

The Minor Prophets

Amos – God’s Judgment of Sin

Lesson 11

Please pray and ask the Lord to teach you through His Holy Spirit before you begin.

Read Amos Chapters 1 and 2

Amos was a simple farmer and herdsman from a small village called Tekoa about 6 miles southwest of Bethlehem when God called him to prophesy. He gave God’s message to the people in the face of much opposition, it was not a popular message! At the time, Israel and Judah were prosperous and at peace with their neighbors. Jeroboam II (793-753 BC) reigned in Israel and Uzziah (790-740 BC) reigned in Judah. The Jews equated peace and prosperity with God being pleased with them, so they were not happy to hear that judgment was in their future. Of course, they were ok with God judging their neighbors, they just didn’t want to hear about their own sins.

Judgment on the nations

1. List the foreign nations or people you find in chapters 1 and 2 that are to be judged. Choose one and share a bit of information you find about them such as location, modern day name or what they did to incur God’s judgment on themselves, or something you find to be interesting. Keep it brief! 😊

2. Read verse 2 of chapter 1 along with 1 Peter 4:17. What do you learn?

3. “Eight times Amos used the phrase ‘for three transgressions and for four,’ a Jewish idiom that means ‘an indefinite number that has finally come to the end.’” (Warren Wiersbe)

a. Look at Amos 1:3, 6, 9, 11, and 13 along with 2 Peter 3:8,9. What do you learn?

b. Read the rest of 2 Peter chapter 3. How does knowing this about God encourage you?

4. God spoke to the people of the Old Testament through His chosen prophets. How does He speak to believers today and how do we discern whether it is truly God we are hearing? John 16:13 and 1 John 4:1 will help you answer.

Judgment on Judah and Israel

5. In chapter 2 Amos addresses the sins of Judah and Israel.

- a. Read verses 4 and 5 along with Jeremiah 16:19,20. What do you learn?
- b. What do you see happening in our nation concerning the attitude towards the Law of God?

6. Read verses 6-8 along with Micah 2:2; Isaiah 10:2; Ezekiel 22:11; Exodus 22:26,27 and list the sins Israel is accused of.

7. Read verses 9-16

- a. Who were the Amorites in verse 9? (Numbers 13:32,33)
- b. Why was it wrong to give wine to the Nazirites? (Numbers 6:1-4)
- c. Read the last part of verse 12 along with Isaiah 30:9,10. Do you see a similar mindset in some churches today?

“For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.” Titus 2:11-14

