderness for 40 years.
- The story of the exodus is true. God Himself testifies to its truth.

**Amos 5:26:** "But ye have borne the tabernacle of your Moloch and Chiun your images, the star of your god, which ye made to yourselves."

- The Israelites worshiped idols.
- The Israelites made idols to Moloch.
- The Israelites made idols to Chiun.
- The Israelites made idols. They created them themselves, with their own hands, and worshiped them.
- The Israelites worshiped gods that they made themselves.
- The Israelites tried to worship God and idols at the same time.
- God doesn't accept the worship of idolaters. Those who seek to worship God must first repent of their idolatry, and worship Him alone.

**Amos 5:27:** "Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus, saith the LORD, whose name is The God of hosts."

- Because the Israelites were idolatrous, God was going to send them into captivity. He was going to exile them from the promised land and turn them into slaves.
- When the Israelites were conquered and enslaved, they would be taken beyond Damascus.
- God said that His name was the God of hosts (the God of armies).
- God was the one who was going to remove Israel from the promised land.
- God was the one who was going to enslave Israel.
- God was the one who was going to send the Israelites beyond Damascus.
- God decides the fate of nations.

## Chapter 6

**Amos 6:1:** "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, which are named chief of the nations, to whom the house of Israel came!"

- God pronounced woe upon those who were at ease in Zion.
- At this time in history the people in Zion were at ease.
- Even though the people of Zion were wicked, they were at ease. They had rich and prosperous lives.
- Having a life of ease and comfort doesn't mean God is happy with you.
- There may be times when the enemies of God are at

ease.

- The people of Zion trusted in Samaria to save them.
- The people of Zion didn't look to God for victory. Instead they trusted in Samaria.
- The people of Samaria were called the chief of the nations.
- Even though the people of Samaria were wicked, they were called the chief of the nations.
- Even though a nation may be called the chief of the nations, that doesn't mean God is with them.
- There may be times when the enemies of God are well respected and have a good reputation.
- Samaria was considered to be the chief of the nations, and yet they were the enemies of God.

**Amos 6:2:** "Pass ye unto Calneh, and see; and from thence go ye to Hamath the great: then go down to Gath of the Philistines: be they better than these kingdoms? or their border greater than your border?"

- God told the people of Zion to go see Calneh (a city founded by Nimrod).
- God told the people of Zion to go see Hamath (a city of Syria).
- In ancient times Hamath was called Hamath the great.
- God told the people of Zion to go see Gath.
- Gath was in Philistine territory.
- Calneh was greater than Zion, and yet it had been destroyed.

- Hamath was greater than Zion, and yet it had been destroyed.
- Gath was greater than Zion, and yet it had been destroyed.
- There have been cities that were great, but which were ultimately destroyed by God.
- Just because a city is great doesn't mean it will endure forever. Many great cities have been destroyed.
- It's foolish to think that a certain city can never fall, since much greater cities have fallen in the past.
- It was foolish for Zion to think that they could never fall.
- God wants us to look at history and understand that even mighty cities and kingdoms can be destroyed.

**Amos 6:3:** "Ye that put far away the evil day, and cause the seat of violence to come near;"

- The people of Zion were wealthy and prosperous. They weren't in any immediate danger.
- There are times when wicked people are wealthy and prosperous, and aren't in immediate danger.
- Just because a person is wealthy and prosperous doesn't mean that God approves of them or is with them.
- The people of Zion were violent.

**Amos 6:4:** "That lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock, and the calves out of the midst of the stall;"

- The people of Zion had beds of ivory.
- In ancient times people made beds of ivory.
- The people of Zion were very wealthy.
- Even though the people of Zion were wicked, they were very wealthy.
- There are times when the wicked are wealthy.
- Just because a person is wealthy doesn't mean God is with them.
- The people of Zion had couches.
- The people of Zion ate lambs.
- The people of Zion ate calves.
- The people of Zion had extravagant beds, extravagant furniture, and ate extravagant food.
- There are times when the wicked lead extremely prosperous lives, and have the best furniture and food.

**Amos 6:5:** "That chant to the sound of the viol, and invent to themselves instruments of musick, like David;"

- The people of Zion had viols.
- The people of Zion had musical instruments.
- The people of Zion invented new musical instruments.
- The people of Zion played music.
- The people of Zion chanted to music.
- There are times when the wicked play music.
- David invented musical instruments.

**Amos 6:6:** "That drink wine in bowls, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments: but they are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph."

- The people of Zion drank wine.
- The people of Zion drank so much wine that it was served in bowls, not cups.
- The people of Zion drank extravagant amounts of wine.
- The people of Zion anointed themselves extravagantly.
- It's possible for a wicked nation to be extremely prosperous and have the best of everything.
- The people of Zion didn't care about the suffering of others.
- Although the people of Zion were extremely wealthy and could have afforded to help others, they refused to do so. They cared for no one but themselves.
- At this point in history the tribes of Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh) were being afflicted.

