Amos

1 The words of Amos, who was among the
shepherds of Tekoa—what he saw concerning
Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah and
Jeroboam son of Joash king of Israel, two years
before the earthquake.

2 He said,

"The LORD roars from Zion and raises his voice
from Jerusalem.
The shepherds' pastures mourn, and the
summit of Carmel withers."

3 This is what the LORD says: "For three
transgressions of Damascus, and for four,
I will not revoke its punishment, because
they threshed Gilead with iron threshing
sledges.

4 I will send fire on the house of Hazael, and it
will consume the palaces of Ben-hadad.

5 I will break the gate bar of Damascus and cut
off the inhabitant from the Valley of Aven
and the one who holds the scepter from
Beth-eden.
The people of Aram will go into exile to Kir,"
says the LORD.

6 This is what the LORD says: "For three
transgressions of Gaza, and for four, I will
not revoke its punishment, because they

carried an entire population into exile to
hand them over to Edom.
7 I will send fire on the wall of Gaza, and it will
consume her palaces.
8 I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdod and
the one who holds the scepter from
Ashkelon.
I will turn my hand against Ekron, and the
remnant of the Philistines will perish,"
says the Lord GOD.

9 This is what the LORD says: "For three
transgressions of Tyre, and for four, I will
not revoke its punishment, because they
handed an entire captive population over
to Edom and did not remember the
covenant of brothers.
10 I will send fire on the wall of Tyre, and it will
consume her palaces."

11 This is what the LORD says: "For three
transgressions of Edom, and for four, I
will not revoke its punishment, because
he pursued his brother with the sword
and stifled his compassion.
His anger tore continually, and he kept his
wrath forever.
12 I will send fire on Teman, and it will consume
the palaces of Bozrah."

13 This is what the LORD says: "For three
transgressions of the Ammonites, and for
four, I will not revoke their punishment,

because they ripped open the pregnant
women of Gilead to enlarge their territory.
14 I will kindle fire on the wall of Rabbah, and it
will consume her palaces, with a battle
cry on the day of war, with a tempest on
the day of the storm.
15 Their king will go into exile, he and his
princes together," says the LORD.

2

1 This is what the LORD says: "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 I will send fire on Moab, and it will consume
the palaces of Kerioth.
Moab will die amid tumult, with a battle cry
and the sound of a horn.
3 I will cut off the judge from her midst and kill
all her princes with him," says the LORD.

4 This is what the LORD says: "For three
transgressions of Judah, and for four, I
will not revoke its punishment, because
they rejected the law of the LORD and did
not keep his statutes.
Their lies led them astray, the same lies
their fathers followed.
5 I will send fire on Judah, and it will consume
the palaces of Jerusalem."

6 This is what the LORD says: “For three
transgressions of Israel, and for four, I will
not revoke its punishment, because they
sell the righteous for silver and the needy
for a pair of sandals.
7 They crave even the dust of the earth on the
heads of the poor and turn aside the way
of the humble.
A man and his father go to the same young
woman, to profane my holy name.
8 They lie down beside every altar on garments
taken in pledge, and in the house of their
God they drink wine taken as fines.
9 Yet it was I who destroyed the Amorite before
them, whose height was like the height of
cedars and who was strong as oaks.
I destroyed his fruit above and his roots
below.
10 It was I who brought you up from the land of
Egypt and led you forty years through the
wilderness to possess the land of the
Amorite.
11 I raised up some of your sons as prophets and
some of your young men as Nazirites.
Is this not so, people of Israel?”
declares the LORD.
12 “But you made the Nazirites drink wine and
commanded the prophets, ‘Do not
prophesy.’
13 Look, I will press you down where you stand,
as a cart full of sheaves presses down.
14 Escape will fail the swift;

the strong will not muster his strength, and
the warrior will not save his life.
15 The archer will not stand;
the swift of foot will not escape, and the
horseman will not save his life.
16 Even the bravest among the warriors will flee
naked on that day," declares the LORD.

3

1 Hear this word that the LORD has spoken
against you, people of Israel, against the
whole family that I brought up from the
land of Egypt:
2 "You alone have I known among all the families
of the earth;
therefore I will punish you for all your
iniquities."
3 Do two walk together unless they have agreed
to meet?
4 Does a lion roar in the forest when it has no
prey?
Does a young lion give voice from its den
unless it has caught something?
5 Does a bird fall into a trap on the ground when
there is no snare for it?
Does a trap spring up from the ground
without catching anything?
6 If a horn sounds in a city, do the people not
tremble?
If disaster strikes a city, has the LORD not
brought it about?
7 For the Lord GOD does nothing without
revealing his counsel to his servants the
prophets.

