



**COMING UP...** APR 21: Hosea part 1 APR 28: Hosea part 2 MAY 5: 2 Kings part 3 (chs. 15-17) MAY 12 NO CLASS (Mother's Day) MAY 19: Joel MAY 26 NO CLASS (Memorial Day)

**AMOS SUMMARIZED IN A WORD OR PHRASE: "Plumb Line"**

**THE BASICS ...**

**Who:** Amos ("burden-bearer") **When:** Hosea's contemporary, 760-750 BC **Where:** primarily to Israel  
**Why:** "Through a series of messages and visions Amos exposed the social and moral degeneration of Israel, and he warned of the impending judgment God was about to bring." –Dr. Charles Dyer

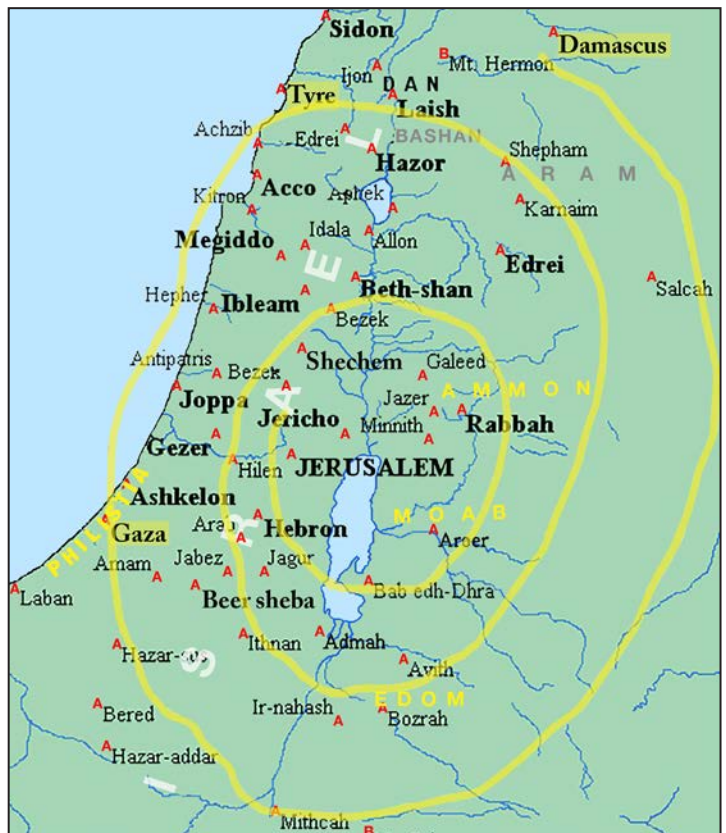
**LESSON THEME: Live a life worthy of your calling**

**God's Judgment Is Declared (1-2)**

- On six Gentile nations (1:1-2:3) ➤
  1. Damascus
  2. Philistia
  3. Tyre
  4. Edom
  5. Ammon
  6. Moab
- On Judah (2:4-5)
- On Israel (2:6-16)
  - For her injustice, especially to the poor and needy
  - For her immorality
  - For her idolatry
- Her destruction is certain and imminent

**Israel's Inward Corruption (3-6)**

- God tells them that His calling *should have* led them to holy living (3:1-2)
- So He calls out to them—one more time—through Amos (3:3-8)
- He calls witnesses against them (3:9-10)
- His patience with them has come to an end ... so He now calls for judgment (3:11-15)
- God exposes their sins (4)
  - They're addicted to affluence
  - Their spiritual walk is one of hypocrisy
  - They're unresponsive to His Word
- Amos sings a funeral dirge over them (5:1-17)
  - Listen! Turn! Repent!
- Amos sings a funeral dirge over them (5:1-17)
- On the Lord's behalf, Amos warns them one last time to repent (5:18-6:14)
  - He warns those who are mistaken about the Day
  - He warns the complacent
  - He warns those who love pleasure
  - He warns the proud



**The End Is at Hand (7-9)**

- Amos' final wrestlings (7)
  - His own broken heart; wrestling with the Lord
  - His struggle with Amaziah and the nation's unbelief

The end is declared to be at hand (8:1–9:10)

But even so ... one day God will restore, replant and rebuild Israel even better than she was (9:11-15)

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### **APPLICATION: Live a life worthy of your calling**

#### **“In Plumb” with God’s Word**

Micah 6:8

Love justice, show mercy and walk humbly with God

Amos 4: how “true” are we in ...

