

## Amos

### Outline of Amos:

- Judgment on the nations (1:3-2:16)
- Israel's Iniquities (3:1-12)
- Israel's unbelief (4:1-11)
- Seek YHWH (4:12-5:8)
- Day of Judgment (5:9-17)
- First woe (5:18-27)
- Second and third woe (6:1-4)
- First two visions – locust and fire (7:1-6)
- Third vision – a plumb line (7:7-9)
- Amaziah complains to the king (7:10-17)
- Fourth vision – a basket of summer fruit (8:1-3)
- Coming destruction and captivity (8:4-9:10)
- Restoration is promised (9:11-15)

Judgment on the Nations		
P	Amos 1:1-2:16	Comments
Intro	<p>Amos 1:1-2</p> <p>The words of Amos, who was among the sheepbreeders of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> And he said: "The LORD roars from Zion, And utters His voice from Jerusalem; The pastures of the shepherds mourn, And the top of Carmel withers."</p>	<p><b>Introduction:</b></p> <p>Amos was a sheepbreeder of Tekoa, which is about 6-7 miles from Jerusalem.</p> <p>However, he ministered in the northern kingdom during the first half of the 8<sup>th</sup> century BCE.</p> <p>In this first prophetic book of the Tanakh to be written, YHWH speaks to the nations from Jerusalem/Zion.</p>
	<p><b>Each section begins with:</b> Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of [LOCATION], and for four, I will not turn away its <i>punishment</i>,</p>	<p>Each nation will suffer punishment for the transgressions they committed. All nations but Israel, will suffer punishment by fire – including Judah.</p>

		Israel escaped that because of Amos' intercession upon seeing the vision of the locusts and fire.
A1	<p>Amos 1:3-5</p> <p><sup>3</sup> <b>DAMASCUS:</b> Because they have threshed Gilead with implements of iron.</p> <p><sup>4</sup> But I will send a <b>fire</b> into the house of Hazeel, Which shall devour the palaces of Ben-Hadad.</p> <p><sup>5</sup> I will also break the <i>gate</i> 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 Syria shall go captive to Kir," Says the LORD.</p>	
A2	<p>Amos 1:6-8</p> <p><sup>6</sup> <b>GAZA:</b> Because they took captive the whole captivity To deliver <i>them</i> up to Edom.</p> <p><sup>7</sup> But I will send a <b>fire</b> upon the wall of Gaza, Which shall devour its palaces.</p> <p><sup>8</sup> 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 shall perish," Says the Lord GOD.</p>	
A3	<p>Amos 1:9-10</p> <p><sup>9</sup> <b>TYRE:</b> Because they delivered up the whole captivity to Edom, And did not remember the covenant of brotherhood.</p> <p><sup>10</sup> But I will send a <b>fire</b> upon the wall of Tyre, Which shall devour its palaces."</p>	
A4	<p>Amos 1:11-12</p> <p><sup>11</sup> <b>EDOM:</b> Because he pursued his brother with the sword, And cast off all pity; His anger tore perpetually, And he kept his wrath forever.</p> <p><sup>12</sup> But I will send a <b>fire</b> upon Teman, Which shall devour the palaces of Bozrah."</p>	
A5	<p>Amos 1:13-15</p> <p><sup>13</sup> <b>AMMON:</b> Because they ripped open the women with child in Gilead, That they might enlarge their territory.</p> <p><sup>14</sup> But I will kindle a <b>fire</b> in the wall of Rabbah, And it shall devour its palaces, Amid shouting in the day of battle, And a tempest in the day of the whirlwind.</p> <p><sup>15</sup> Their king shall go into <b>captivity</b>, He and his princes together," Says the LORD.</p>	
A6	<p>Amos 2:1-3</p> <p><b>MOAB:</b> Because he burned the bones of the king of Edom to lime.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> But I will send a <b>fire</b> upon Moab, And it shall devour the palaces of Kerioth; Moab shall die with tumult, With shouting <i>and</i> trumpet sound.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> And I will cut off the judge from its midst, And slay all its princes with him," Says the LORD.</p>	
A7	<p>Amos 2:4-5</p> <p><b>JUDAH:</b> Because they have despised the law of the LORD, And have not kept His commandments. Their lies lead them astray, <i>Lies</i> which their fathers followed.</p> <p><sup>5</sup> But I will send a <b>fire</b> upon Judah, And it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem."</p>	<p>The nations previously listed were not in covenant with YHVH.</p> <p>However, Judah was, and they broke covenant with YHVH by disobedience.</p>
A8	<p>Amos 2:6-16</p> <p><b>ISRAEL:</b> Because they sell the righteous for silver, And the poor for a pair of sandals.</p> <p><sup>7</sup> They pant after the dust of the earth <i>which is</i> on the head of the poor, And pervert the way of the humble. A man and his father go in to the <i>same</i> girl, To defile My holy name.</p> <p><sup>8</sup> They lie down by every altar on clothes taken in pledge, And drink the wine of the condemned <i>in</i> the house of their god.</p>	<p>Despite all that YHVH did for Israel, the people chose to defile YHVH's name, be cruel to their fellow man, and told the prophets not to prophesy.</p>

