

Outline of  
Amos



# Introduction

## Writer

Amos.

Amos was not a graduate of the school of the prophets but was a layman. He was a herdsman and a gatherer of sycamore fruit (Amos 1:1; 7:14, 15). He was a native of Tekoa (Amos 1:1), a village about twelve miles south of Jerusalem. Although born in Judea, his messages were to the northern kingdom of Israel primarily, and to the world in general, as the text indicates.

## Time

His ministry was during the reign of Jeroboam II, king of Israel, and Uzziah, king of Judah. He was a contemporary of Hosea in Israel and of Isaiah and Micah in Judah. The exact time was “two years before the earthquake” (Amos 1:1). This earthquake was of such proportions that Zechariah mentioned it 200 years later (Zechariah 14:5) and identified it as having come during the reign of Uzziah.

## Theme

Amos presented God as the ruler of the world and declared that all nations were responsible to Him. The measure of responsibility is created by the light that a nation has. The final test for any nation (or individual) is found in Amos 3:3: “Can two walk together, except they be agreed?” In a day of prosperity, he pronounced punishment. Judgment of God awaited nations living in luxury and lolling in immorality.

**Source:** Dr. John Vernon McGee (1904 – 1988), THRU THE BIBLE RADIO NETWORK



**"FOR THREE SINS, EVEN FOR FOUR...."**

**1. INHUMANITY OF ISRAEL'S NEIGHBOURS**

*DAMASCUS - cruelty*

*GAZA - brutality*

*TYRE - treachery*

**2. INFAMY OF ISRAEL'S COUSINS**

*EDOM - ruthlessness*

*AMMON - barbarity*

*MOAB - sacrilege*

**3. INFIDELITY OF ISRAEL'S SISTER**

*JUDAH - rejecting laws of God  
accepting lies of men*

**4. INSENSITIVITY OF ISRAEL'S CHILDREN**

*ISRAEL - exploiting poor among men  
indulging flesh before God*

**PAST REDEMPTION means FUTURE RETRIBUTION**

# I. Judgment on surrounding nations

Chapters 1:1 – 2:3

- A. Introduction, Chapter 1:1, 2
- B. Judgment against Syria for cruelty, Chapter 1:3-5
- C. Judgment against Philistia for making slaves, Chapter 1:6-8
- D. Judgment against Phoenicia for breaking treaty (selling slaves), Chapter 1:9, 10
- E. Judgment against Edom for revengeful spirit, Chapter 1:11, 12
- F. Judgment against Ammon for violent crimes, Chapter 1:13-15
- G. Judgment against Moab for injustice, Chapter 2:1-3



# II. Judgment on Judah and Israel

Chapters 2:4 – 6:14

- A. Judgment against Judah for despising the Law, Chapter 2:4, 5
- B. Judgment against Israel for immorality and blasphemy, Chapter 2:6-16
- C. God's charge against whole house of Israel (12 tribes), Chapter 3  
(Privilege creates Responsibility; the higher the blessing, the greater the punishment.)
- D. Israel punished in past for iniquity, Chapter 4
- E. Israel will be punished in future for iniquity, Chapter 5
- F. Israel admonished in present to depart from iniquity, Chapter 6

SEEK GOD  
AND LIVE

AMOS 5:4-6

# III. Visions of the future

## Chapters 7 – 9

- A. Vision of grasshoppers, Chapter 7:1-3
- B. Vision of fire, Chapter 7:4-6
- C. Vision of plumbline, Chapter 7:7-9
- D. Historic interlude, Chapter 7:10-17 (Personal experience of prophet)
- E. Vision of basket of summer fruit, Chapter 8
- F. Vision of worldwide dispersion, Chapter 9:1-10
- G. Vision of worldwide regathering and restoration of kingdom, 9:11-15

### **In that day**

**I will raise up  
the fallen booth  
of David, and wall  
up its breaches and I  
will also raise up its ruins**

**and rebuild it as in  
the days of old**

Amos 9:11

# Quiz on Amos

1. During the reign of which kings did Amos prophesy?

2. In Chapter 2, what did Israel command its prophets not to do?

3. In Chapter 2, who will not be able to deliver himself?

4. To whom does God reveal his secrets, in Chapter 3?

5. In Chapter 3, what does Amos say about working in agreement?

6. In Chapter 5, what must the people of Israel do so that they would be blessed again by God?

7. In Amos' prophesy against corruption of justice in Chapter 5, he condemned people who accepted what?

8. In Chapter 7, Amos asked God to have mercy after he was shown a vision of the land being destroyed by what?

9. In Chapter 7, when Amaziah the priest told Amos to take his prophesies back to his homeland, Amos replied by saying he was not a prophet but a shepherd and a gatherer of which fruit?

10. In Chapter 8, God said that in the future He would bring a famine on the land, but this famine will not be a shortage of food but a shortage of what other necessity?

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