

AMOS Ch 4-6

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Chapter 4

God's judgment on all unrepentant people due to:

- A. Selfishness**
- B. Stubbornness**
- C. Hypocritical Worship**

Chapter 4

Amos 4:1-3

1 Hear this word, you cows of Bashan who are on the mountain of Samaria, Who oppress the poor, who crush the needy, Who say to your husbands, “Bring now, that we may drink!”

2 The Lord God has sworn by His holiness, “Behold, the days are coming upon you When they will take you away with meat hooks, And the last of you with fish hooks.

3 “You will go out *through breaches in the walls*, Each one straight before her, And you will be cast to Harmon,” declares the Lord.

Chapter 4

1st Indictment:

- a. They oppressed the poor.
- b. They abused the needy.
- c. They were indulgent and pampered.

Chapter 4

Their judgment was guaranteed by God's sworn oath:

1. They would be led away as captives with animal hooks in their noses or lips, to be killed or enslaved.
2. They would see their cities totally destroyed and be utterly humiliated – Would be led through the breaks in the walls.

Chapter 4

1 Tim. 6:17

17 Instruct those who are rich in this present world not to be conceited or to fix their hope on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly supplies us with all things to enjoy.

Chapter 4

Amos 4:4-5

4 “Enter Bethel and transgress; In Gilgal multiply transgression! Bring your sacrifices every morning, Your tithes every three days.

5 “Offer a thank offering also from that which is leavened, And proclaim freewill offerings, make them known. For so you love to do, you sons of Israel,” Declares the Lord God.

Chapter 4

2nd Indictment:

Sin – They were hypocritical worshipers.

1. Their worship: Condemned as sin in Bethel and Gilgal.

a. Their sacrifices and tithes

b. Their thanksgiving and freewill offerings

2. Their boast of religion: Condemned as sin by the Lord Himself.

Chapter 4

Amos 4:6-9

6 “But I gave you also cleanness of teeth in all your cities And lack of bread in all your places, Yet you have not returned to Me,” declares the Lord.

7 “Furthermore, I withheld the rain from you While *there were* still three months until harvest. Then I would send rain on one city And on another city I would not send rain; One part would be rained on, While the part not rained on would dry up.

8 “So two or three cities would stagger to another city to drink water, But would not be satisfied; Yet you have not returned to Me,” declares the Lord.

9 “I smote you with scorching *wind* and mildew; And the caterpillar was devouring Your many gardens and vineyards, fig trees and olive trees; Yet you have not returned to Me,” declares the Lord.

Chapter 4

Amos 4:10-13

10 “I sent a plague among you after the manner of Egypt; I slew your young men by the sword along with your captured horses, And I made the stench of your camp rise up in your nostrils; Yet you have not returned to Me,” declares the Lord.

11 “I overthrew you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, And you were like a firebrand snatched from a blaze; Yet you have not returned to Me,” declares the Lord.

12 “Therefore, thus I will do to you, O Israel; Because I will do this to you, Prepare to meet your God, O Israel.”

13 For behold, He who forms mountains and creates the wind And declares to man what are His thoughts, He who makes dawn into darkness And treads on the high places of the earth, The Lord God of hosts is His name.

Chapter 4

3rd Indictment – They were stubborn and rebellious unbelievers.

Amos 4:6, 8-11 – They did not repent!

1. They refused to turn their eyes to God.
2. They refused to see that they needed the Lord in their lives.
3. They were blinded by all of Israel's religious acts and desires for wealth and comfort.
4. They could not see that they were lacking.

Chapter 4

- A. Do not allow yourself to be consumed by your comforts and your wealth.**
- B. Our choices must be based on what is godly and what is good for the kingdom of God.**
- C. God does not want Christians to go through the motions of worship. He wants our hearts in our worship.**
- D. Worship is a loving response to God, not a means of impressing God or pleasing ourselves.**

Chapter 5

Death of a nation (Amos 5:1-3)

Seek God and live (Amos 5:4-15)

**Do not seek deliverance and help in false worship.
(Amos 5:4-7)**

Seek God in humility (Amos 5:8-13)

Seek God in goodness (Amos 5:14-15)

**God's 2nd pronouncement of judgment on the unjust
(Amos 5:16-20)**

**God pronounces His judgment on hypocrites.
(Amos 5:21-27)**

Chapter 5

Amos 5:1-3

1 Hear this word which I take up for you as a dirge,
O house of Israel:

2 She has fallen she will not rise again— The virgin
Israel. She *lies* neglected on her land; There is
none to raise her up.