**Amos 6:7:** "Therefore now shall they go captive with the first that go captive, and the banquet of them that stretched themselves shall be removed."

- Since the people of Zion didn't care about the affliction of others, they would be sent into captivity.
- Since the people of Zion didn't care about the affliction of others, they would be among the first who were sent into captivity.
- Since the people of Zion didn't care about the affliction of

others, God would put an end to their banquets.

- God wants us to care about the affliction of others.
- We aren't allowed to only care about ourselves.

**Amos 6:8:** "The Lord GOD hath sworn by himself, saith the LORD the God of hosts, I abhor the excellency of Jacob, and hate his palaces: therefore will I deliver up the city with all that is therein."

- God swore that He would turn over Zion to their enemies.
- There are times when God swears by Himself.
- God is the Lord.
- God is the God of hosts (armies).
- God hated the excellency of Jacob. He hated their wealth and their extravagance.
- God hated the palaces of Jacob.
- Because the people of Zion only cared about themselves, God hated them. He hated their wealth, and promised to send destruction upon them.
- God has the power to turn cities over to their enemies.
- There are times when God punishes cities by turning them over to their enemies.
- God holds cities accountable for their actions.

**Amos 6:9:** "And it shall come to pass, if there remain ten men in one house, that they shall die."

- God promised that if 10 men remained in a house, all of them would die.

- God was going to kill the inhabitants of Zion.
- The reason God was going to kill the inhabitants of Zion was because they only cared about themselves.

**Amos 6:10:** "And a man's uncle shall take him up, and he that burneth him, to bring out the bones out of the house, and shall say unto him that is by the sides of the house, Is there yet any with thee? and he shall say, No. Then shall he say, Hold thy tongue: for we may not make mention of the name of the LORD."

- Those who died in the house would become bones.
- The bones of those who died in the house would be taken out by that person's uncle.
- The bones of those who died in the house wouldn't be buried. Instead they would be burned.
- When the uncle came to retrieve and burn the bones, he would ask the survivor if there was anyone else left. The survivor would say no.
- When the uncle came to retrieve and burn the bones, he would tell the sole survivor to not mention the name of the Lord.
- When judgment comes upon Zion, bones will be burned instead of buried.
- When judgment comes upon Zion, people will forbid others from talking about God.
- The commandment to not speak of God didn't come from the Lord. Instead it came from men.



**Amos 6:11:** "For, behold, the LORD commandeth, and he will smite the great house with breaches, and the little house with clefts."

- The Lord was going to smite the great houses of Zion with breaches.
- The Lord was going to smite the small houses of Zion with clefts.
- The Lord was going to smite all the houses of Zion, both great and small.
- Zion had great houses.
- Zion had small houses.
- No one would be spared in the coming judgment. It would impact both the small and the great.
- The reason that all the houses would be impacted by the judgment was because the Lord commanded it.
- The great wouldn't be spared. Their greatness wouldn't save them.
- Although the people of Zion were wealthy and at ease, God was going to smite their houses and put them to death.

**Amos 6:12:** "Shall horses run upon the rock? will one plow there with oxen? for ye have turned judgment into gall, and the fruit of righteousness into hemlock:"

- Horses can't run through a rocky field.
- A rock can't be plowed with oxen.
- In ancient times people used oxen to plow fields.
- The people of Zion had turned judgment and justice into

something terrible and vile.

- The people of Zion had turned righteousness into poison.
- The people of Zion were utterly corrupt and vile. They lacked both justice and righteousness.
- Since the people of Zion had perverted justice, God was going to destroy them.
- Since the people of Zion had perverted righteousness, God was going to destroy them.
- There are times when God destroys nations for being unjust.
- There are times when God destroys nations for being unrighteous.
- It's wrong to pervert justice.
- It's wrong to pervert righteousness.

**Amos 6:13:** "Ye which rejoice in a thing of nought, which say, Have we not taken to us horns by our own strength?"

- The people of Zion boasted that they were strong.
- The people of Zion boasted that they had become strong by their own efforts. They gave themselves all the credit for their wealth and power.
- The people of Zion thought that they were strong, but they were wrong.
- The people of Zion were proud.
- There are times when the wicked are proud.
- There are times when the wicked boast.
- There are times when the wicked think that they're

strong, but in reality they aren't.

**Amos 6:14:** "But, behold, I will raise up against you a nation, O house of Israel, saith the LORD the God of hosts; and they shall afflict you from the entering in of Hemath unto the river of the wilderness."

