

AMOS Ch 1- Ch 3

Lenny D'Ambrosia

Contents of Amos Chapter 1

Amos, the prophet Amos, a shepherd from Tekoa, delivers messages from the LORD regarding the judgment on neighboring nations.

He proclaims that for the transgressions of Damascus, Gaza, Tyre, Edom, and Ammon, the LORD will not revoke their punishments. Each nation is condemned for specific acts of violence and betrayal, such as the mistreatment of Gilead and the deportation of populations.

The LORD declares that He will send fire to consume their citadels and cut off their inhabitants, leading to exile and destruction.

The chapter emphasizes divine retribution for the injustices committed by these nations.

Chapter 1

Amos 1:1

1 The words of Amos, who was among the shepherders from Tekoa, which he envisioned in visions concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam son of Joash, king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

Theme of Amos

Amos 1:2

2 He said, “The Lord roars from Zion And from Jerusalem He utters His voice; And the shepherds’ pasture grounds mourn, And the summit of Carmel dries up.”

Chapter 1

Syria (Damascus was the capital) was condemned for their harsh cruelty toward the people they conquered. Amos says that they rode over the defeated Israelites with threshing boards. Threshing boards had iron teeth which was used to separate the grain from the stalk. The Syrians used these boards on the people they conquered. God does not subscribe to the idea that all is fair in war. Syria had gone too far.

Amos 1:3-5

3 Thus says the Lord, “For three transgressions of Damascus and for four I will not revoke its *punishment*,

Because they threshed Gilead with *implements* of sharp iron.

4 “So I will send fire upon the house of Hazael And it will consume the citadels of Ben-hadad.

5 “I will also break the *gate* bar of Damascus, And cut off the inhabitant from the valley of Aven, And him who holds the scepter, from Beth-eden; So the people of Aram will go exiled to Kir,” Says the Lord.

Chapter 1

2. **Philistia (Gaza)** was condemned for kidnapping peaceful people for the purpose of turning a profit. They were willing to injure others and sacrifice morality and humanity for the sake of making money.

Amos 1:6-8

6 Thus says the Lord, “For three transgressions of Gaza and for four I will not revoke its *punishment*, Because they deported an entire population To deliver *it* up to Edom.

7 “So I will send fire upon the wall of Gaza And it will consume her citadels.

8 “I will also cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod, And him who holds the scepter, from Ashkelon; I will even unleash My power upon Ekron, And the remnant of the Philistines will perish,” Says the Lord God.

Chapter 1

3. **Phoenicia (Tyre)** followed the same error as Gaza. They apparently cooperated in selling slaves to other nations. There was a callous disregard for humanity, sacrificing human rights for business profits.

Amos 1:9-10

9 Thus says the Lord, “For three transgressions of Tyre and for four I will not revoke its *punishment*, Because they delivered up an entire population to Edom And did not remember *the* covenant of brotherhood.

10 “So I will send fire upon the wall of Tyre And it will consume her citadels.”

Chapter 1

4. **Edom** was condemned because of its treatment of the people of Israel. There was to be a brotherhood between the Hebrews and the Edomites because Jacob and Esau were brothers.

Amos 1:11-12

11 Thus says the Lord, “For three transgressions of Edom and for four I will not revoke its *punishment*, Because he pursued his brother with the sword, While he stifled his compassion; His anger also tore continually, And he maintained his fury forever.

12 “So I will send fire upon Teman And it will consume the citadels of Bozrah.”

Chapter 1

5. **Ammon** was brought under judgment for massacring innocent and defenseless pregnant women. To kill the innocent so that they could expand their border is the reason for Ammon receiving God's wrath.

Amos 1:13-15

13 Thus says the Lord, "For three transgressions of the sons of Ammon and for four

I will not revoke its *punishment*, Because they ripped open the pregnant women of Gilead In order to enlarge their borders.

14 "So I will kindle a fire on the wall of Rabbah And it will consume her citadels Amid war cries on the day of battle, And a storm on the day of tempest.

15 "Their king will go into exile, He and his princes together," says the Lord.