	<p><sup>9</sup> "Yet <i>it was</i> I <i>who</i> destroyed the Amorite before them, Whose height <i>was</i> like the height of the cedars, And he <i>was as</i> strong as the oaks; Yet I destroyed his fruit above And his roots beneath.</p> <p><sup>10</sup> Also <i>it was</i> I <i>who</i> brought you up from the land of Egypt, And led you forty years through the wilderness, To possess the land of the Amorite.</p> <p><sup>11</sup> I raised up some of your sons as prophets, And some of your young men as Nazirites. <i>Is it</i> not so, O you children of Israel?" Says the LORD.</p> <p><sup>12</sup> "But you gave the Nazirites wine to drink, And commanded the prophets saying, 'Do not prophesy!'</p> <p><sup>13</sup> "Behold, I am weighed down by you, As a cart full of sheaves is weighed down.</p> <p><sup>14</sup> Therefore flight shall perish from the swift, The strong shall not strengthen his power, Nor shall the mighty deliver himself;</p> <p><sup>15</sup> He shall not stand who handles the bow, The swift of foot shall not escape, Nor shall he who rides a horse deliver himself.</p> <p><sup>16</sup> The most courageous men of might Shall flee naked in that day," Says the LORD.</p>	As you can see, they made some very poor choices.
--	---	---

Israel's Iniquities			
C	Amos 3:1-12		Comments
A	<p>Amos 3:1-2</p> <p>Hear this word that the LORD has spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying:</p> <p><sup>2</sup> "You only have I known of all the families of the earth;</p> <p>Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities."</p>	<p>Amos 3:13-15</p> <p><sup>13</sup> Hear and testify against the house of Jacob," Says the Lord GOD, the God of hosts,</p> <p><sup>14</sup> "That in the day I punish Israel for their transgressions, I will also visit <i>destruction</i> on the altars of Bethel; And the horns of the altar shall be cut off And fall to the ground.</p> <p><sup>15</sup> I will destroy the winter house along with the summer house; The houses of ivory shall perish, And the great houses shall have an end," Says the LORD.</p>	<p>Destruction is coming to Israel (northern kingdom) for their iniquities.</p> <p>This includes their places of idol worship.</p>
B	<p>Amos 3:3-8</p> <p><sup>3</sup> Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?</p> <p><sup>4</sup> Will a lion roar in the forest, when he has no prey? Will a young lion cry out of his den, if he has caught nothing?</p> <p><sup>5</sup> Will a bird fall into a snare on the earth, where there is no trap for it? Will a snare spring up from the earth, if it has caught nothing at all?</p>	<p>Amos 3:11-12</p> <p><sup>11</sup> Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "An adversary <i>shall be</i> all around the land; He shall sap your strength from you, And your palaces shall be plundered."</p> <p><sup>12</sup> Thus says the LORD: "As a shepherd takes from the mouth of a lion Two legs or a piece of an ear, So shall the children of Israel be taken out Who dwell in</p>	<p>If God is going to do harm in a city, He's going to warn His people first.</p> <p>His voice is like a roaring lion, and His people should be afraid of what has been prophesied.</p> <p>He is going to bring an adversary – Assyria -- all</p>