- God promised that He was going to raise up an enemy nation against Israel.
- Since the people of Zion were wicked and corrupt, God was going to raise up an enemy against them.
- There are times when God punishes nations by raising up enemies against them.
- God has the power to raise up enemies to fight against a nation.
- God controls whether a nation has enemies.
- God said that an enemy nation would afflict Israel.
- God said that an enemy nation would triumph over Israel.
- Israel would be afflicted from Hemath to the river of the wilderness.
- God controls whether a nation is afflicted.
- God has the power to afflict nations.
- There are times when God punishes a nation by afflicting them.

## Chapter 7

**Amos 7:1:** "Thus hath the Lord GOD shewed unto me; and,

behold, he formed grasshoppers in the beginning of the shooting up of the latter growth; and, lo, it was the latter growth after the king's mowings."

- God showed Amos a plague of grasshoppers.
- God is able to create a plague of grasshoppers.
- God showed Amos a vision where He was going to send a plague of grasshoppers upon Israel.
- The grasshoppers were going to be sent in the "latter growth", after the king's mowings.
- In ancient times, the first of the crops were given to the king.
- The grasshoppers were going to be sent after the king got his share of the crops but before the people got theirs. This means it wouldn't affect the king but it would be devastating to the people.

**Amos 7:2:** "And it came to pass, that when they had made an end of eating the grass of the land, then I said, O Lord GOD, forgive, I beseech thee: by whom shall Jacob arise? for he is small."

- The grasshoppers were going to get all the grass of the land, but only after the king got his share. This means it would impact the animals owned by the common people, since they would have no food.
- When Amos saw the vision of the grasshoppers, he interceded for Israel. He prayed that God would forgive Israel and not send this plague.
- Amos interceded on behalf of his nation even though they were wicked and violent and unrepentant.

- Amos wanted God to forgive Israel even though Israel was idolatrous and had no intention of ever repenting.
- Amos didn't want God to send His judgment upon Israel.
- Amos said that the nation of Israel was small.

**Amos 7:3:** "The LORD repented for this: It shall not be, saith the LORD."

- God listened to Amos and agreed to not send the plague of grasshoppers upon Israel.
- There are times when God didn't send certain judgments upon a nation because a prophet interceded on behalf of that nation.
- Sometimes interceding for a nation stops God from sending certain judgments upon them.
- It's not wrong to intercede on behalf of wicked nations and ask God to not send judgments upon them.

**Amos 7:4:** "Thus hath the Lord GOD shewed unto me: and, behold, the Lord GOD called to contend by fire, and it devoured the great deep, and did eat up a part."

- God showed Amos a plague of fire.
- God is able to create a plague of fire.
- God showed Amos a vision where He was going to send fire upon Israel.
- The fire was going to consume part of Israel.

**Amos 7:5:** "Then said I, O Lord GOD, cease, I beseech thee: by

whom shall Jacob arise? for he is small."

- When Amos saw the vision of the fire, he interceded for Israel. He prayed that God would forgive Israel and not send this plague.

**Amos 7:6:** "The LORD repented for this: This also shall not be, saith the Lord GOD."

- God listened to Amos and agreed to not send the plague of fire upon Israel.

**Amos 7:7:** "Thus he shewed me: and, behold, the LORD stood upon a wall made by a plumbline, with a plumbline in his hand."

- God showed Amos a vision of a plumbline (a line used to measure a wall and see if it was straight).
- In the vision, God was holding a plumbline in His hand.
- Amos saw God in a vision.
- When Amos saw God in a vision, it seems that he saw a being who looked like a human and had a hand. This indicates that Amos probably had a vision of the pre-incarnate Christ.

**Amos 7:8:** "And the LORD said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A plumbline. Then said the LORD, Behold, I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel: I will not again pass by them any more:"

- God asked Amos what he saw in the vision.
- The vision that God gave Amos contained a wall, a

plumbline, and the Lord. However, Amos told God that what he saw was the plumbline and didn't mention anything else.

- God said that He was going to set a plumbline in the midst of Israel. This means God was going to hold Israel accountable to His standard.
- God said that He wasn't going to ignore Israel's sins any longer. Instead it was time for judgment.
- Although God wasn't going to send the grasshoppers or the fire upon Israel, His judgment was still going to come all the same. This is because Israel was wicked and God couldn't overlook their sin and allow their wickedness to continue.
- Although Amos was able to intercede and stop the judgments of grasshoppers and fire, he wasn't able to save Israel. Israel was still going to be judged because they wouldn't repent.
- If a nation is wicked and won't repent, it's impossible to save them through intercession. Judgment is still going to come because God can't ignore sin.
- God holds nations accountable for their sin.
- God measures nations according to His standard.
- God doesn't ignore the actions of nations.

**Amos 7:9:** "And the high places of Isaac shall be desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste; and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

- In the coming judgment, the high places of Israel (places of idolatry) would be desolate.

- In ancient times there were high places in Israel.
- In the coming judgment, the sanctuaries of Israel (their places of idolatry) would be laid waste.
- In the coming judgment, God was going to kill the house of Jeroboam.
- God held the leaders of Israel responsible for the nation.
- There are times when God rises against the idolatry of a nation, and destroys their pagan idols and their pagan temples.
- There are times when God rises against the leaders of a nation and kills them.