Chapter 1

God is patient in the midst of their sins. It is not for one sin that God would bring down His wrath on these nations.

God is giving time to repent. God is being merciful and allowing the sins to continue, but with the desire for them to turn back to God.

Time did not change the hearts of the people. Rather than turning to the Lord, the people compounded their sins.

Though God is patient in our sins, there will be a time of judgment.

Chapter 1

These condemnations teach us that God holds all nations accountable for their acts of inhumanity against individuals.

Every nation that does not respect human life will come under God's judgment and they will be held accountable for their atrocities.

Contents of Amos Chapter 2

The LORD declares judgment on Moab, Judah, and Israel for their transgressions.

Moab faces punishment for burning the bones of the Edomite king, leading to destruction by fire.

Judah is condemned for rejecting the law of the LORD, resulting in the burning of Jerusalem's citadels.

Israel is judged for selling the righteous for money and exploiting the needy, with their actions profaning God's name.

The LORD recalls His past acts of deliverance and guidance, highlighting Israel's disobedience, including making Nazirites drink wine and silencing prophets.

Chapter 2 warns that even the strongest will not escape judgment.

Chapter 2

1. **Moab** was condemned for their total disrespect for the dead.

Amos 2:1-3

1 Thus says the Lord, “For three transgressions of Moab and for four I will not revoke its *punishment*, Because he burned the bones of the king of Edom to lime.

2 “So I will send fire upon Moab And it will consume the citadels of Kerioth; And Moab will die amid tumult, With war cries and the sound of a trumpet.

3 “I will also cut off the judge from her midst And slay all her princes with him,” says the Lord.

Chapter 2

2. Judah rejected God's word and His holy commandments, and was led astray by lies and worshiped false gods. God's judgment against Judah would burn and He would consume Jerusalem.

Amos 2:4-5

4 Thus says the Lord, "For three transgressions of Judah and for four I will not revoke its *punishment*, Because they rejected the law of the Lord And have not kept His statutes; Their lies also have led them astray, Those after which their fathers walked.

5 "So I will send fire upon Judah And it will consume the citadels of Jerusalem."

Chapter 2

3. **Israel's** judgment is based on:
 - a. Selling the poor into slavery;
 - b. Perverting the justice of the oppressed;
 - c. Disobeying God's commandments;
 - d. Taking financial advantage of the unfortunate;
 - e. Idol worship.

Chapter 2

Amos 2:6-8

6 Thus says the Lord, “For three transgressions of Israel and for four I will not revoke its *punishment*, Because they sell the righteous for money And the needy for a pair of sandals.

7 “These who pant after the *very* dust of the earth on the head of the helpless

Also turn aside the way of the humble; And a man and his father resort to the same girl In order to profane My holy name.

8 “On garments taken as pledges they stretch out beside every altar, And in the house of their God they drink the wine of those who have been fined.

Chapter 2

A. God's work to save and guide His people.

Amos 2:9-11

9 “Yet it was I who destroyed the Amorite before them, Though his height *was* like the height of cedars And he *was* strong as the oaks; I even destroyed his fruit above and his root below.

10 “It was I who brought you up from the land of Egypt, And I led you in the wilderness forty years That you might take possession of the land of the Amorite.

11 “Then I raised up some of your sons to be prophets And some of your young men to be Nazirites. Is this not so, O sons of Israel?” declares the Lord.

Chapter 2

B. Sins of Israel and God's Judgment.

Amos 2:12-16

12 “But you made the Nazirites drink wine, And you commanded the prophets saying, ‘You shall not prophesy!’

13 “Behold, I am weighted down beneath you As a wagon is weighted down when filled with sheaves.

14 “Flight will perish from the swift, And the stalwart will not strengthen his power, Nor the mighty man save his life.

15 “He who grasps the bow will not stand *his ground*, The swift of foot will not escape, Nor will he who rides the horse save his life.

16 “Even the bravest among the warriors will flee naked in that day,” declares the Lord.

Chapter 2

God does not tolerate sin.

All people will be judged.