	<p><sup>6</sup> If a trumpet is blown in a city, will not the people be afraid?</p> <p>If there is calamity in a city, will not the LORD have done <i>it</i>?</p> <p><sup>7</sup> Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.</p> <p><sup>8</sup> A lion has roared! Who will not fear? The Lord GOD has spoken! Who can but prophesy?</p>	Samaria-- In the corner of a bed and on the edge of a couch!	<p>around their land who will drain their strength and plunder their palaces.</p> <p>Those in Samaria will be carried away.</p>
C	<p>Amos 3:9-10</p> <p><sup>9</sup> "Proclaim in the palaces at Ashdod, And in the palaces in the land of Egypt, and say: 'Assemble on the mountains of Samaria; See great tumults in her midst, And the oppressed within her.</p> <p><sup>10</sup> For they do not know to do right,' Says the LORD, 'Who store up violence and robbery in their palaces.'"</p>		<p>The people are told to assemble on the mountains of Samaria to see the oppressed people and the great disorder and confusion in her midst.</p> <p>It's as if YHVH is telling the people to look at things from a better vantage point, closer to the kind He has, so they could see the violence and robbery that is going on in their palaces.</p>

Israel's Unbelief		
	Amos 4:1-11	Comments
P	<p>Amos 4:1-5</p> <p>Hear this word, you cows of Bashan, who <i>are</i> on the mountain of Samaria, Who oppress the poor, Who crush the needy, Who say to your husbands, "Bring <i>wine</i>, let us drink!"</p> <p><sup>2</sup> The Lord GOD has sworn by His holiness: "Behold, the days shall come upon you When He will take you away with fishhooks, And your posterity with fishhooks.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> You will go out <i>through</i> broken walls, Each one straight ahead of her, And you will be cast into Harmon," Says the LORD.</p> <p><sup>4</sup> "<b>Come to Bethel and transgress, At Gilgal multiply transgression;</b> Bring your sacrifices every morning, Your tithes every three days.</p> <p><sup>5</sup> Offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving with leaven, Proclaim <i>and</i> announce the freewill offerings; For this you love, <i>You</i> children of Israel!" Says the Lord GOD.</p>	<p>The people have been living lavishly while oppressing the poor and needy.</p> <p>Being dragged away with fishhooks is a metaphor of how the people will be carried away from their land for the transgression of idolatry.</p>
	<p>Amos 4:6</p> <p><sup>6</sup> "Also I gave you cleanness of teeth in all your cities, And lack of bread in all your places; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.</p>	Taking away their food did not cause the people to return to YHVH.

	<p>Amos 4:7-8</p> <p>"I also withheld rain from you, When <i>there were</i> still three months to the harvest. I made it rain on one city, I withheld rain from another city. One part was rained upon, And where it did not rain the part withered.</p> <p><sup>8</sup> So two <i>or</i> three cities wandered to another city to drink water, But they were not satisfied; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.</p>	Taking away their rain did not cause the people to return to YHVH either.
	<p>Amos 4:9</p> <p><sup>9</sup> "I blasted you with blight and mildew. When your gardens increased, Your vineyards, Your fig trees, And your olive trees, The locust devoured <i>them</i>; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.</p>	YHVH caused a plant disease and mildew, as well as having their vineyards, fig trees, and olive trees to be eaten by locusts, but they still did not repent.
	<p>Amos 4:10</p> <p><sup>10</sup> "I sent among you a plague after the manner of Egypt; Your young men I killed with a sword, Along with your captive horses; I made the stench of your camps come up into your nostrils; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.</p>	YHVH sent a plague and the sword, and caused a stench in their camps, but they still did not repent.
	<p>Amos 4:11</p> <p><sup>11</sup> "I overthrew <i>some</i> of you, As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, And you were like a firebrand plucked from the burning; Yet you have not returned to Me," Says the LORD.</p>	<p>YHVH overthrew some of them, and they were like a firebrand plucked from the fire, but they still did not repent.</p> <p>As you can see, God took away their blessings and gave them the curses of the law, yet they still did not repent.</p> <p>See Leviticus 26:14-45 and Deuteronomy 28:15-68</p>

