## Amos Chapter 8

- V: 1-3 Amos shares another vision from the Lord something God showed him.
  - Summer fruit: the fruit last picked, the last harvest. Ripened, about to spoil.
  - **Jeremiah 8:20** "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved."
  - God is declaring that the end has come, the time for judgment has arrived.
  - Ezekiel 7:2-4 "<sup>2</sup>And you, son of man, thus says the Lord GOD to the land of Israel: an end! The end has come upon the four corners of the land. <sup>3</sup>Now the end has come upon you, and I will send My anger against you; I will judge you according to your ways, and I will repay you for all your abominations. <sup>4</sup>My eye will not spare you, nor will I have pity; but I will repay your ways, and your abominations will be in your midst; then you shall know that I am the LORD!"
  - God has previously forestalled His judgment, but He will not pass them by for this anymore. Judgment is coming soon.
  - The praise songs of the priest in the Temple will be turned to wailing, there will be dead bodies everywhere.
- V: 4 He's speaking to those who swallow up the needy, those who don't take care of the poor, but instead take advantage of them.
  - **Ezekiel 16:49** "See, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: she and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy."
  - **Psalm 82:3-4** "3Defend the poor and the fatherless; do justice to the afflicted and needy. 4Deliver the poor and needy; free them from the hand of the wicked."
- V: 5 These same culprits say when will the New Moon and the Sabbath be past so we can get back to business?
  - They have no real regard for the things of God, they're much more concerned about their profit margin.
  - **Matthew 6:24** "No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

Corrupt business practices:

- **Proverbs 11:1** "Dishonest / false scales are an abomination to the LORD but a just weight is His delight."
- V: 6 They would entice the people into debt, perhaps for a pair of shoes then when they couldn't pay, they'd take them as slaves to pay off their debt.
  - They'd sell the good wheat at a fair price, then when the poor came, they'd sell them the moldy wheat for a higher price because they were more desperate taking advantage of the poor.
  - God protects the poor.
  - **Proverbs 19:17** "He who has pity on the poor lends to the LORD, and He will pay back what he has given."
- V: 7-8 The Lord has sworn, He's taken an oath He will perform it.
  - Psalm 138:2 "I will worship toward Your holy Temple, and praise Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth; for You have magnified Your Word above all Your name." (God keeps His Word!)
  - **Hosea 7:2** "They do not consider in their hearts that I remember all their wickedness; now their own deeds have surrounded them; they are before My face."
- V: 9-10 Terrible judgment will soon fall upon them.

## Darkness will fall upon them:

**Joel 2:2, 10** "<sup>2</sup>A day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, like the morning clouds spread over the mountains. A people come, great and strong, the like of whom has never been; nor will there ever be any such after them, even for many successive generations." - "<sup>10</sup>The earth quakes before them, the heavens tremble; the sun and moon grow dark, and the stars diminish their brightness."

As Jesus, the light of the world was being put to death:

**Matthew 27:45** "Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land."

Remember the opening of the 6th seal in the book of Revelation:

**Revelation 6:12** "I looked when He opened the sixth seal, and behold, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became like blood."

V:11-12 A famine for the hearing of the Word of God. There will come a time when they will search for it, but not find it.

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- They despised the Word, they rejected the Word, they refuse to obey God's Word so He withdrew it from them.
- **Matthew 7:6** "Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces."
- Prophets would still proclaim the Word and teachers would still explain the Word, but a time would come when people wouldn't hear the Word. The information would still be available, but people wouldn't receive it.
- **2 Timothy 4:3-4** "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables."
- V: 13 The young women, the strong men will faint from thirst for the want of the Word of God.
  - **Matthew 4:4** "... man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of God."
  - In part meaning that if man does not get nourishment from the word of God there is a part of him that will die.
  - **Revelation 22:17** "And the Spirit and the bride say, come! And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."
  - Amos is describing those who wouldn't come.
  - Sadly, lots of religion, but not much Word.
- V: 14 The sin of Samaria the golden calves of Dan and Bethel.
  - **1 Kings 12:28-29** "28Therefore the king (Jeroboam) asked advice, made two calves of gold, and said to the people, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, O Israel, which brought you up from the land of Egypt! <sup>29</sup>And he set up one in Bethel, and the other he put in Dan."
  - **Psalm 36:12** "There the workers of iniquity have fallen; they have been cast down and are not able to rise."

"They shall fall and never rise again."

## **Amos Chapter 9**

 Amos closes his prophesy describing the dispersion of the people and their eventual restoration.

## V: 1-3 Another vision "I saw..." - "the Lord standing by the altar..."

- **Isaiah 6:1** "In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple."
- **Ezekiel 1:1** "Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I was among the captives by the River Chebar, that the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God."
- Which altar? Probably the pagan altar that is going to be broken up and used against it's adherents.

"Strike the doorposts, that the thresholds may shake..."

Shake the very foundations of their lives, break the thresholds on their heads!

"I will slay the last of them with the sword."

• There will be no escape from this: "He who flees will not get away."

**Psalm 139:7-8** "<sup>7</sup>Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? <sup>8</sup>If I ascend into heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there."

