

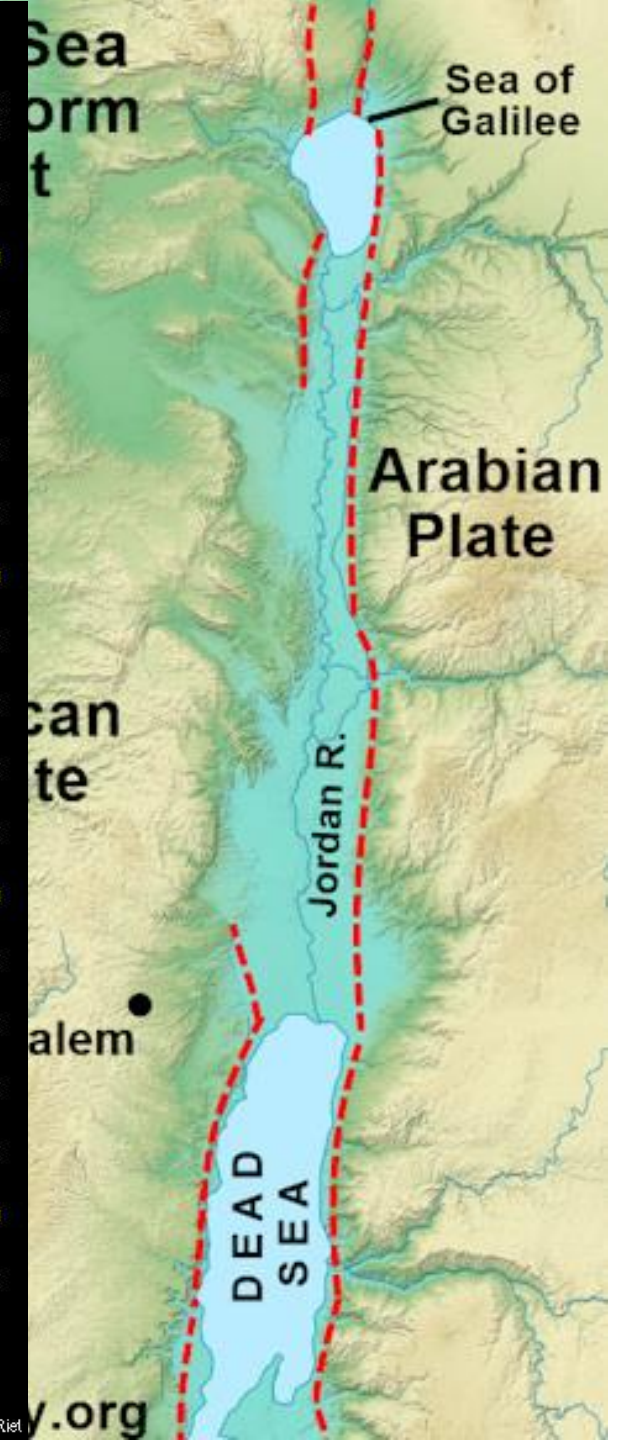
# Overview of Amos

The Who, When, Why and What of God's prophet  
Amos

# Who - Amos the farmer

- We know very little about the personal life of Amos except that he was a herdsman (1:1) and fruit gatherer (7:14-15)
- Amos described himself as "neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet" when he was called by the Lord into service (Amos 7:14)
- Amos, though, was righteous and called by God to bring a dire message to Israel, and the nations surrounding Israel and Judah.
- Amos lived in Tekoa, about 5 miles south of Bethlehem, but was not sent to prophecy to his own people and tribes but to the northern 10 tribes where he also testified about the coming calamity to 7 nations surrounding Israel and Judah.

# When – the t



# Why – Amos' purpose in prophesying for God

- Amos is sent to testify about the sins of the nations surrounding and of Israel and Judah: Syria (1:3-5), Philistia (1:6-8), Phoenicia (1:9-10), Edom (1:11-12), Amon (1:13-14), Moab (2:1-3), Judah (2:4-5) and Israel (2:6-16).
- Judah was condemned for rejecting God's law and Idolatry.
- Israel was condemned for several sins including perverting justice, oppressing the poor, being greedy, incest, selfishness, drunkenness, and idolatry.

# What – God’s purpose in sending Amos

- Amos was sent to identify the sins of the nations but he also was sent as a warning, and an answer for returning to God. (5:1-17)
- Amos showed that it was possible for God to change His mind and repent from the destruction He had said would happen (Amos 7:1-9)
- Amos prophesied that Israel would be taken. Only 39 years after he started prophesying (762 B.C.) Assyria completely conquered Israel (723 B.C)

# The Takeaway

- God condemned Israel for their greed and dishonesty. Instead of spending time focusing on worshipping God on the Sabbath, their hearts were set on making money as soon as the day ended (Amos 8:5). When they did work at their jobs, their habit was to cheat people by using illegal weights and taking advantage of those who were poor and needy.
- God is seen standing next to His altar because judgement begins at the house of the Lord (1 Peter 4:17)
- God promises to gather His people and bless them (9:13-15)