Seek YHVH			
C	Amos 4:12-5:8		Comments
A	<p>Amos 4:12-13</p> <p><sup>12</sup> "Therefore thus will I do to you, O Israel; Because I will do this to you, <b>Prepare to meet your God, O Israel!</b>"</p> <p><sup>13</sup> For behold, He who forms mountains, And creates the wind, Who declares to man what his thought <i>is</i>, <b>And makes the morning darkness</b>, Who treads</p>	<p>Amos 5:8</p> <p><sup>8</sup> He made the Pleiades and Orion; He turns the shadow of death into morning <b>And makes the day dark as night</b>; He calls for the waters of the sea And pours them out on the face of the earth; The LORD <i>is</i> His name.</p>	<p>Amos tells the people to prepare to meet their God.</p> <p>He reminds them who God is – creator and controller of heaven and earth and all that is within it, a mind-reader, and one who treads the high</p>

	the high places of the earth-- The LORD God of hosts <i>is</i> His name.		places. He is YHVH of hosts.
B	<p>Amos 5:1-2 Hear this word which I take up against you, a lamentation, O house of Israel: <sup>2</sup> The virgin of Israel has <b>fallen</b>; She will rise no more. <b>She lies forsaken on her land; There is no one to raise her up.</b></p>	<p>Amos 5:6-7 <sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD and live, Lest He break out like fire <i>in</i> the house of Joseph, And devour <i>it</i>, With no one to quench <i>it</i> in Bethel-- <sup>7</sup> You who turn justice to wormwood, <b>And lay righteousness to rest in the earth!"</b></p>	<p>Amos says, "Seek YHVH and live."</p> <p>Instead of doing justice, they have laid righteousness to rest in the earth. By doing so, Israel has fallen; she lies forsaken on her land.</p>
C	<p>Amos 5:3 <sup>3</sup> For thus says the Lord GOD: "The city that goes out by a thousand Shall have a hundred left, And that which goes out by a hundred Shall have ten left to the house of Israel."</p>	<p>Amos 5:4-5 <sup>4</sup> For thus says the LORD to the house of Israel: "Seek Me and live; <sup>5</sup> But do not seek Bethel, Nor enter Gilgal, Nor pass over to Beersheba; For Gilgal shall surely go into captivity, And Bethel shall come to nothing.</p>	<p>YHVH says:</p> <p>Their numbers are going to decrease.</p> <p>Amos, again, pleads with the people of Israel to seek YHVH and live.</p> <p>He begs them to no longer seek places of idolatry like Beth El, Gilgal, Beersheba.</p>

Day of Judgment			
C	Amos 5:9-17		Comments
A	<p>Amos 5:9-13 <sup>9</sup> He rains ruin upon the strong, So that fury comes upon the fortress. <sup>10</sup> They hate the one who rebukes in the gate, And they abhor the one who speaks uprightly. <sup>11</sup> Therefore, because you tread down the poor And take grain taxes from him,</p> <p>Though you have built houses of hewn stone, Yet you shall not dwell in them; You have planted pleasant vineyards, But you shall not drink wine from them.</p> <p><sup>12</sup> For I know your manifold transgressions And your mighty sins: Afflicting the just <i>and</i> taking</p>	<p>Amos 5:16-17 <sup>16</sup> Therefore the LORD God of hosts, the Lord, says this: "<i>There shall be</i> wailing in all streets, And they shall say in all the highways, 'Alas! Alas!' They shall call the farmer to mourning, And skillful lamenters to wailing. <sup>17</sup> In all vineyards <i>there shall be</i> wailing, For I will pass through you," Says the LORD.</p>	<p>For all of their wickedness, the curses of the law are coming. They will wail in the streets for YHVH who will pass through them.</p> <p>Wickedness included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hating those who rebuke them or speaks uprightly.</li> <li>• Treading down the poor by taking grain taxes from him.</li> <li>• Afflicting the just and taking bribes.</li> <li>• Not giving justice to the poor.</li> </ul>

	bribes; Diverting the poor <i>from justice</i> at the gate. <sup>13</sup> Therefore the prudent keep silent at that time, For it <i>is</i> an evil time.		
B	Amos 5:14 <sup>14</sup> Seek good and not evil, That you may live; So the LORD God of hosts will be with you, As you have spoken.	Amos 5:15 <sup>15</sup> Hate evil, love good; Establish justice in the gate. It may be that the LORD God of hosts Will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.	Again, Amos pleads for them to seek good and not evil, so that they may live and so that YHVH God of hosts will be with them.  It sounds simple – just hate evil, love good, and establish justice.