- Though they dig a hole to hell God will take them up.
- If they climb up to heaven God will bring them down.
- If they hide themselves on Mt. Carmel God will get them.
- If they hide in the bottom of the sea God will command the serpent to bite them.

**Isaiah 24:17** "Fear and the pit and the snare are upon you, O inhabitant of the earth."

 There are "preppers" that are stocking up on food & water, digging out their shelters, buying up old underground bunkers from the government - but when that tribulation comes it will be of no avail.

**Hebrews 10:31** "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

- V: 4 Even if they make it into captivity, God will slay them there.
  - Some were protected in captivity, like Daniel and his friends others it was just a delayed execution.

- One example of this is King Zedekiah of Judah, that last king of Judah before they were destroyed by Babylon. He was told what would happen if he didn't repent.
- Jeremiah 39:6-7 "<sup>6</sup>Then the king of Babylon killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes in Riblah; the king of Babylon also killed all the nobles of Judah.

  <sup>7</sup>Moreover he put out Zedekiah's eyes, and bound him with bronze fetters to carry him off to Babylon."
- Jeremiah warned him, then his sons, then the "nobles" are killed before him, then his eyes are put out and he led away in chains to Babylon where he dies. A rather pathetic end.
- **Ezekiel 12:13** "I will spread My net over him, and he shall be caught in My snare. I will bring him to Babylon, to the land of the Chaldeans; yet he shall not see it, though he shall die there."
- V: 5-6 God touches the earth and it melts in His presence.
  - **Exodus 19:18** "Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly."
  - You can travel to Jabel Al Laws and observe the mountain top that it is scorched even to this day because God descended upon it.
  - He who builds His layers in the sky, and founded the strata in the earth; speaking of God Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth the LORD is His name.
  - **Isaiah 24:17-18** "<sup>17</sup>Fear and the pit and the snare are upon you, O inhabitant of the earth. <sup>18</sup>And it shall be that he who flees from the noise of the fear shall fall into the pit, and who who comes up from the midst of the pit shall be caught in the snare; for the windows from on high are open, and the foundations of the earth are shaken."
  - Amos 5:19 "It will be as though a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him! Or as though he went into the hose, leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him!"
- "The LORD is His name." Know where this is coming from!
- V: 7-8 God destroyed over a million Ethiopians that came against Israel. He can do it to Israel. As much as He brought them out of Egypt, but He wasn't going to just turn a blind eye to their wicked ways.

- **Jeremiah 44:27** "Behold, I will watch over them for adversity and not for good. And all the men of Judah who are in the land of Egypt shall be consumed by the sword and by famine, until there is an end to them."
- God brought up Israel out of Egypt, He moved the Philistines from Caphtor (Cypress) and the Syrians from Kir He moved them, He can move Israel again.
- God is going to destroy this sinful nation of Israel, but not utterly He will leave a remnant of Jacob.
- **Jeremiah 30:11** "For I am with you, says the LORD, to save you; though I make a full end of all nations where I have scattered you, yet I will not make a complete end of you. But I will correct you in justice, and will not let you go altogether unpunished."
- V: 9-10 God is going to sift the nation, and He's paying close attention that not one grain will fall to the ground He will ensure the judgment, that none will escape.
  - There are always those who think they're the exception, that they'll avoid the judgment of God, the wrath of God.
  - **Hebrews 9:27** "And as it is appointed for men once to die, but after this the judgment."
  - There is only one way to avoid the wrath of God
  - **John 3:36** "He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."
- V: 11-15 The last 5 verses of this prophecy, like all the prophecies before Amos describe the future time of restoration for the nation.
- V: 11-12 The house of David will rise again. The line of David, the kings from His lineage ended with Zedekiah there has not been a king on the throne of David since then.
  - But there is another king from the lineage of David that will ascend to the throne
    of David, that is King Jesus! We're waiting for that time.
  - Acts 15:15-17 "15And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written: 16After this I will return and will rebuild the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will set it up; 17So that the rest of mankind may seek the LORD, even all the Gentiles who are called by My name, says the LORD who does all these things."

- **Isaiah 9:6-7** "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this."
- V: 13-15 Describing prosperity, they're still reaping when they start plowing again for the next crop.
  - They'll be planting crops and treading grapes at the same time abundance.
     Figuratively, the mountains will drip with sweet wine and the hills will flow with the juice of the grapes.
  - The captives will be brought back, the cites re-built Look at Israel today!
  - God will plant the people back in the land and no longer shall they be pulled up!
  - **Psalm 53:6** "Oh, that the salvation of Israel would come out of Zion! When God brings back the captivity of His people, let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad."
  - **Jeremiah 24:6** "For I will set My eyes on them for good, and I will bring them back to this land; I will build them and not pull them down, and I will plant them and not pluck them up."
  - **Jeremiah 32:41-42** "<sup>41</sup>Yes, I will rejoice over them to do them good, and I will assuredly plant them in this land, with all My heart and with all My soul. <sup>42</sup>For thus says the LORD: Just as I have brought all this great calamity on this people, so I will bring on them all the good that I have promised them."