



Series: Bible Survey

Lesson: 45. Amos, pt. 2

- **Review**

- Amos was a shepherd and farmer from Judah called by God to travel to Bethel to share a message of judgment to his northern Israelite neighbors.
- His message came during a time of relative peace and prosperity in Israel that had allowed Israelites to take God's blessings for granted and indulge in greed, oppression, and immorality.
- Main themes:
 - ALL are accountable to the Creator.
 - Those called by God's name incur greater accountability.
 - Those who abuse God's blessings will receive stricter judgment.

- **Outline**

- Chapter 5 – The central chiasm of the book

- Structure:

- 1. A – Lament because of judgment (1–3)
 - 2. B – Please to seek God to avoid judgment (4–6)
 - 3. C – Explanation of God’s sovereign power to judge and what He was judging (8–13)
 - 4. B’ – Plea to seek good to appeal to God’s mercy (14–15)
 - 5. A’ – Lament because of judgment (16–17)

- The chiasm is followed by an address to remove any confidence they would have that this doesn’t apply to them.

- Chapter 6 – There should be no confidence in the _____.

- God attacks all sources of pride and comfort they may have and even uses previously judged neighbors as examples of why no one can escape His judgment.
 - Not only will being ‘God’s people’ not save them, but He will even use another nation to punish them.

- Chapter 7 – The vision of the _____
 - God shows His patience and mercy by letting Amos intercede before other judgments arrive, but He will finally judge them according to the standard they were supposed to be founded on and punish their failure to measure up.
 - Amos's confrontation with Amaziah shows that he was not just a religious zealot going off on a personal crusade—he was speaking for God—and that God's authority trumps both king's and priest's.
- Chapter 8 – The vision of _____
 - The vision works as a sign because of wordplay.
 - Their end is pronounced once again in Day of YHWH terms that will reverse the fortunes of those who profit from injustice.
 - Even worse, they will be judged with silence from God.

○ Chapter 9 – The vision of God standing beside the _____

- God pronounces unavoidable destruction of the temple and of those who worship there.
- They shouldn't be surprised at the level of judgment for sinning against the Creator of the universe, yet He will still preserve a remnant of His people.
- Restoration is still promised in the future after the judgment has passed.
- James quotes vv11–12 at the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15:16–18) as evidence that God intends for there to still be distinctions between Jew and Gentile, even in the Kingdom.

Discussion:

1. Why does God describe His judgment in so many different ways?
2. Why does God remind us so often about Creation?

FOR REFLECTION: How are you using the resources God has given you for *His* purposes?

Blanks: flesh, plumb line, summer fruit, altar