

# OLIVET BIBLE STUDY

## BOOK OF AMOS

### OUTLINE ONE (AMOS 1-2)

These chapters describe Amos's vision of God's judgment on Damascus, Philistia, Tyre, Ammon, Moab, Judah, and Israel.

- I. **THE REVELATION OF GOD'S JUDGMENT (1:1-2):** In a vision Amos sees divine wrath falling upon certain nations.
- II. **THE RECIPIENTS OF GOD'S JUDGMENT (1:3-2:16)**
  - A. **Damascus (1:3-5)**
    1. *Their sin (1:3):* They have ravished the Israelite city of Gilead.
    2. *Their sentence (1:4-5):* Damascus will be burned, and its people will be enslaved.
  - B. **Philistia (1:6-8)**
    1. *Their sin (1:6):* They have sold God's people into slavery.
    2. *Their sentence (1:7-8):* The Philistine cities will be torched, and the people will be killed.
  - C. **Tyre (1:9-10)**
    1. *Their sin (1:9):* They have broken their treaty with the people of Israel and have betrayed them.
    2. *Their sentence (1:10):* The city will be burned.
  - D. **Edom (1:11-12)**
    1. *Their sin (1:11):* They have hounded Israel with the sword.
    2. *Their sentence (1:12):* Their cities will be burned.
  - E. **Ammon (1:13-15)**

1. *Their sin* ([1:13](#)): They ripped open the pregnant women of Gilead.
2. *Their sentence* ([1:14-15](#)): Their cities will be burned, and their people will be enslaved.

**F. Moab** (2:1-3)

1. *Their sin* ([2:1](#)): They have desecrated tombs, showing no respect for the dead.
2. *Their sentence* ([2:2-3](#)): Their cities will be burned, and their people will be killed.

**G. Judah** (2:4-5)

1. *Their sin* ([2:4](#)): They have rejected the law of God.
2. *Their sentence* ([2:5](#)): Jerusalem will be destroyed.

**H. Israel** (2:6-16)

1. *Their sins* (2:6-12)
  - a. Bribery ([2:6](#)): They pervert justice with dishonest scales.
  - b. Cruelty to the poor ([2:7a](#)): They trample helpless people in the dirt.
  - c. Immorality ([2:7b](#)): Father and son sleep with the same woman.
  - d. Hypocrisy ([2:8](#)): They go to religious festivals in stolen clothing.
  - e. Tempting the godly to sin ([2:9-12](#)): They cause the Nazirites to sin by making them drink wine.
2. *Their sentence* (2:13-16)
  - a. They will groan as an overloaded wagon ([2:13](#))
  - b. Their enemies will defeat them ([2:14-16](#)): The runners, the warriors, and those on horses will be unable to get away.

## OUTLINE TWO (AMOS 3-6)

These chapters record for us three sermons preached by Amos.

### I. AMOS'S FIRST SERMON (3:1-15)

- A. **The privileges of Israel (3:1-3):** Amos reminds the nation that God treats them as a special nation.
- B. **The perversions of Israel (3:10)**
  - 1. *They do not know right from wrong (3:10a).*
  - 2. *Their homes are full of loot they have stolen from others (3:10b).*
- C. **The prophecy against Israel (3:4-9, 11-15)**
  - 1. *God will roar out his wrath as a hungry lion (3:4-9):* God warns the people, but they do not listen.
  - 2. *Their enemies will devour them (3:11-14):* They will be torn into pieces.
  - 3. *Their beautiful homes will be destroyed (3:15).*

### II. AMOS'S SECOND SERMON (4:1-13)

- A. **He denounces the Israel of God (4:1-5).**
  - 1. *Their godless women (4:1-3):* They will be led away with hooks in their noses.
  - 2. *Their hypocrisy (4:4-5):* They offer sacrifices to idols.
- B. **He defends the God of Israel (4:6-13).**
  - 1. *The past patience of God (4:6-11):* He has given Israel repeated opportunities to repent, all to no avail.
  - 2. *The future punishment from God (4:12-13):* The nation will soon face him in judgment.

### III. AMOS'S THIRD SERMON (5:1-6:14)

- A. **God's invitation to Israel (5:4-9, 14-15):** Amos makes one final plea, urging his people to repent.
  - 1. *Seek God and live (5:4,7-9):* God is all-powerful.

2. *Renounce your idolatry* ([5:5-6](#)): They are to worship idols no longer.
  3. *Do what is good* ([5:14-15](#)): The Lord will be their helper if they are obedient.
- B. God's indictment of Israel** (5:1-3, 10-13, 16-27; 6:1-14)
1. *The nation's perversions* (5:10-13, 25-26; 6:1-7, 12-13)
    - a. They hate the truth ([5:10](#)): They hate honest judges and people who tell the truth.
    - b. They oppose the good ([5:11](#)): They trample the poor and take what they have.
    - c. They are guilty of extortion and bribery ([5:12-13](#)): They oppress good people by taking bribes.
    - d. They are lazy and complacent ([6:1-3](#)): They lounge in luxury and think they are safe.
    - e. They are materialistic and indulgent ([6:4-5](#)): They lie on comfortable beds eating choice meat and singing idle songs.
    - f. They are a nation of drunkards ([6:6-7](#)): They drink wine by the bowlful.
    - g. They have turned justice into poison ([6:12](#)): They make bitter the sweet fruit of righteousness.
    - h. They are arrogant ([6:13](#)): They boast that they have made conquests on their own.
    - i. They worship idols ([5:25-26](#)): Their real interest is in the gods they have made themselves.
  2. *The nation's punishment* (5:1-3, 16-24, 27; 6:8-11, 14)
    - a. To be broken and deserted ([5:1-2](#)): She will fall, never to rise again.