**Amos 7:10:** "Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel: the land is not able to bear all his words."

- Amaziah heard what God said through Amos and he hated it.
- Amaziah rejected what God said through Amos.
- Amaziah was a priest of Bethel. This means he was a pagan priest of the golden calves.
- Amaziah tried to get Amos killed.
- At the time Amos prophesied, Jeroboam was king of Israel.
- Amaziah lied to the king and said that Amos had conspired against him.
- Amaziah used lies to try to get Amos killed.



- Amaziah proved that God was right: the people of Israel were violent and wicked, and they really did try to silence prophets and stop people from speaking of God.

**Amos 7:11:** "For thus Amos saith, Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel shall surely be led away captive out of their own land."

- Amaziah knew that God had said that Jeroboam would be killed. However, he rejected it.
- Amaziah knew that God had said that Israel would be led away as captives. However, he rejected it.
- Amaziah heard the words of the Lord, but he rejected them and refused to believe them.
- Amaziah told Jeroboam what Amos had said about him.
- Amaziah told Jeroboam what Amos had said about the fate of Israel.

**Amos 7:12:** "Also Amaziah said unto Amos, O thou seer, go, flee thee away into the land of Judah, and there eat bread, and prophesy there:"

- Amaziah knew that Amos was a prophet.
- Even though Amaziah knew that Amos was a prophet, he still tried to silence him.
- Amaziah tried to drive Amos out of Israel.
- Amaziah tried to get Amos to stop prophesying in Israel.
- The people of Israel really did try to silence the prophets of God (which was one of the reasons why God was going to destroy that nation).

- Amaziah wanted Israel to prophesy in Judah.

**Amos 7:13:** "But prophesy not again any more at Bethel: for it is the king's chapel, and it is the king's court."

- Amaziah said that Bethel (a place of paganism and idolatry) was the king's chapel.
- Amaziah said that Bethel (a place of paganism and idolatry) was the king's court.
- Jeroboam was closely associated with the paganism and idolatry of Bethel.
- Amaziah told Amos to stop prophesying at Bethel.
- Amos had been prophesying at Bethel (a place of sin and idolatry).

**Amos 7:14:** "Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, I was no prophet, neither was I a prophet's son; but I was an herdman, and a gatherer of sycomore fruit:"

- Before God called Amos, he wasn't a prophet.
- The father of Amos wasn't a prophet.
- Before God called Amos, he was a herdman (which means he tended a flock).
- Before God called Amos, he spent his time gathering sycamore fruit (figs).
- In ancient times, people gathered sycamore fruit (figs).

**Amos 7:15:** "And the LORD took me as I followed the flock, and the LORD said unto me, Go, prophesy unto my people

Israel."

- When Amos was tending a flock, God called Amos and commanded Him to go to Israel and prophesy.
- The reason Amos was in Israel prophesying was because God commanded him to do that.
- When God called Amos, he obeyed. He left his flock and went to Israel and prophesied.
- Even though Israel was idolatrous and wicked, God still said that the Israelites were His people.
- When Amaziah tried to silence Amos, he was actually trying to silence God.
- When Amaziah fought against Amos and tried to get him killed, he was actually fighting against God.
- Amos didn't claim to have impressive credentials or an impressive family history. Instead he said that he had a right to prophesy in Israel because that's what God commanded him to do.

**Amos 7:16:** "Now therefore hear thou the word of the LORD: Thou sayest, Prophecy not against Israel, and drop not thy word against the house of Isaac."

- God noticed that Amaziah had commanded Amos to not prophesy against Israel.
- God was angry that Amaziah had tried to stop Amos from prophesying.
- God wanted Amos to prophesy against Israel.

**Amos 7:17:** "Therefore thus saith the LORD; Thy wife shall be

an harlot in the city, and thy sons and thy daughters shall fall by the sword, and thy land shall be divided by line; and thou shalt die in a polluted land: and Israel shall surely go into captivity forth of his land."

- God was going to punish Amaziah for trying to silence Amos.
- Since Amaziah tried to silence God's message against Israel, God was going to turn Amaziah's wife into a prostitute.
- It's a bad thing to be a prostitute.
- There are times when God punishes people who try to silence His message.
- It's a bad thing to try to silence God's message.
- Since Amaziah tried to silence God's message against Israel, God was going to kill his sons.
- Since Amaziah tried to silence God's message against Israel, God was going to kill his daughters.
- Amaziah had sons.
- Amaziah had daughters.
- God was going to punish Amaziah by doing something terrible to his wife.
- God was going to punish Amaziah by doing something terrible to his sons.
- God was going to punish Amaziah by doing something terrible to his daughters.
- There are times when God punishes people by doing terrible things to their family.
- There are times when a person's family suffers because of

what that person did.