8 A lion has roared—who will not fear?
The Lord GOD has spoken—who will not prophesy?
9 Proclaim over the palaces of Ashdod and over the palaces in the land of Egypt, and say,
"Gather on the mountains of Samaria and see the great turmoil within her and the oppression in her midst."
10 "They do not know how to do what is right," declares the LORD, "those who store up violence and plunder in their palaces."

11 Therefore this is what the Lord GOD says: "An enemy all around the land!
He will bring down your strength, and your palaces will be plundered."
12 This is what the LORD says: "As a shepherd rescues two legs or a piece of an ear from the lion's mouth, so will the people of Israel be rescued, those who sit in Samaria in the corner of a bed, and in Damascus on a couch.
13 Hear and testify against the house of Jacob," declares the Lord GOD, the God of hosts.
14 "For on the day I punish Israel for his transgressions, I will punish the altars of Bethel.
The horns of the altar will be cut off and fall to the ground.
15 I will strike the winter house together with the summer house.
The ivory houses will perish, and many houses will come to an end," declares the LORD.

4

1 Hear this word, you cows of Bashan on the
mountain of Samaria, who oppress the
poor and crush the needy, who say to
their masters, “Bring it, and let us drink.”
2 The Lord GOD has sworn by his holiness:
“Look, days are coming upon you when
you will be taken away with hooks, the
last of you with fishhooks.
3 You will go out through breaches, each woman
straight ahead, and you will cast
yourselves toward Harmon,” declares the
LORD.
4 “Come to Bethel and transgress;
at Gilgal multiply transgression.
Bring your sacrifices every morning and
your tithes every three days.
5 Burn leavened bread as a thank offering;
proclaim your freewill offerings and
announce them, for this is what you love,
people of Israel,” declares the Lord GOD.
6 “I also gave you clean teeth in all your cities
and lack of bread in all your settlements.
Yet you did not return to me,” declares the
LORD.
7 “I also withheld the rain from you when there
were still three months until harvest.
I sent rain on one city but not on another.
One field received rain, while a field that
received no rain dried up.
8 People from two or three cities staggered to one
city to drink water but were not satisfied.

Yet you did not return to me," declares the
LORD.

9 "I struck you with blight and mildew.
The cutting locust devoured your many
gardens and vineyards, your fig trees and
olive trees.
Yet you did not return to me," declares the
LORD.

10 "I sent a plague among you like the one in
Egypt.
I killed your young men with the sword
while your horses were taken captive, and
I made the stench of your camps rise into
your nostrils.
Yet you did not return to me," declares the
LORD.

11 "I overthrew some of you as God overthrew
Sodom and Gomorrah, and you were like
a burning stick snatched from the fire.
Yet you did not return to me," declares the
LORD.

12 "Therefore this is what I will do to you, Israel.
Because I will do this to you, prepare to
meet your God, Israel."

13 For look, he who forms the mountains and
creates the wind, who declares to man
what his thought is, who turns dawn to
darkness and treads on the heights of the
earth—the LORD, the God of hosts, is his
name.

5

1 Hear this word that I take up as a lament over
you, house of Israel:

2 “Fallen, never to rise again, is virgin Israel.
She lies abandoned on her land;
there is no one to raise her up.”

3 For this is what the Lord GOD says: “The city
that sends out a thousand will have a
hundred left, and the one that sends out a
hundred will have ten left for the house of
Israel.”

4 For this is what the LORD says to the house of
Israel: “Seek me and live.

5 Do not seek Bethel, do not enter Gilgal, and do
not cross over to Beersheba.
For Gilgal will surely go into exile, and
Bethel will come to nothing.”

6 Seek the LORD and live, lest he break out like
fire against the house of Joseph and
consume it, with no one to quench it at
Bethel.

7 You who turn justice into wormwood and cast
righteousness to the ground!

8 He who made the Pleiades and Orion, who
turns deep darkness to morning and
darkens day into night, who calls for the
waters of the sea and pours them over the
face of the earth—the LORD is his name.