First Woe			
C	Amos 5:18-27		Comments
A	Amos 5:18-20 <sup>18</sup> <b>Woe</b> to you who desire the day of the LORD! For what good <i>is</i> the day of the LORD to you? It <i>will be</i> darkness, and not light. <sup>19</sup> It <i>will be</i> as though a man fled from a lion, And a bear met him! Or <i>as though</i> he went into the house, Leaned his hand on the wall, And a serpent bit him! <sup>20</sup> <i>Is</i> not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light? <i>Is it not</i> very dark, with no brightness in it?	Amos 5:27 <sup>27</sup> Therefore I will send you into captivity beyond Damascus," Says the LORD, whose name <i>is</i> the God of hosts.	It's as if people have said, "So what, bring it on!"  Woe to them. It will be like surviving one horrible thing to be repeatedly met by another.  YHVH of hosts says they will go into captivity beyond Damascus.
B	Amos 5:21-23 <sup>21</sup> "I hate, I despise your feast days, And I do not savor your sacred assemblies. <sup>22</sup> Though you offer Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept <i>them</i> , Nor will I regard your fattened peace offerings. <sup>23</sup> Take away from Me the noise of your songs, For I will not hear the melody of your stringed instruments.	Amos 5:25-26 <sup>25</sup> "Did you offer Me sacrifices and offerings In the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel? <sup>26</sup> You also carried Sikkuth your king And Chiun, your idols, The star of your gods, Which you made for yourselves.	YHVH does not like their feast days or sacred assemblies. He will not accept their offerings. He is sick of their songs and music.  Why? It seems it was because they were attempting to worship YHVH while they were worshiping other gods. It could also be that they were worshiping Him in the same manner the

			pagans worshiped their gods.
C	Amos 5:24 <sup>24</sup> But let justice run down like water, And righteousness like a mighty stream.		YHVH wants justice and righteousness.

Second and Third Woe			
C	Amos 6:1-14		Comments
A	<p>Amos 6:1-2 <b>Woe</b> to you <i>who are</i> at ease in Zion, And trust in Mount Samaria, Notable persons in the chief nation, To whom the house of Israel comes!</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Go over to Calneh and see; And from there go to Hamath the great; Then go down to Gath of the Philistines. <i>Are you</i> better than these kingdoms? Or is their territory greater than your territory?</p>	<p>Amos 6:13-14 <sup>13</sup> You who rejoice over Lo Debar [whose name means “nothing”], Who say, "Have we not taken Karnaim for ourselves By our own strength?"</p> <p><sup>14</sup> "But, behold, I will raise up a nation against you, O house of Israel," Says the LORD God of hosts; "And they will afflict you from the entrance of Hamath To the Valley of the Arabah."</p>	<p>Woe to those in Zion – Jerusalem in Judah – but who trust in Mount Samaria, a center of idolatry to whom the house of Israel goes.</p> <p>Apparently, something bad happened in these kingdoms. It seems that the implication is that God’s people will not escape their fate. His strength is far greater than theirs.</p>
B	<p>Amos 6:3-7 <sup>3</sup> <b>Woe</b> to you who put far off the day of doom, Who cause the seat of violence to come near;</p> <p><sup>4</sup> Who lie on beds of ivory, Stretch out on your couches, Eat lambs from the flock And calves from the midst of the stall;</p> <p><sup>5</sup> Who sing idly to the sound of stringed instruments, <i>And</i> invent for yourselves musical instruments like David;</p> <p><sup>6</sup> Who drink wine from bowls, And anoint yourselves with the best ointments, <b>But are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.</b></p> <p><sup>7</sup> Therefore they shall now go captive as the first of the captives, And those who recline at banquets shall be removed.</p>	<p>Amos 6:12 <sup>12</sup> Do horses run on rocks? Does <i>one</i> plow <i>there</i> with oxen? <b>Yet you have turned justice into gall, And the fruit of righteousness into wormwood,</b></p>	<p>Woe to those living in luxury but are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph – for those who are suffering.</p> <p>There is no justice, which is the fruit of righteousness. There is only bitterness.</p>
C	<p>Amos 6:8-11 <sup>8</sup> The Lord GOD has sworn by Himself, The LORD God of hosts says: "I abhor the <b>pride</b> of Jacob, And hate his palaces; Therefore I</p>		YHVH God hates the pride of Jacob. The city will be delivered over to their enemies. Many people will be killed. When those