- Since Amaziah tried to silence God's message against Israel, his land in Israel would be taken away from him.
- Since Amaziah tried to silence God's message against Israel, he would be taken captive and would die in a foreign country.
- God said that the place where Amaziah would die was a polluted place.
- It's possible for land to be polluted in the sight of God.
- Even though Amaziah tried to silence Amos, God was still going to send His judgment upon Israel. The nation was going to be conquered and the people were going to be taken away as captives.
- Even though Amaziah tried to fight against God, it didn't accomplish anything. It didn't save the nation, and it only brought judgment upon him and his family.

## Chapter 8

**Amos 8:1:** "Thus hath the Lord GOD shewed unto me: and behold a basket of summer fruit."

- God gave Amos a vision of a basket of summer fruit.

**Amos 8:2:** "And he said, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A basket of summer fruit. Then said the LORD unto me, The end is come upon my people of Israel; I will not again pass by them any more."

- God asked Amos what he saw.

- Amos told God that in the vision he saw a basket of summer fruit.
- God gave the interpretation of the vision: it meant that judgment was coming upon the people of Israel.
- God was no longer going to ignore Israel's sins. It was now time for judgment.
- There are times when God doesn't punish a nation for its sins and allows it to continue. However, that period of grace eventually comes to an end, and then judgment comes.
- God won't ignore the sins of a nation forever.
- Even though Israel was idolatrous and wicked, and even though God was about to punish them, He still called them His people.
- Even when the Israelites were wicked, God still considered them to be His people.

**Amos 8:3:** "And the songs of the temple shall be howlings in that day, saith the Lord GOD: there shall be many dead bodies in every place; they shall cast them forth with silence."

- In the past, the people sung in the temple.
- When God sent His judgment upon Israel, people would no longer sing in the temple. Instead they would howl.
- When God sent His judgment upon Israel, many people would die.
- When God sent His judgment upon Israel, there would be dead bodies in every place.
- God told Israel in advance what the coming judgment

would be like, and yet the people still didn't repent. Since they ignored God and continued on in their sins, His judgment came.

**Amos 8:4:** "Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy, even to make the poor of the land to fail,"

- The Israelites were destroying the needy.
- The Israelites were oppressing the poor.
- We must not oppress the poor.
- We must not destroy the needy.
- God becomes angry with nations when they oppress and destroy the poor.
- God was going to punish Israel for the way they treated the poor and needy.
- There were needy people in Israel.
- There were poor people in Israel.

**Amos 8:5:** "Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great, and falsifying the balances by deceit?"

- The Israelites were outwardly obeying the Law, but their heart wasn't in it.
- The Israelites wanted the feasts of God to quickly be over so they could go back to stealing from the people. They outwardly celebrated the feasts, but they were burning to get back to their fraud and their wickedness.

- God hated the insincerity of the Israelites.
- The Israelites didn't sell corn during the new moon, and this upset them. They didn't want to keep the Law and they hated it, which greatly displeased the Lord.
- The Israelites wanted the Sabbath to quickly be over so they could go back to stealing from the people. They outwardly kept the Sabbath, but they were burning to get back to their fraud and their wickedness.
- The Israelites didn't sell wheat during the Sabbath, and this upset them. They didn't want to keep the Law and they hated it, which greatly displeased the Lord.
- The Israelites were habitually dishonest. They used false weights to defraud people.
- God hated the rampant fraud that was going on in Israel.
- God hates false weights and false balances.
- God is opposed to people who defraud one another.
- We must not use false weights and false balances.
- We must keep the Law of God with sincerity, with our heart.
- It's wrong to keep the Law while wishing you were doing something else.
- We must not defraud one another.
- There are times when God punishes nations because their people are guilty of rampant fraud.
- The Israelites sold corn.
- The Israelites sold wheat.
- God saw the fraud that was going on in Israel, and He



hated it.

- The Israelites didn't fear the Lord. They kept the Sabbath on one day and then stole from people the rest of the week.

**Amos 8:6:** "That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes; yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat?"

- The Israelites used their wealth, which was obtained by fraud, to buy and sell the poor (who they oppressed and robbed) as slaves.
- The Israelites enriched themselves through fraud.
- The Israelites oppressed the poor through fraud.
- The Israelites oppressed the poor for the most trivial of reasons.
- The Israelites openly despised the poor.
- The Israelites defrauded the poor and then sold them in exchange for silver.
- The Israelites defrauded the poor and then sold them in exchange for a pair of shoes.
- The Israelites defrauded people by selling the worst parts of the wheat.

**Amos 8:7:** "The LORD hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob, Surely I will never forget any of their works."

- God swore an oath that He would never forget the wickedness of that generation of Israelites. He would never forget their wicked deeds.