9 He makes destruction flash upon the strong,
and destruction comes upon the fortress.

10 They hate the one who reproves at the gate
and abhor the one who speaks with
integrity.
11 Therefore, because you trample the poor and
exact a grain levy from him, you have
built houses of cut stone, but you will not
live in them.
You have planted lovely vineyards, but you
will not drink their wine.
12 "For I know how many your transgressions
are and how grave your sins—you who
oppress the righteous, accept a bribe, and
turn the needy aside at the gate."
13 Therefore the prudent keep silent at such a
time, for it is an evil time.
14 Seek good and not evil, so that you may live.
Then the LORD, the God of hosts, will be
with you, as you say.
15 Hate evil, love good, and establish justice at
the gate.
Perhaps the LORD, the God of hosts, will be
gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

16 Therefore this is what the LORD, the God of
hosts, the Lord, says: "There will be
mourning in every square, and in every
street they will say, 'Alas!
Alas!' They will call the farmer to mourning
and those skilled in lamentation to
wailing.
17 There will be mourning in every vineyard, for
I will pass through your midst," says the
LORD.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
What will the day of the LORD mean for you?
It is darkness and not light,
19 as when a man flees from a lion and meets a bear, or enters the house, rests his hand against the wall, and a snake bites him.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness and not light, gloom without any brightness?
21 “I hate, I reject your festivals, and I will not savor your solemn assemblies.
22 Even if you offer me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them.
I will not look upon the peace offerings of your fattened cattle.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the music of your harps.
24 But let justice roll like water, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
25 Did you bring me sacrifices and grain offerings in the wilderness for forty years, house of Israel?
26 You will carry Sikkuth your king and Kiyyun your images, the star of your god, which you made for yourselves.
27 I will send you into exile beyond Damascus,” says the LORD, whose name is the God of hosts.

6

1 Woe to those at ease in Zion and those secure on the mountain of Samaria, the notable

men of the foremost nation, to whom the
house of Israel comes!
2 Cross over to Calneh and look;
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 larger than yours?
3 You put off the day of disaster but bring near
the seat of violence.
4 You lie on ivory beds and sprawl on your
couches, eating lambs from the flock and
calves from the stall.
5 You improvise to the sound of the harp and
invent musical instruments for
yourselves, like David.
6 You drink wine from bowls and anoint
yourselves with the finest oils, but you do
not grieve over Joseph's ruin.
7 Therefore you will now go into exile at the
head of the exiles, and the revelry of those
who sprawl will cease.

8 The Lord GOD has sworn by himself, declares
the LORD, the God of hosts: "I abhor
Jacob's pride and hate his palaces.
I will hand over the city and everything in
it."
9 If ten men remain in one house, they will die.
10 His uncle, the one who burns him, will lift him
to carry the bones out of the house.
He will say to the one in the innermost part
of the house, "Is anyone else with you?"
He will say, "No one."
Then he will say, "Silence!

We must not mention the name of the
LORD."
11 For look, the LORD gives the command: he
will shatter the great house and leave the
small house split open.
12 Do horses run on rock?
Does one plow there with oxen?
Yet you have turned justice into poison and
the fruit of righteousness into wormwood.
13 You rejoice over Lo-debar and say, "Have we
not taken Karnaim for ourselves by our
own strength?"
14 "For look, I am raising up a nation against you,
house of Israel," declares the LORD, the
God of hosts, "and they will oppress you
from Lebo-hamath to the brook of the
Arabah."

7

1 This is what the Lord GOD showed me: he
was forming locusts when the late growth was
beginning to sprout—the late growth after the
king's mowings.
2 When they had finished eating the
vegetation of the land, I said, "Lord GOD, please
forgive! How can Jacob stand? He is so small."
3 The LORD relented concerning this. "It will
not happen," said the LORD.
4 This is what the Lord GOD showed me: the
Lord GOD was calling for judgment by fire. It
devoured the great deep and was consuming the
portion of land.
5 Then I said, "Lord GOD, please stop! How can
Jacob stand? He is so small."

6 The LORD relented concerning this. “This
will not happen either,” said the Lord GOD.
7 This is what he showed me: the Lord was
standing beside a wall built with a plumb line,
with a plumb line in his hand.
8 The LORD said to me, “What do you see,
Amos?” I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord
said, “Look, I am setting a plumb line in the
midst of my people Israel. I will no longer pass
over them.
9 The high places of Isaac will be desolate, and
the sanctuaries of Israel will be laid waste. I will
rise against the house of Jeroboam with the
sword.”
10 Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent word to
Jeroboam king of Israel: “Amos has conspired
against you in the midst of the house of Israel.
The land cannot bear all his words.
11 For this is what Amos says: ‘Jeroboam will
die by the sword, and Israel will surely go into
exile away from its land.’ ”
12 Amaziah said to Amos, “Seer, go! Flee to the
land of Judah. Eat your bread there, and
prophesy there.
13 But never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is
the king’s sanctuary and the temple of the
kingdom.”
14 Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet,
nor am I a prophet’s son. I am a cattle herder
and a tender of sycamore figs.
15 But the LORD took me from following the
flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to
my people Israel.’