- b. To lose 90 percent of her soldiers in battle ([5:3](#))
- c. To grieve ([5:16-18](#)): Weeping will be heard throughout the land.
- d. To go from bad to worse ([5:19-20](#)): It will be a day without a ray of hope.
- e. To have hypocritical offerings rejected by God ([5:21-22](#))
- f. To have her songs rejected ([5:23-24](#)): God wants to see a river of righteous living instead.
- g. To go into slavery in exile ([5:27](#); [6:14](#))
- h. To lose their pride and glory ([6:8-11](#)): God will give everything to their enemies.

### OUTLINE THREE (AMOS 7-9)

These chapters describe Amos's visions of the future of God's people.

- I. **THE PLAGUES (7:1-9; 8:1-9:10):** These verses describe five visions received by Amos, all dealing with God's judgment on Israel.
  - A. **Vision of the locusts (7:1-3)**
    - 1. *God's intention* ([7:1](#)): He is preparing a vast locust plague to destroy Israel's crops.
    - 2. *Amos's intervention* ([7:2-3](#)): The prophet prays, and this judgment is set aside.
  - B. **Vision of the fire (7:4-6)**
    - 1. *God's intention* ([7:4](#)): A great fire will soon devour the land.
    - 2. *Amos's intervention* ([7:5-6](#)): Again the prophet prays, and judgment is averted.
  - C. **Vision of the plumb line (7:7-9)**

1. *The revelation* ([7:7](#)): Amos sees God measuring the "spiritual straightness" of Israel with a plumb line.
  2. *The results* ([7:8-9](#)): The moral crookedness of the nation demands divine judgment.
- D. Vision of the summer fruit (8:1-14)**
1. *The symbol* ([8:1-2](#)): Israel is pictured as a basket of fruit, ripe for judgment because of sin.
  2. *The sin* (8:4-6)
    - a. The rich are robbing and enslaving the poor, buying and selling them for a pair of sandals ([8:4a](#), [6](#)).
    - b. The needy in the land are being trampled on ([8:4b](#)).
    - c. Gross dishonesty can be witnessed everywhere ([8:5](#)).
  3. *The suffering* (8:3, 7-14): Sin always results in sorrow, pain, and disaster! Amos now describes a fourfold judgment:
    - a. In regard to sinners (8:3, 10)
      - (1) Dead bodies will be scattered everywhere ([8:3](#)): Singing will turn to wailing.
      - (2) Sheer misery will replace mirth ([8:10](#)): Celebrations will become times of mourning, and songs of joy will become weeping.
    - b. In regard to the soil ([8:7-8](#)): The entire land will rise and fall like the Nile River.
    - c. In regard to the skies ([8:9](#)): The sun will go down at noon.
    - d. In regard to the Scriptures (8:11-14)
      - (1) The famine ([8:11](#)): God himself will send a famine of hearing the words of the Lord.

- (2) The fruitless search ([8:12-14](#)): Men will wander everywhere attempting to find it!
- E. **The vision of God at the altar ([9:1-10](#)):** Amos sees the Lord standing at the altar, and God tells Amos that he will destroy the people.

## II. THE PRIEST (7:10-17)

- A. **Amos's confrontation with Amaziah (7:10-13)**
1. *He slanders Amos ([7:10-11](#)):* Amaziah tells King Jeroboam II that Amos is a traitor and a rebel.
  2. *He scorns Amos ([7:12-13](#)):* Amaziah tells Amos to take his foolish preaching back to Judah.
- B. **Amos's clarification to Amaziah (7:14-15):** He acknowledges that he is neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet. But he then adds that:
1. *He feels unworthy ([7:14](#)):* "I'm just a shepherd, and I take care of fig trees."
  2. *He knows God has called him to prophesy ([7:15](#)).*
- C. **Amos's condemnation of Amaziah (7:16-17)**
1. *Amaziah's wife will become a prostitute ([7:16-17a](#)).*
  2. *Amaziah's sons and daughters will be killed ([7:17b](#)).*
  3. *Amaziah's land will be divided up ([7:17c](#)).*
  4. *Amaziah will die as a slave in a pagan land ([7:17d](#)).*

## III. THE PROMISES (9:11-15)

- A. **Jerusalem will be rebuilt to its former glory ([9:11-12](#)):** The walls will be rebuilt.
- B. **Israel will be restored to her former land ([9:13-15](#)):** The people will rebuild the ruined cities and will live in them.