3 For thus says the Lord God, “The city which goes
forth a thousand *strong* Will have a hundred
left, And the one which goes forth a hundred
strong Will have ten left to the house of Israel.”

Chapter 5

“Listen to this message that I am singing for you, a lament, house of Israel.” Israel is at the height of its power and Amos is singing a funeral song for the nation.

The song is being sung as if the nation is already extinguished. It is over for the nation. The nation has fallen and will never rise again.

Israel is described as a virgin, which implies that she is like a young girl in the prime of life. The once vibrant woman now lies totally helpless on the ground with no one to help.

Verse 3 depicts the armies of Israel being decimated. Though the nation thinks everything is great, they are enjoying their final few days.

Chapter 5

Amos 5:4-7

4 For thus says the Lord to the house of Israel, “**Seek Me that you may live.**”

5 “But **do not resort to Bethel** And **do not come to Gilgal**, **Nor cross over to Beersheba**; For Gilgal will certainly go into captivity And Bethel will come to trouble.

6 “Seek the Lord that you may live, Or He will break forth like a fire, O **house of Joseph**, And it will consume with none to quench *it* for Bethel,

7 *For* those who turn justice into wormwood And cast righteousness down to the earth.”

Israel's one chance to survive God's wrath is through true repentance.

Chapter 5

Amos 5:8-9

8 He who made the Pleiades and Orion And changes deep darkness into morning, Who also darkens day *into* night, Who calls for the waters of the sea And pours them out on the surface of the earth, The Lord is His name.

9 It is He who flashes forth *with* destruction upon the strong, So that destruction comes upon the fortress.

Seek the Lord by seeing the power of God.

Chapter 5

Amos 5:10-13

10 They hate him who reproveth in the gate, And they abhor him who speaks *with* integrity.

11 Therefore because you impose heavy rent on the poor And exact a tribute of grain from them, *Though* you have built houses of well-hewn stone, Yet you will not live in them; You have planted pleasant vineyards, yet you will not drink their wine.

12 For I know your transgressions are many and your sins are great, *You* who distress the righteous *and* accept bribes And turn aside the poor in the gate.

13 Therefore at such a time the prudent person keeps silent, for it is an evil time.

Seek the Lord in humility because He is the One who is in charge.

Chapter 5

Amos 5:14-15

14 Seek good and not evil, that you may live; And thus may the Lord God of hosts be with you, Just as you have said!

15 Hate evil, love good, And establish justice in the gate! Perhaps the Lord God of hosts May be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Chapter 5

- 1. To seek good and not evil:**
 - a. Assures life.**
 - b. Assures God's presence.**
- 2. To hate evil, love good and establish justice in the courts:**
 - a. Assures God's mercy.**

Chapter 5

Amos 5:16-20

16 Therefore thus says the Lord God of hosts, the Lord, “There is wailing in all the plazas, And in all the streets they say, ‘Alas! Alas!’ They also call the farmer to mourning And professional mourners to lamentation.

17 “And in all the vineyards *there is* wailing, Because I will pass through the midst of you,” says the Lord.

18 Alas, you who are longing for **the day of the Lord**, For what purpose *will* the day of the Lord *be* to you? It *will be* darkness and not light;

19 As when a man flees from a lion And a bear meets him, Or goes home, leans his hand against the wall And a snake bites him.

20 *Will* not the day of the Lord *be* darkness instead of light, Even gloom with no brightness in it?

The day of the Lord will not be a day of redemption. It will be a day of destruction.

Chapter 5

Amos 5:21-27

21 “I hate, I reject your festivals, Nor do I delight in your solemn assemblies.

22 “Even though you offer up to Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, **I will not accept** *them*; And I will not *even* look at the peace offerings of your fatlings.

23 “**Take away from Me** the noise of your songs; **I will not even listen** to the sound of your harps.

24 “But let justice roll down like waters And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

25 “Did you present Me with sacrifices and grain offerings in the wilderness for forty years, O house of Israel?

26 “You also carried along Sikkuth your king and Kiyyun, your images, the star of your gods which you made for yourselves.