Our relationship to affluence?

Our relationship to the poor and needy?

Our walk with the Lord?

Our response to His Word?

#### **“In Plumb” Toward Affluence**

Israel was distracted by materialism

They were addicted to wealth

This motivated them to cheat their brothers, especially the defenseless

Through dishonest weights and scales

Adding chaff to a measure of grain

Putting work and wealth ahead of worship

Are you addicted to affluence?

#### **“In Plumb” Toward the Needy**

Israel was indifferent toward them ...

The poor and the needy

The hungry

The widow and the orphan

They took advantage of their “strengths” of wealth, power and position and showed the needy no mercy, justice or compassion

Are you indifferent to the poor and needy?

#### **“In Plumb” in Our Walk**

Israel was hypocritical in their spiritual walk

They loved religion and being seen doing “religious” things

But they were only going through the motions

Neither their hearts nor their priorities ever changed

Is there some area in your walk with the Lord that has become little more than just going through the motions?

#### **“In Plumb” Toward God’s Word**

Israel heard God’s Word again and again, but never took it to heart (Amos 4)

They heard God’s Word ... but missed God’s heart

They heard God’s Word ... but nothing changed

Are you learning God’s Word but missing God?

How will you respond to what you’re learning tonight? What will be different this coming week?

#### **Live a Life Worthy of Your Calling**

As was Israel, so we’ve been evaluated tonight against the plumb line of God’s Word

And He’s asking for your response tonight ...

*Are you addicted to affluence?*

*Are you indifferent to the poor and needy?*

*Are you just going through the motions with Me?*

*Are you responsive to My desire to change you?*

Will you respond to Him this week in such a way as to live a life worthy of your calling?