16 Now hear the word of the LORD. You say,
‘Do not prophesy against Israel, and do not
preach against the house of Isaac.’
17 Therefore this is what the LORD says: ‘Your
wife will become a prostitute in the city; your
sons and daughters will fall by the sword, and
your land will be divided by a measuring line.
You will die on unclean soil, and Israel will
surely go into exile away from its land.’ ”

8

1 This is what the Lord GOD showed me: a
basket of summer fruit.
2 He said, “What do you see, Amos?” I said, “A
basket of summer fruit.” Then the LORD said to
me, “The end has come for my people Israel. I
will no longer pass over them.
3 The songs of the temple will turn to wailing
on that day,” declares the Lord GOD. “So many
corpses! They are thrown everywhere. Silence!”

4 Hear this, you who trample the needy and
bring the poor of the land to an end,
5 saying, “When will the new moon be over so
we can sell grain, and the Sabbath so we
can put wheat on sale?
We will shrink the grain measure, enlarge
the silver weight, and cheat with
dishonest scales,
6 buying the poor for silver and the needy for a
pair of sandals, and selling even the
sweepings of the wheat.”

7 The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: “I
will never forget any of their deeds.
8 Will not the land tremble over this, and all who
live in it mourn?
All of it will rise like the Nile, surge, and
sink like the Nile of Egypt.

9 On that day,” declares the Lord GOD, “I will
make the sun go down at noon and
darken the earth in broad daylight.
10 I will turn your festivals into mourning and
all your songs into lamentation.
I will put sackcloth on every waist and
baldness on every head.
I will make it like mourning for an only
child, and its end like a bitter day.
11 Look, days are coming,” declares the Lord
GOD, “when I will send a famine on the
land—not a famine for bread or a thirst
for water, but for hearing the words of the
LORD.
12 They will stagger from sea to sea and from
north to east, roaming to seek the word of
the LORD, but they will not find it.
13 On that day the beautiful virgins and young
men will faint from thirst.
14 Those who swear by the guilt of Samaria and
say, ‘As your god lives, Dan,’ and, ‘As the
way of Beersheba lives,’ will fall and
never rise again.”

9

1 I saw the Lord standing beside the altar, and he
said, “Strike the capital so that the

thresholds shake, and shatter them upon
the heads of them all.
I will kill the rest of them with the sword.
Not one of them will get away;
no fugitive will escape.
2 Though they dig into Sheol, from there my
hand will take them;
though they climb to heaven, from there I
will bring them down.
3 Though they hide on the summit of Carmel,
from there I will search them out and take
them.
Though they conceal themselves from my
sight on the seabed, there I will command
the serpent to bite them.
4 Though they go into captivity before their
enemies, there I will command the sword
to kill them.
I will set my eye on them for harm and not
for good."
5 The Lord GOD of hosts touches the earth and it
melts, and all who live in it mourn.
All of it rises like the Nile and sinks like the
Nile of Egypt.
6 He builds his upper chambers in the heavens
and founds his vault upon the earth.
He calls for the waters of the sea and pours
them over the face of the earth—the
LORD is his name.
7 "Are you not like the Cushites to me, people of
Israel?"
declares the LORD.
"Did I not bring Israel up from the land of
Egypt, the Philistines from Caphtor, and
Aram from Kir?

8 Look, the eyes of the Lord GOD are on the
sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from
the face of the earth.
Yet I will not utterly destroy the house of
Jacob," declares the LORD.
9 "For look, I am giving the command, and I will
shake the house of Israel among all the
nations as one shakes a sieve, without a
pebble falling to the ground.
10 All the sinners of my people will die by the
sword, those who say, 'Disaster will not
come near or confront us.'
11 On that day I will raise up the fallen shelter of
David.
I will repair their breaches and raise up his
ruins;
I will rebuild her as in the days of old,
12 so that they may possess the remnant of Edom
and all the nations over whom my name is
called," declares the LORD, who does this.

13 "Look, days are coming," declares the LORD,
"when the plowman will overtake the
reaper, and the grape treader the one who
sows seed.
The mountains will drip sweet wine, and all
the hills will melt.
14 I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel.
They will rebuild desolate cities and live in
them, plant vineyards and drink their
wine, and cultivate gardens and eat their
fruit.
15 I will plant them on their land, and they will
never again be uprooted from their land

that I have given them," says the LORD
your God.

xx

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