27 “Therefore, I will make you go into exile beyond Damascus,” says the Lord, whose name is the God of hosts.

Chapter 5

God hated Israel's Hypocritical Worship:

1. Their worship assemblies
2. Their sacrifices
3. Their songs
4. Their music

God rejected all of Israel's worship:

1. God will not accept it.
2. God will not listen to it.
3. God will not look upon it.
4. God wants it all taken away from His sight.

Chapter 5

A. Christians must worship God according to His ordinances.

B. Worship changes our lives, brings repentance and renews our hearts.

C. God hates our worship when our hearts are not focused on Him. We let our passions for worldly things have precedence over glorying God and His Son Jesus.

Chapter 6

**God's Judgment on the
Complacent**

God's Judgment on the Indulgent

**God's Judgment on the Prideful
People**

Chapter 6

Amos 6:1-3

1 Woe to those who are at ease in Zion And to those who *feel* secure in the mountain of Samaria, The distinguished men of the foremost of nations, To whom the house of Israel comes.

2 Go over to Calneh and look, And go from there to Hamath the great, Then go down to Gath of the Philistines. Are they better than these kingdoms, Or is their territory greater than yours?

3 Do you put off the day of calamity, And would you bring near the seat of violence?

Chapter 6

A. Judgment of the Complacent

1. Their sin: Misplaced trust

a. In their military forces and economy of Jerusalem (Zion) and Samaria

b. In their leadership

2. Their punishment: They would be conquered just as the surrounding cities and nations were conquered by Assyria.

a. Calneh, Hamath and Gath

3. Their foolish attitude: Pushed thoughts of judgment out of their minds.

Chapter 6

Amos 6:4-7

4 Those who recline on beds of ivory And sprawl on their couches, And eat lambs from the flock And calves from the midst of the stall,

5 Who improvise to the sound of the harp, *And* like David have composed songs for themselves,

6 Who drink wine from sacrificial bowls While they anoint themselves with the finest of oils, Yet they have not grieved over the ruin of Joseph.

7 Therefore, they will now go into exile at the head of the exiles, And the sprawlers' banqueting will pass away.

Chapter 6

Amos 6:8-10

8 The Lord God has sworn by Himself, the Lord God of hosts has declared: “I loathe the arrogance of Jacob, And detest his citadels; Therefore, I will deliver up *the* city and all it contains.”

9 And it will be, if ten men are left in one house, they will die.

10 Then one’s uncle, or his undertaker, will lift him up to carry out *his* bones from the house, and he will say to the one who is in the innermost part of the house, “Is anyone else with you?” And that one will say, “No one.” Then he will answer, “Keep quiet. For the name of the Lord is not to be mentioned.”

Chapter 6

Amos 6:11-14

11 For behold, the Lord is going to command that the great house be smashed to pieces and the small house to fragments.

12 Do horses run on rocks? Or does one plow them with oxen? Yet you have turned justice into poison

And the fruit of righteousness into wormwood,

13 You who rejoice in Lodebar, And say, “Have we not by our *own* strength taken Karnaim for ourselves?”

14 “For behold, I am going to raise up a nation against you, O house of Israel,” declares the Lord God of hosts, “And they will afflict you from the entrance of Hamath To the brook of the Arabah.”

Chapter 6

C. Judgment of the Proudful

1. Their sin: Trusted the military strength and the economy of their fortress cities and not on God.
2. Their punishment:
 - a. Their cities would be given over to an enemy.
 - b. They would be doomed to death.
 - c. They would be stricken with the anger of God.
 - d. They would have their homes destroyed.

Chapter 6

3. Their guilt:

a. They would poison their own judicial system.

b. They ignored God and trusted their own power for security and prosperity.

4. Their punishment emphasized:

a. God will use an enemy nation to be His agent of judgment.

b. The land would be destroyed from Hamath to the river of Arabah.

Chapter 6

- 1. Christians need to carefully consider if they are ready for the coming of the Lord.**
- 2. Christians must learn from Israel's example by carefully considering if they are holding on to idols and false worship, all the while thinking that the day of the Lord is something to look forward to when it is not.**
- 3. Christians must prepare their hearts and change their lives if they are going to be truly ready for the day of the Lord.**
- 4. Do not be caught by surprise.**
- 5. Examine your life so that the day of the light of Christ does not become your day of darkness.**