	<p>will deliver up <i>the</i> city And all that is in it."</p> <p><sup>9</sup> Then it shall come to pass, that if ten men remain in one house, they shall die.</p> <p><sup>10</sup> And when a relative <i>of the dead</i>, with one who will burn <i>the bodies</i>, picks up the bodies to take them out of the house, he will say to one inside the house, "<i>Are there</i> any more with you?" Then someone will say, "None." And he will say, "Hold your tongue! For we dare not mention the name of the LORD."</p> <p><sup>11</sup> For behold, the LORD gives a command: He will break the great house into bits, And the little house into pieces.</p>		<p>come to burn the dead bodies, one will ask if there are any more. The answer will be none. But the next response will be one of fear – the fear that if YHVH's name is mentioned, the house will be destroyed.</p> <p>They should have feared YHVH to begin with.</p>
--	--	--	--

First Two Visions – Locusts and Fire			
P	Amos 7:1-6		Comments
A	<p>Amos 7:1</p> <p>Thus the Lord GOD showed me: Behold, He formed locust swarms at the beginning of the late crop; indeed <i>it was</i> the late crop after the king's mowings.</p>	<p>Amos 7:4</p> <p><sup>4</sup> Thus the Lord GOD showed me: Behold, the Lord GOD called for conflict by fire, and it consumed the great deep and devoured the territory.</p>	<p>Visions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• locust swarms</li> <li>• conflict by fire</li> </ul> <p>These visions are essentially the same.</p> <p>The results were the devouring of the late crop and territory.</p>
B	<p>Amos 7:2</p> <p><sup>2</sup> And so it was, when they had finished eating the grass of the land, that I said: "O Lord GOD, forgive, I pray! Oh, that Jacob may stand, For he <i>is</i> small!"</p>	<p>Amos 7:5</p> <p><sup>5</sup> Then I said: "O Lord GOD, cease, I pray! Oh, that Jacob may stand, For he <i>is</i> small!"</p>	<p>Amos begs YHVH God to stop, so that Jacob who is small can stand.</p>
C	<p>Amos 7:3</p> <p><sup>3</sup> So the LORD relented concerning this. "It shall not be," said the LORD.</p>	<p>Amos 7:6</p> <p><sup>6</sup> So the LORD relented concerning this. "This also shall not be," said the Lord GOD.</p>	<p>YHVH relented and said this kind of destruction would not take place.</p>

Third Vision – a Plumb Line			
C	Amos 7:7-9		Comments
A	<p>Amos 7:7</p> <p><sup>7</sup> Thus He showed me: Behold, the Lord stood on a wall <i>made</i> with a</p>	<p>Amos 7:8c-9</p> <p>Then the Lord said: "Behold, I am setting a plumb line In the midst of</p>	<p>Vision of a plumb line:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In YHVH's hand</li> </ul>

	plumb line, with a plumb line in His hand	My people Israel; I will not pass by them anymore. <sup>9</sup> The high places of Isaac shall be desolate, And the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste. I will rise with the sword against the house of Jeroboam."	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the midst of YHWH's people Israel</li> </ul> <p>YHWH will come against the house of Jeroboam with the sword, and the high places and sanctuaries of Israel will become desolate and laid waste.</p>
B	Amos 7:8b <sup>8</sup> And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line."		Vision of a plumb line to see the amount of uprightness of YHWH's people.

Amaziah Complains to the King			
C	Amos 7:10-17		Comments
A	<p>Amos 7:10-11</p> <p><sup>10</sup> Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words.</p> <p><sup>11</sup> "For thus Amos has said: 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, And Israel shall surely be led away captive From their own land.'"</p>	<p>Amos 7:17</p> <p><sup>17</sup> "Therefore thus says the LORD: 'Your wife shall be a harlot in the city; Your sons and daughters shall fall by the sword; Your land shall be divided by <i>survey</i> line; You shall die in a defiled land; And Israel shall surely be led away captive From his own land.'"</p>	<p>Jeroboam has a priest, Amaziah, in Beth El. Amaziah accuses Amos of conspiring against the king in Israel because Amos prophesied the death of Jeroboam by the sword and the captivity of Israel.</p> <p>Amos told Amaziah that his wife would become a harlot in the city, his sons and daughters would die by the sword, that his land would be divided by survey line, and that he would die in a defiled land – the land he and others were responsible for defiling by their idolatry and other wickedness. This would be the cause of their being led into captivity.</p>
B	<p>Amos 7:12-13</p> <p><sup>12</sup> Then Amaziah said to Amos: "Go, you seer! Flee to the land of Judah. There eat bread, And there prophesy.</p>	<p>Amos 7:16</p> <p><sup>16</sup> Now therefore, hear the word of the LORD: You say, 'Do not prophesy against Israel, And do not spout against the house of Isaac.'</p>	Amaziah tells Amos to leave Beth El, the sanctuary of King Jeroboam, and go to Judah to prophesy there.