**FOR NEXT TIME:** \_\_\_\_\_

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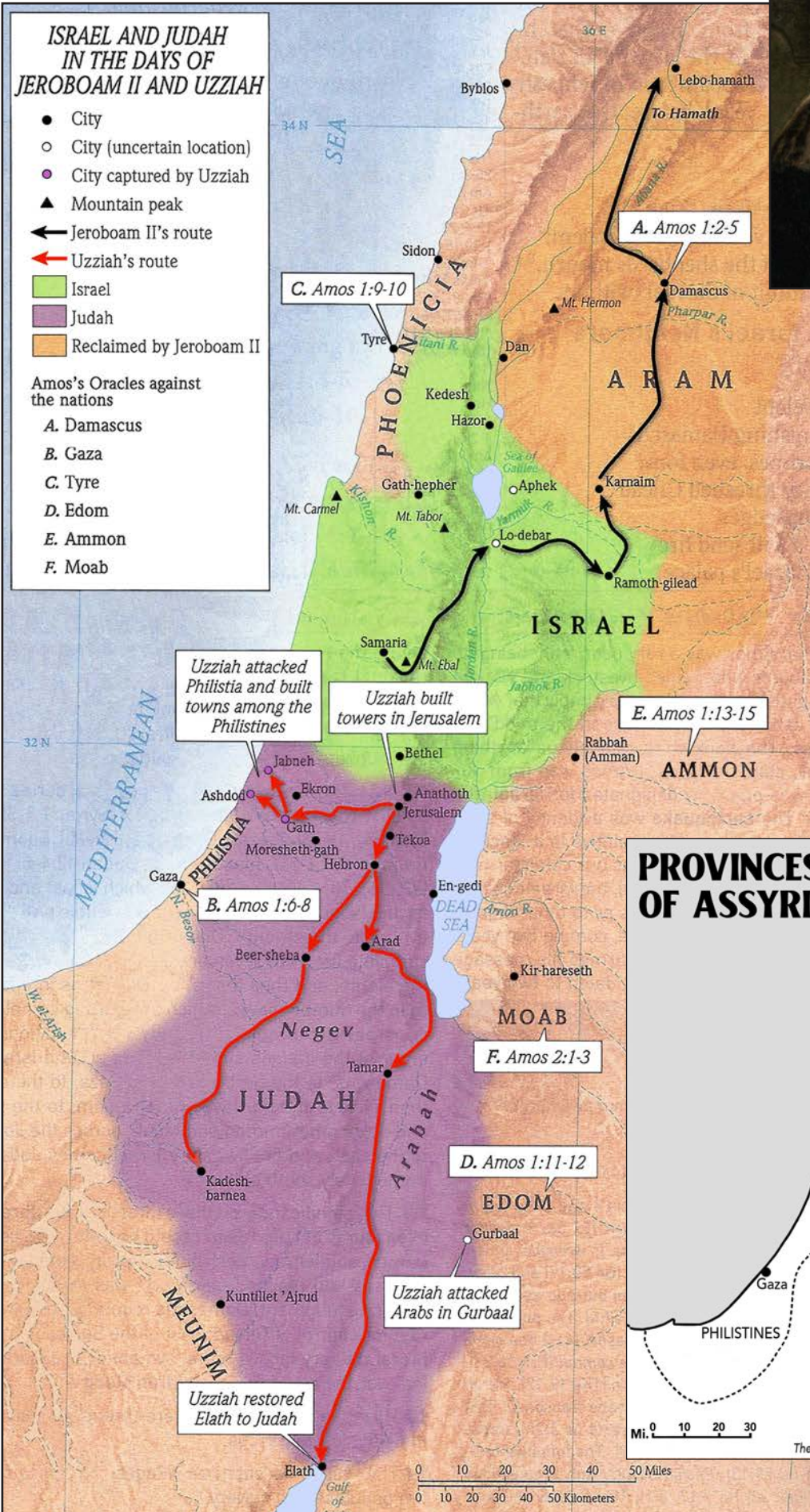
**PODCAST:** <https://feeds.transistor.fm/old-testament-survey>

**ISRAEL AND JUDAH  
IN THE DAYS OF  
JEROBOAM II AND UZZIAH**

- City
- City (uncertain location)
- City captured by Uzziah
- ▲ Mountain peak
- ← Jeroboam II's route
- ← Uzziah's route
- Israel
- Judah
- Reclaimed by Jeroboam II

**Amos's Oracles against the nations**

- A. Damascus
- B. Gaza
- C. Tyre
- D. Edom
- E. Ammon
- F. Moab



"King Uzziah Stricken With Leprosy" by Rembrandt van Rijn



"Amos" by James Tissot



The Ryrie Study Bible Expanded Edition, ©1995 Moody Bible Institute

AMOS

	Pronouncements of Judgment	Provocations for Judgment	Future of Judgment	Promises After Judgment
	a look around	a look within	a look ahead	future hope
1:1	Eight spiraling prophecies of judgment on surrounding nations and Israel	Three sermons of judgments on Israel	Five visions of the judgement on Israel	Four promises of Israel's restoration
2:16				
3:1				
6:14				
7:1				
9:10				
9:11				
9:15				

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**AMOS' VISIONS**

**Vision/Reference**  
Swarm of locusts 7:1-3  
Fire 7:4-6  
Wall and plumb line 7:7-9  
Basket of ripe fruit 8:1ff  
God standing by the altar 9:1ff

**Significance**  
God was preparing punishment, which he delayed only because of Amos's intervention. God was preparing to devour the land, but Amos intervened on behalf of the people. God would see if the people were crooked, and if they were, he would punish them. The people were ripe for punishment; though once beautiful, they were now rotten. Punishment was executed.

Amos had a series of visions concerning God's judgment on Israel. God was planning to judge Israel by sending a swarm of locusts or by sending fire. In spite of Amos's intercession on Israel's behalf, God would still carry out his judgment because Israel persisted in disobedience.

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**AMOS**

served as a prophet to Israel (the northern kingdom) from 760-750 B.C.