- God becomes very angry when people defraud others.
- God becomes very angry when people oppress the poor.
- One of the ways that God punishes evildoers is by refusing to forget their sins.
- God swore an oath by the excellency of Jacob.
- There are times when God swears oaths.

**Amos 8:8:** "Shall not the land tremble for this, and every one mourn that dwelleth therein? and it shall rise up wholly as a flood; and it shall be cast out and drowned, as by the flood of Egypt."

- Since the Israelites were guilty of fraud and oppression, the land would tremble.
- Since the Israelites were guilty of fraud and oppression, everyone would mourn.
- God compared the coming judgment to a flood that would rise up, cast the people out, and kill them.
- In the coming judgment, many people would die.
- God compared the coming judgment to the time when He collapsed the Red Sea upon the Egyptians, killing them.
- The story of the parting of the Red Sea really happened. It was a historical event.
- One of the sins that causes God to destroy nations is fraud.
- One of the sins that causes God to destroy nations is oppressing the poor.

**Amos 8:9:** "And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord GOD, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day:"

- God said that when He punished Israel for their sins, He would cause the sun to go down at noon and would bring darkness upon Israel in the middle of the day. (This indicates that the judgment God is talking about is related to the end-times, since nothing like this happened in ancient times.)
- In one of the end-times judgments that God will send upon Israel, He will cause the sun to go down at noon. (This is exactly like the crucifixion, where the sun went down at the sixth hour, which was noon. However, the crucifixion wasn't immediately followed by a judgment upon Israel or a famine of the words of the Lord, so the event that Amos speaks of is something different.)
- One of the end-times signs is the darkening of the sun at noon.
- The Israelites will know that this judgment is upon them when God darkens the sun at noon.
- God gave Israel a sign in the sky that would warn them that the time of judgment was upon them.

**Amos 8:10:** "And I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; and I will bring up sackcloth upon all loins, and baldness upon every head; and I will make it as the mourning of an only son, and the end thereof as a bitter day."

- In the coming judgment, God would turn their feasts into times of mourning.

- In the coming judgment, God would turn their songs into laments.
- In the coming judgment, the people would wear sackcloth.
- In the coming judgment, the people would become bald.
- In the coming judgment, the people would mourn bitterly.
- God compared the mourning of the people to those who mourned the death of an only son.
- The end of the coming judgment would be very bitter.
- God has the power to turn feasting into mourning.
- God has the power to make entire nations mourn.
- There are times when God punishes nations by sending bitter judgments upon them that make people mourn.

**Amos 8:11:** "Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD:"

- In the coming judgment, God was going to take His Word away from Israel.
- There are times when God punishes nations by taking His Word away from them.
- God was going to punish Israel by taking His Word away from them.
- Nations need the word of God.
- Nations that don't have the word of God are in the midst of a terrible famine.

- God compares not having His Words to being in a famine.
- Since the Israelites refused to listen to His Word, and since they tried to silence His prophets, God was going to take His Word away from them.

**Amos 8:12:** "And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find it."

- In the coming judgment, the Israelites would wander from sea to sea looking for the word of God, and they wouldn't find it.
- In the coming judgment, the Israelites would wander from the north to the east looking for the word of God, and they wouldn't find it.
- In the coming judgment, the Israelites would run to and fro looking for the word of God, and they wouldn't find it.
- Even though the Israelites would travel great distances to find the word of God, the Lord was going to hide it from them so they wouldn't find it.
- God doesn't always give His Word to those who are looking for it.
- There are times when God deliberately hides His Word from those who are looking for it.

**Amos 8:13:** "In that day shall the fair virgins and young men faint for thirst."

- In the coming judgment, the young women would collapse from thirst.

- In the coming judgment, the young men would collapse from thirst.

**Amos 8:14:** "They that swear by the sin of Samaria, and say, Thy god, O Dan, liveth; and, The manner of Beersheba liveth; even they shall fall, and never rise up again."

- In the coming judgment, those who swore by false gods would be destroyed and would never rise again.
- God becomes angry when people swear by false gods.
- We must not swear by false gods.
- In ancient Israel, people swore oaths by false gods.
- In ancient Israel, there was a famous idol in Dan.
- In ancient Israel, there was a famous idol in Beersheba.
- The false gods that the Israelites worshiped wouldn't save them in the coming judgment. Those who worshiped them would fall and would never rise again.

## Chapter 9

**Amos 9:1:** "I saw the LORD standing upon the altar: and he said, Smite the lintel of the door, that the posts may shake: and cut them in the head, all of them; and I will slay the last of them with the sword: he that fleeth of them shall not flee away, and he that escapeth of them shall not be delivered."

- Amos was given a vision of the Lord standing upon the altar. (This seems to have been a vision of the pre-incarnate Jesus.)
- The Lord gave the command to smite the temple. (The

first temple was ultimately destroyed.)