	<sup>13</sup> But never again prophesy at Bethel, For it <i>is</i> the king's sanctuary, And it <i>is</i> the royal residence."		Amos essentially responded by saying, "Don't tell me what to do, and don't speak bad about the house of Isaac."
C	Amos 7:14-15 <sup>14</sup> Then Amos answered, and said to Amaziah: "I <i>was</i> no prophet, Nor <i>was</i> I a son of a prophet, But I <i>was</i> a sheepbreeder And a tender of sycamore fruit. <sup>15</sup> Then the LORD took me as I followed the flock, And the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to My people Israel.'		Amos tells Amaziah that being a prophet was not part of his lineage or his choice. He was a sheepbreeder when YHVH told him to prophesy to Israel. He was merely being obedient to YHVH.

Fourth Vision – a Basket of Summer Fruit			
C	Amos 8:1-3		Comments
A	Amos 8:1-2a Thus the Lord GOD showed me: Behold, a basket of summer fruit. <sup>2</sup> And He said, "Amos, what do you see?" So I said, "A basket of summer fruit."	Amos 8:3 <sup>3</sup> And the songs of the temple Shall be wailing in that day," Says the Lord GOD-- "Many dead bodies everywhere, They shall be thrown out in silence."	Amos sees a basket of summer fruit. The harvest of fruit has been collected. It's a picture of the end result of the fruit harvest.  But what is the quality of this fruit harvest? What does YHVH God really see?  YHVH sees dead bodies everywhere. They will be thrown out in silence. They've been warned. There's no need for further discussion.
B	Amos 8:2b Then the LORD said to me: "The end has come upon My people Israel; I will not pass by them anymore.		YHVH says the end has come upon His people Israel. He is not going to overlook their wickedness anymore.

Coming Destruction and Captivity			
C	Amos 8:4-9:10		Comments
A	Amos 8:4-7	Amos 9:7-10 <sup>7</sup> "Are you not like the people of Ethiopia to Me, O children of	The people are doing wickedly. They trample on

	<p><sup>4</sup> Hear this, you who swallow up the needy, And make the poor of the land fail,</p> <p><sup>5</sup> Saying: "When will the New Moon be past, That we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, That we may trade wheat? Making the ephah small and the shekel large, Falsifying the scales by deceit,</p> <p><sup>6</sup> That we may buy the poor for silver, And the needy for a pair of sandals-- Even sell the bad wheat?"</p> <p><sup>7</sup> The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: "Surely I will never forget any of their works.</p>	<p>Israel?" says the LORD. "Did I not bring up Israel from the land of Egypt, The Philistines from Caphtor, And the Syrians from Kir?</p> <p><sup>8</sup> "Behold, the eyes of the Lord GOD <i>are</i> 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," Says the LORD.</p> <p><sup>9</sup> "For surely I will command, And will sift the house of Israel among all nations, As <i>grain</i> is sifted in a sieve; Yet not the smallest grain shall fall to the ground.</p> <p><sup>10</sup> All the sinners of My people shall die by the sword, Who say, 'The calamity shall not overtake nor confront us.'</p>	<p>the needy and make the poor fail.</p> <p>They are concerned with the Sabbath and New Moon being past, so they can get on with commerce. They use deceitful measures, so they can strip the poor of their money and the needy of their shoes. Their behavior is like that of other nations. YHVH sees it, and He won't forget. He will destroy them. All of His people who are sinners and who doubt what YHVH says will die by the sword.</p>
B	<p>Amos 8:8</p> <p><sup>8</sup> Shall the land not tremble for this, And everyone mourn who dwells in it? <b>All of it shall swell like the River, Heave and subside Like the River of Egypt.</b></p>	<p>Amos 9:5-6</p> <p><sup>5</sup> The Lord GOD of hosts, He who touches the earth and it melts, <b>And all who dwell there mourn; All of it shall swell like the River, And subside like the River of Egypt.</b></p> <p><sup>6</sup> He who builds His layers in the sky, And has founded His strata in the earth; Who calls for the waters of the sea, And pours them out on the face of the earth-- The LORD <i>is</i> His name.</p>	<p>The people apparently are not in fear of what Amos has to say.</p> <p>Making the waters rise and fall with rain is likely a metaphor or description of the coming destruction.</p>
C	<p>Amos 8:9-12</p> <p><sup>9</sup> "And it shall come to pass in that day," says the Lord GOD, "That I will make the sun go down at noon, And I will darken the earth in broad daylight;</p> <p><sup>10</sup> I will turn your feasts into mourning, And all your songs into lamentation; I will bring sackcloth on every waist, And baldness on every head; I will make it like mourning for an only <i>son</i>, And its end like a bitter day.</p> <p><sup>11</sup> "Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord GOD, "That I will</p>	<p>Amos 9:1-4</p> <p>I saw the Lord standing by the altar, and He said: "Strike the doorposts, that the thresholds may shake, And break them on the heads of them all. I will slay the last of them with the sword. He who flees from them shall not get away, And he who escapes from them shall not be delivered.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> "Though they dig into hell, From there my hand shall take them; Though they climb up to heaven, From there I will bring them down;</p>	<p>There will be changes in the sun and moon – the sun will go down early.</p> <p>Their feasts, possibly idolatrous feasts, will turn to mourning, and songs to mourning. The day will be bitter.</p> <p>There will be a famine of hearing the words of YHVH. They will seek for it but not find it.</p>