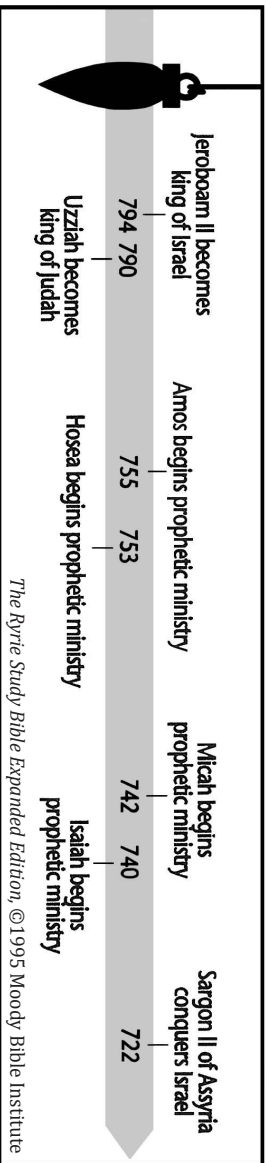
**Climate of the times . . . . .** Israel was enjoying peace and economic prosperity. But this blessing had caused her to become a selfish, materialistic society. Those who were well-off ignored the needs of those less fortunate. The people were self-centered and indifferent toward God.

**Main message . . . . .** Amos spoke against those who exploited or ignored the needy.

**Importance of message . . .** Believing in God is more than a matter of individual faith. God calls all believers to work against injustices in society and to aid those less fortunate.

**Contemporary prophets . . .** Jonah (793–753 B.C.), Hosea (753–715 B.C.)  
*The Life Application Study Bible, ©2007 Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.*

TIMELINE OF AMOS



**Amos's Visions**  
*Amos 7-9*

**Vision**

**Outcome**

**Locusts**—God sends swarms of locusts that devastate Israel's crops



Amos prays and God relents on sending judgment 7:1-3

**Fire**—God sends fire that dries up the water and devours Israel's land



Amos prays and God relents on sending judgment 7:4-6

**Plumb line**—God compares Israel to a wall built true to plumb; God's people fail to meet his standards



God destroys Israel's high places and sanctuaries 7:7-9

**Basket of ripe fruit**—God declares that Israel is ripe for judgment



God sends death, destruction and darkness to Israel; God refuses to answer his people 8:1-14

**The Lord by the altar**—God tells Amos to strike the tops of the temple pillars



God destroys the Israelites, who are crushed by the collapsing temple or killed by the sword 9:1-10

# Amos

**AMOS**  
A SHEPHERD & RE-TIE (PROPHET (750-725))

SEARCHING  
VISIONS  
RECALL  
TEKOA  
BETHEL

**JERODAM II**  
JAMMAL REBORN + REBORN AGAIN  
4000 YEARS + MORE

**WARRIOR SPIRIT**

## 3-6 MESSAGE TO ISRAEL & ITS LEADERS

**TRUE WORSHIP of GOD**  
*not about displays of piety*

**JUSTICE, RIGHTEOUSNESS, & LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR**

## 1-2 MESSAGE TO NATIONS & ISRAEL

**ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE NATIONS**

TYRE  
DAMASCUS  
AMMON  
MOAB  
EDOM  
JUDAH  
GAD  
CAZA

**ACCUSATIONS AGAINST ISRAEL**

THE PARTY'S OVER!  
I'LL SELL THEM AND BEST SHARES  
I'LL DENY THEM LEGAL RE-REGISTRATION

"I CHOSE YOU, GREAT, FROM AMONG ALL THE FAMILIES OF THE EARTH AND THIS IS WHY I LOAT, FOR YOU ARE ALL YOUR SIN."