- The Lord is the one who gave the command to destroy the temple.
- The Lord gave the command to kill the Israelites.
- The Lord said that the Israelites wouldn't escape.
- Even those who fled in the coming judgment wouldn't escape.
- Even those who escaped in the coming judgment wouldn't be delivered.
- There was no way to escape the judgment that was coming upon the Israelites.
- The judgment of God upon a nation is a very serious matter.
- There are times when God puts people to death because of their sin.
- There are times when God destroys nations because of their sin.

**Amos 9:2:** "Though they dig into hell, thence shall mine hand take them; though they climb up to heaven, thence will I bring them down:"

- God was going to pursue the Israelites and punish them no matter where they went.
- If the Israelites tried to escape to hell, God would find them there and punish them.
- If the Israelites tried to escape to heaven, God would find them there and punish them.

- There was no safe place for Israel to go to hide from God. No matter where they went, God would find them and punish them.
- It's impossible to escape from God.
- It's impossible to hide from God.

**Amos 9:3:** "And though they hide themselves in the top of Carmel, I will search and take them out thence; and though they be hid from my sight in the bottom of the sea, thence will I command the serpent, and he shall bite them:"

- If the Israelites tried to hide at the top of mount Carmel, God would find them there and punish them.
- If the Israelites tried to hide at the bottom of the sea, God would find them there and punish them.
- There was absolutely no way for the Israelites to hide from the judgment that was coming. There was no place they could go where they would be safe.
- God spoke of a serpent that lived at the bottom of the sea.
- God was going to punish the Israelites who tried to escape captivity.

**Amos 9:4:** "And though they go into captivity before their enemies, thence will I command the sword, and it shall slay them: and I will set mine eyes upon them for evil, and not for good."

- The Israelites were going to be enslaved by their enemies.
- The Israelites were going to be taken into captivity by



their enemies.

- When the Israelites were taken into captivity, God would still kill them even when they were in captivity. Even there they wouldn't be safe.
- God was going to punish the Israelites who were in captivity.
- God was going to kill the Israelites who went into captivity.
- God was going to make sure that terrible things happened to the Israelites who went into captivity.
- God wasn't going to bless the Israelites who went into captivity.
- There are times when God punishes people by handing them over to their enemies.

**Amos 9:5:** "And the Lord GOD of hosts is he that toucheth the land, and it shall melt, and all that dwell therein shall mourn: and it shall rise up wholly like a flood; and shall be drowned, as by the flood of Egypt."

- God said that in the coming judgment He would touch the land and make it melt.
- God said that in the coming judgment all those who lived in Israel would melt.
- God said that in the coming judgment the people would be drowned, as the Egyptians had drowned in the Red Sea.
- The coming judgment was going to be very severe.
- In the coming judgment, many people in Israel would die.

**Amos 9:6:** "It is he that buildeth his stories in the heaven, and hath founded his troop in the earth; he that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The LORD is his name."

- God builds His stories (chambers or houses) in Heaven.
- God is building dwelling places in Heaven.
- Heaven isn't empty.
- God has founded His troop (army) in the earth.
- God calls for the waters of the sea and pours them onto the earth.
- God's name is the Lord.
- God has control over heaven.
- God has control over the earth.
- God has control over the sea.
- God has an army.
- God has the power to command the sea, and it will obey Him.

**Amos 9:7:** "Are ye not as children of the Ethiopians unto me, O children of Israel? saith the LORD. Have not I brought up Israel out of the land of Egypt? and the Philistines from Caphtor, and the Syrians from Kir?"

- God compares the Israelites to the children of the Ethiopians. (Commentators seem to think that this is a negative comparison.)
- God brought the Israelites out of Egypt and gave their

territory.

- God brought the Philistines out of Caphtor.
- God brought the Syrians out of Kir.
- The reason the Philistine nation existed was because God rescued them and gave them territory.
- The reason the Syrian nation existed was because God rescued them and gave them territory.
- Israel wasn't the only nation that God rescued and brought into existence. There were others as well.
- There was a time when God delivered the Philistines.
- There was a time when God delivered the Syrians.

**Amos 9:8:** "Behold, the eyes of the Lord GOD are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth; saying that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob, saith the LORD."

- God saw the sinfulness of the kingdom of Israel.
- The kingdom of Israel was sinful.
- God said that He was going to utterly destroy the kingdom of Israel.
- Although God was going to destroy the kingdom of Israel, He wasn't going to utterly destroy the Jews. Their nation would be destroyed, but a remnant of the Jews would be spared.
- God told the Israelites in advance that He was going to destroy their kingdom.
- God told the Israelites in advance that when the judgment came, they wouldn't all be killed. The Jews

wouldn't be wiped out as a people.

