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AMOS

Lesson 1
November 2, 2023

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Hosea 14

“Return, O Israel, to the LORD your God....Take away all iniquity....I will heal their apostasy, I will love them freely...It is I who answer you and look after you....**For the ways of the LORD are right**, and the righteous will walk in them, but transgressors will stumble in them.”

3

“There is a cold logic in the book of Amos that is altogether missing in the book of Hosea. Hosea spoke the language of love; Amos spoke the language of law. Hosea spoke from the heart; Amos spoke from the head. *Hosea thought in terms of God's outreach; Amos thought in terms of God's outrage.* Hosea expressed fervor and fire; Amos stated causes and conclusions.”

John Phillips

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“Whereas *Hosea was crushed* with a sense of the unfaithfulness of Israel to the love of God, *Amos was outraged* at the violence they had done to the justice and righteousness of God.”

5

Kings of Judah	Prophets	Kings of Israel
Joash (835-796)	Jonah	Jehoahaz (814-798)
Amaziah (796-767)		Jehoash (798-782)
Uzziah [Azariah] (792-740)	Isaiah	Jeroboam II (793-753)
	Hosea	Zechariah (753)
Jotham (750-731)	Micah	Shallum (752)
Ahaz (735-715)		Menahem (752-742)
Hezekiah (729-686)		Pekahiah (742-740)
Manasseh (696-642)	Nahum	Pekah (752-732)
Amon (642-640)	Habakkuk	Hoshea (732-722)
Josiah (640-609)	Zephaniah	
Jehoahaz [Shallum] (609)	Jeremiah	
Jehoiakim (608-598)		
Jehoiachin [Coniah] (598-597)		
Zedekiah (597-586)		
<i>Fall of Jerusalem: 586 B.C.</i>		

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Amos 1:1 “two years before the earthquake”

- **Zech 14:5** “...you will flee just as you fled before the **earthquake in the days of Uzziah** king of Judah....”
- **II Chronicles 26:16-23:** Uzziah usurped the authority of the priests by entering the temple and offering incense.

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Judgments of the Nations in 1:3-2:16:

1. Judgment against the Gentile Foreigners:
 - a. Damascus 1:3-5
 - b. Gaza 1:6-8
 - c. Tyre 1:9-10
2. Judgment against the Nations related to Israel
 - a. Edom 1:11-12
 - b. Ammon 1:13-15
 - c. Moab 2:1-3
3. Judgment against the Nations of God’s People
 - a. Southern Kingdom of Judah 2:4-5
 - b. Northern Kingdom of Israel 2:6-16

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1:3-5 Prophecy against Damascus:

- Cause of judgment: “threshed Gilead with implements of sharp iron.”
II Kings 10:32-33 Hazaël, King of Aram (Syria)
- Means of judgment: “will send fire on the house of Hazaël...will break the gate bar of Damascus.”
- Fulfilled in 732 BC: II Kings 16:9 “...the king of Assyria went up against Damascus and captured it and carried the people of it away into exile to Kir....”

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1:6-8 Prophecy against Gaza:

- Cause of judgment: “deported an entire population ...to Edom” → wholesale trafficking in slavery.
II Chron. 21:16-17 the Philistines “came against Judah and invaded it and carried away all the possessions...with the [king’s] sons and wives....”
- Means of judgment: will send fire upon the walls and citadel of Gaza.
- Fulfilled: beginning in 734 BC with attacks from Assyria and completed in 701 BC.

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1:9-10 Prophecy against Tyre:

- Cause of judgment: human trafficking; they “did not remember the covenant of brotherhood.”
I Kings 5:2-12 “...there was peace between Hiram and Solomon, and the two of them made a covenant.”
- Means of judgment: will send fire upon the wall of Tyre and consume her citadels.
- Fulfilled: in 664 BC, the Assyrians overwhelmed the city of Tyre; in 332 BC Alexander the Great conquered Tyre, killing many and enslaving thousands.

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1:11-12 Prophecy against Edom:

- Cause of judgment: pursued his brother (Israel) with a sword, had no compassion, carried a grudge.
 - Num 20:18-20 "...you shall not pass through us, or I will come out with the sword against you....And Edom came out against him with a heavy force and a strong hand."
 - II Chr 28:17 "For again the Edomites had come and attacked Judah and carried away captives."
 - Obadiah 10-12 "Because of violence to your brother Jacob, you... will be cut off forever. On the day that you stood aloof... strangers carried off his wealth...you too were as one of them. Do not gloat over your brother's day...his misfortune...."

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1:11-12 Prophecy against Edom:

- Cause of judgment: pursued his brother (Israel) with a sword, no compassion, carried a grudge.
 - Num 20:18-20; II Chr 28:17; Obadiah 10-12
- Means of judgment: will send fire upon Teman and the citadels of Bozrah (major cities of Edom).
- Fulfilled: by the Assyrians or Babylonians.