**GREAT CALLING + GREAT RESPONSIBILITY = GREAT CONSEQUENCES**

**DO NOT THE GOD OF BETHEL**  
WORSHIP OF THESE GODS LEADS TO JUSTICE.

YEA, HE, THAT YOU HAT LIFE. (5:4)

YEA, GOOD, THAT YOU HAT LIFE. (5:18)

## 7-9 AMOS VISIONS

**EXPLORING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOD'S JUSTICE & MERCY**

HE MOST COMFORTING EVIL AMONG ISRAEL & THE NATIONS

HIS LONG-TERM PURPOSE ARE FOR RESTORATION & A NEW EARTH

**SYMBOLIC ACTIONS OF THE BAR OF THE LAND**

- SCORCHING FIRE
- LOST SWARM
- OVERRIPE FRUIT

**GOD**

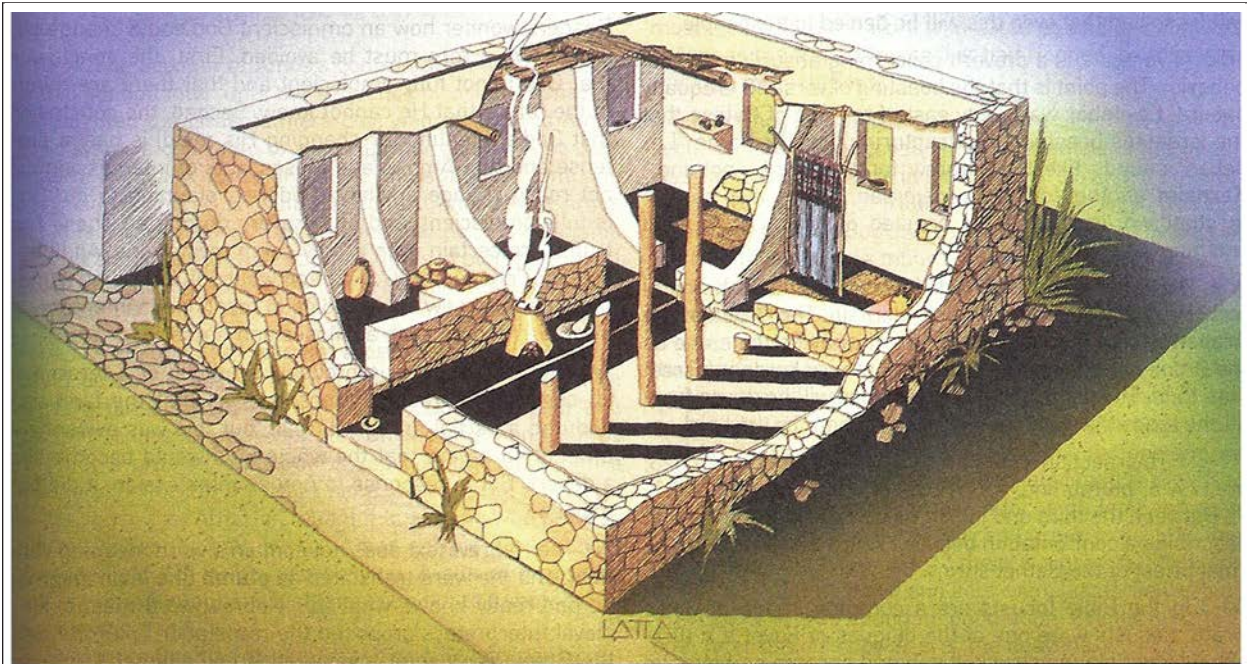
**RAISE A CLIPPER OF WIND**

**HOUSE OF DAVID**

**FUTURE MESSIANIC KINGDOM**

**GODS KINGDOM OVER ALL NATIONS**

created by the Bible Project



An eighth-century B.C. Hebrew house (3:15; 6:11). Archaeological excavations in the area bear out the society of Samaria and the Northern Kingdom in the eighth century. Houses in the tenth-century strata are uniform. The eighth-century strata shows great contrast between large houses of the affluent and small structures in which the poor lived.

*The Holman Christian Standard Study Bible, ©2010 Holman Bible Publishers*

## Big Ideas in AMOS

Wealth and success can lead to spiritual complacency

Sexual immorality, violence, corruption and idolatry draw hearts away from God

God punishes those who exploit poor people and prosper at their expense

God calls his people to lives of justice

God promises to restore his people after judgment



The NIV Quickview Bible