	<p>send a famine on the land, Not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the LORD.</p> <p><sup>12</sup> They shall wander from sea to sea, And from north to east; They shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD, But shall not find <i>it</i>.</p>	<p><sup>3</sup> And though they hide themselves on top of Carmel, From there I will search and take them; Though they hide from My sight at the bottom of the sea, From there I will command the serpent, and it shall bite them;</p> <p><sup>4</sup> Though they go into captivity before their enemies, From there I will command the sword, And it shall slay them. I will set My eyes on them for harm and not for good."</p>	<p>Although not specified, it seems as if the destruction of doorposts and thresholds may be those of the idolatrous temple at Beth El and that those engaged in idolatry will be slain. Those that go into captivity, but perhaps not all, will be slain with the sword.</p>
D	<p>Amos 8:13-14</p> <p><sup>13</sup> "In that day the fair virgins And strong young men Shall faint from thirst.</p> <p><sup>14</sup> Those who swear by the sin of Samaria, Who say, 'As your god lives, O Dan!' And, 'As the way of Beersheba lives!' They shall fall and never rise again."</p>		<p>Those who are normally strong – fair virgins and strong young men – will be faint from thirst along the way.</p> <p>Those who have engaged in idolatry will fall and not rise again.</p>

Restoration is Promised			
P	Amos 9:11-15		Comments
A	<p>Amos 9:11</p> <p><sup>11</sup> "On that day I will raise up The tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, And repair its damages; I will raise up its ruins, And rebuild it as in the days of old;</p>	<p>Amos 9:13-14</p> <p><sup>13</sup> "Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "When the plowman shall overtake the reaper, And the treader of grapes him who sows seed; The mountains shall drip with sweet wine, And all the hills shall flow <i>with it</i>.</p> <p><sup>14</sup> I will bring back the captives of My people Israel; They shall build the waste cities and inhabit <i>them</i>; They shall plant vineyards and drink wine from them; They shall also make gardens and eat fruit from them.</p>	<p>At some point, the ruins of the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, will be repaired.</p> <p>The harvests will be abundant, and YHVH will bring back the captives of His people Israel (northern kingdom). They will build up what was made desolate, plant vineyards and drink its wine, make gardens and eat their fruit.</p> <p>A beautiful restoration will take place...</p>
B	<p>Amos 9:12</p> <p><sup>12</sup> That they may possess the remnant of Edom, And all the</p>	<p>Amos 9:15</p> <p><sup>15</sup> I will plant them in their land, And no longer shall they be pulled</p>	<p>So that YHVH's people and the Gentiles who are joined to them will</p>

	Gentiles who are called by My name," Says the LORD who does this thing.	up From the land I have given them," Says the LORD your God.	possess the remnant of Edom.  They will be planted and not removed from their land.
--	---	--	---