**Amos 9:9:** "For, lo, I will command, and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth."

- God said that He was going to sift the Israelites through all nations. He was going to drive them out of Israel and scatter them through the nations of the world.
- God said that He was going to sift the Israelites as corn was sifted.
- In ancient times corn was sifted in a sieve.
- Although God was going to scatter the Israelites through the nations, He wasn't going to lose any of them.
- God was going to scatter the Israelites through the nations, but this wasn't for the purpose of destroying them or losing them. Even when the Jews were scattered they would still remain a distinct people.

**Amos 9:10:** "All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, which say, The evil shall not overtake nor prevent us."

- God referred to the Israelites as His people.
- All of the Israelites who were sinners would be killed by the sword.
- All of the Israelites who boasted that God's judgment would never impact them would be killed by the sword.
- God was going to punish the sinners in Israel with death.
- Although people may boast that God's judgment will never touch them, that boasting won't stop the judgment

of God from coming upon them.

- The Israelites had heard about the judgment of God, but they ignored it and boasted that it would never affect them. They were very wrong.
- The Israelites boasted that they were immune from God's judgment. They were very wrong.
- The wages of sin is death.

**Amos 9:11:** "In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old:"

- God calls Israel the tabernacle of David.
- The day is coming when God will raise up the nation of Israel again.
- In the day when Israel is raised up again, they will be fallen as a nation and will be in ruins.
- The day is coming when God will stop punishing Israel and will build them up instead.
- The day is coming when God will repair the ruined nation of Israel.
- It seems that the judgments in this book are talking about the end-times, since that's when God will melt the land and build up the nation of Israel again.
- God isn't planning on ultimately destroying the Jews. Instead He's planning on saving the Jews and raising them up, and building their nation again.
- Although Israel will be in ruins, God will one day heal Israel and build it again.

- God has a glorious future planned for Israel. The reason it will come to pass is because He will bring it to pass.
- God's ultimate goal isn't to destroy Israel, but to save them.
- God has the power to raise up nations and build them.

**Amos 9:12:** "That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by my name, saith the LORD that doeth this."

- After God restored the nation of Israel, they would rule over the remnant of Edom.
- After God restored the nation of Israel, they would rule over all of the heathen. (This seems to be a reference to the Gentiles).
- God referred to non-Israelites who were called by His name, and said that one day Israel would rule over all of them.
- In the millennium, Israel will rule over all the nations of the world.
- God was going to give Israel control over Edom.
- God was going to give Israel control over all the world.
- After the coming time of judgment there would be a time of great blessing. (This seems to be talking about the tribulation and the millennium).
- God speaks of a remnant of Edom that Israel will one day rule over.

**Amos 9:13:** "Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the

plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt."

- In the millennium, crops will grow with tremendous speed.
- In the millennium, people will still plant crops.
- In the millennium, people will still harvest fields.
- In the millennium, people will still grow grapes.
- In the millennium, there will be mountains in Israel.
- In the millennium, God promised to bless Israel with sweet wine.
- One of the blessings that God will give Israel during the millennium is wine. God considers wine to be a blessing.
- In the millennium, all the hills will melt. (It's not entirely clear what this means, since there will be mountains in the world at that time).

**Amos 9:14:** "And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them."

- Before the millennium, the Israelites will be in captivity.
- Before the millennium, the Israelites will be scattered throughout the world.
- In the millennium, God will bring the Israelites back to Israel.
- The Israelites will always be the people of God. God

considers them to be His.

- In the millennium, the Israelites will rebuild the cities that had been destroyed.
- In the millennium, the Israelites will inhabit cities that had previously been destroyed.
- In the millennium, the Israelites will plant vineyards.
- In the millennium, the Israelites will drink the wine that comes from the vineyards that they planted. God considers this to be a great blessing, and not something that's wicked or sinful.
- In the millennium, the Israelites will plant gardens.
- In the millennium, the Israelites will eat the fruit that comes from the gardens that they plant.
- In the millennium, God will bless the vineyards of Israel.
- In the millennium, God will bless the gardens of Israel.
- God considers it to be a great blessing to be able to enjoy the results of your labors, and to enjoy the fruit of your vineyard and garden.
- In the millennium, the Israelites will turn the grapes from their vineyards into wine.

**Amos 9:15:** "And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God."

- In the millennium, God will plant the Israelites in the promised land.
- God considers the promised land to belong to the Israelites. It's their land, even when they're exiled from it.



- After God gathers the Israelites back to the land of Israel in the millennium, the Israelites will never be removed from their land again. They will never again be turned over to their enemies and go into captivity.
- God is the one who gave Israel the promised land.
- After God gathers the Israelites back to the land of Israel in the millennium, the Israelites will never rebel against God again, or serve idols. Instead they will be faithful forever.
- God is the one who will one day plant Israel back in the promised land.
- Although this book is a book of judgment and condemnation, it ends with a promise of future restoration and blessing. The judgments that were coming wouldn't be the end of the Israelites, because one day God would greatly bless them.