Christians are to remain faithful to God's commandments.

Christians will receive God's grace and mercy by living a righteous life to the best of their ability.

Contents of Amos Chapter 3

The LORD addresses the sons of Israel, emphasizing their unique selection and impending punishment for their iniquities. The text uses rhetorical questions to illustrate the inevitability of consequences, likening divine actions to natural occurrences.

The LORD calls for proclamation in Ashdod and Egypt, highlighting the chaos and oppression in Samaria. He condemns the people for their wrongdoing and warns of an enemy that will dismantle their strength.

Chapter 3 concludes with a declaration of judgment against Israel's transgressions, including the destruction of altars and luxurious houses.

Chapter 3

A. With Privilege Comes Accountability

1. Israel was the chosen people of God.
2. God worked to redeem them and deliver them.
3. They were the only people to have this covenant relationship with God.
4. The result is not that God is going to overlook their sins. God will punish them for every sin.

Amos 3:1-2

1 Hear this word which the Lord has spoken against you, sons of Israel, against the entire family which He brought up from the land of Egypt:

2 “You only have I chosen among all the families of the earth; Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.”

B. The Lion has roared!

Chapter 3

Amos 3:3-8

3 Do two men walk together unless they have made an appointment?

4 Does a lion roar in the forest when he has no prey? Does a young lion growl from his den unless he has captured *something*?

5 Does a bird fall into a trap on the ground when there is no bait in it? Does a trap spring up from the earth when it captures nothing at all?

6 If a trumpet is blown in a city will not the people tremble? If a calamity occurs in a city has not the Lord done it?

7 Surely the Lord God does nothing Unless He reveals His secret counsel To His servants the prophets.

8 A lion has roared! Who will not fear? The Lord God has spoken! Who can but prophesy?

Chapter 3

C. The Downfall and Devouring of Israel

God, through his prophet Amos, calls Egypt and the Philistines to be witnesses to the wickedness in Israel.

These two nations were past oppressors of Israel. Yet these immoral heathens are called to judge the morality of Samaria.

The nations are called to be a witness against the people of God. Verse 10 defines the problem. They did not even know how to do what was right. Their storehouse was not full of mercy and grace, but rather, violence, robbery, and oppression.

Chapter 3

Amos 3:9-13

9 Proclaim on the citadels in Ashdod and on the citadels in the land of Egypt and say, “Assemble yourselves on the mountains of Samaria and see *the* great tumults within her and *the* oppressions in her midst.

10 “But they do not know how to do what is right,” declares the Lord, “these who hoard up violence and devastation in their citadels.”

11 Therefore, thus says the Lord God, “An enemy, even one surrounding the land, Will pull down your strength from you And your citadels will be looted.”

12 Thus says the Lord, “Just as the shepherd snatches from the lion’s mouth a couple of legs or a piece of an ear, So will the sons of Israel dwelling in Samaria be snatched away— With *the* corner of a bed and *the* cover of a couch!

13 “Hear and testify against the house of Jacob,” Declares the Lord God, the God of hosts.

Chapter 3

D. Israel's punishment for their transgressions.

Amos 3:14-15

14 "For on the day that I punish Israel's transgressions, I will also punish the altars of Bethel; The horns of the altar will be cut off And they will fall to the ground.

15 "I will also smite the winter house together with the summer house;

The houses of ivory will also perish And the great houses will come to an end," Declares the Lord.

Chapter 3

God calls for us to pay attention to the declaration of His word. When God speaks, His voice roars through the earth.

It is easy to lack intensity when listening to God's word. We can pay attention to everything else and get distracted when trying to read God's word or listen to its proclamation.

The voice of the Lord must cause us to respond to His commandments.

Chapter 3

Christians are the chosen people of God, a holy nation.

The purpose is not to think that we are special because of ourselves. Our status before God is not because of ourselves, that we can boast in our works. Seeing what God has done for us is to cause us to proclaim the excellencies of Christ.

He called us out of darkness. Christ is the light who is shining in the darkness. We proclaim him because we were blind and without the light of Christ, we would continue to be blind.