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1:13-15 Prophecy against Ammon:

- Cause of judgment: "they ripped open the pregnant women of Gilead in order to enlarge their borders."
- Means of judgment: destruction by fire of their capital city of Rabbah (Amman, Jordan); king and princes will go into exile.
- Fulfilled: by the Babylonians (Jer. 49:1-5).

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2:1-3 Prophecy against Moab:

- Cause of judgment: "he burned the bones of the king of Edom to lime."
 - II Kings 3:26-27 –king's son → "a burnt offering"
 - Or: desecrated the king's grave = carried a grudge
- Means of judgment: fire on Moab, the citadels of Kerioth; cut off judge and slay her princes.
- Fulfilled: by the Assyrians and Babylonians.

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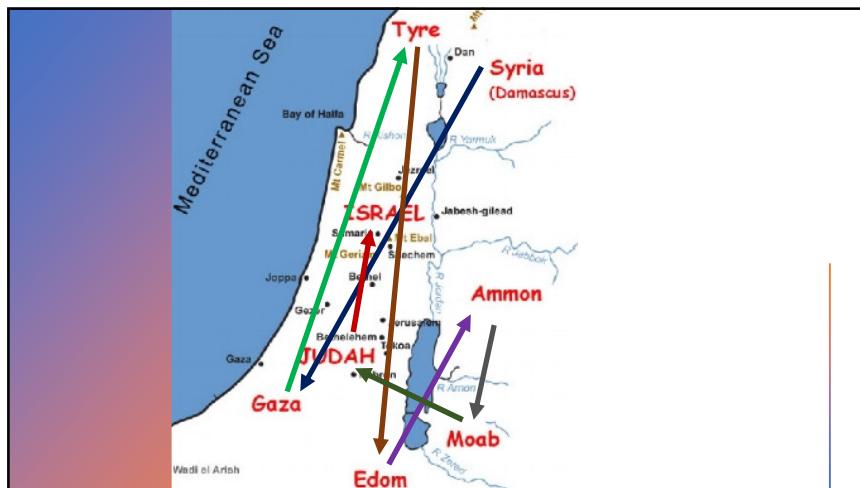


18

2:4-5 Prophecy against Judah:

- Cause of judgment: “they rejected the law of the LORD and have not kept His statutes...”
- Means of judgment: will send fire upon Judah and consume the citadels of Jerusalem.
- Fulfilled: in 701 BC Sennacherib’s Assyrian army invaded, but Hezekiah prayed, and God spared Judah and destroyed the Assyrian army. God eventually fulfilled this prophecy in 586 BC with the Babylonian invasion.

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2:6-16 Condemnation of Israel:

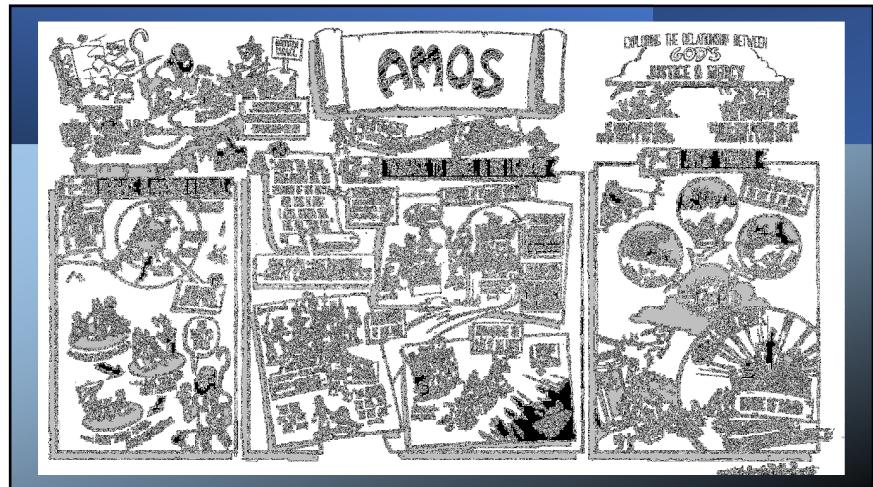
- Cause of judgment: “they sell the righteous for money and the needy for a pair of sandals....”
- “pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the helpless.”
- “turning aside the way of the humble.”
- “a man and his father resort to the same girl...profane My holy name.”
- v.9-11 Ingratitude for the benefits the LORD had given them.
- v.12 Corruption of the Nazarites and rejection of the prophets.
- Means of judgment: “Even the bravest among the warriors will flee naked in that day,” declares the LORD.
- Fulfilled: Assyria took the northern kingdom captivity in 722 BC.

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Lessons from Amos 1-2:

1. Sins don't go unnoticed by a holy God. He will punish in His time.
2. God sees the social ills, the poverty, the abuse, the poor, the neglected, the things that society looks away from. Someday, He will make it right.
3. God is extremely patient, giving time for nations and people to repent.
4. The declaration of war does not justify cruelty and atrocities against civilians. God sees even these sins.
5. The powerful effect of the ministry and prayer of the righteous: Amos: a shepherd courageous enough to give God's message; Hezekiah: a king who prayed for his nation. (Isaiah 37)

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