



# Amos

A Prophet  
for Today

**Judgment Comes Home**

## Amos 2:4-16

Thus says the LORD: “For three transgressions of Judah, and for four, I will not revoke the punishment, because they have rejected the law of the LORD, and have not kept his statutes, but their lies have led them astray, those after which their fathers walked. So I will send a fire upon Judah, and it shall devour the strongholds of Jerusalem.”

Thus says the LORD: “For three transgressions of Israel, and for four, I will not revoke the punishment, because they sell the righteous for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals— those who trample the head of the poor into the dust of the earth and turn aside the way of the afflicted; a man and his father go in to the same girl, so that my holy name is profaned; they lay themselves down beside

every altar on garments taken in pledge, and in the house of their God they drink the wine of those who have been fined. “Yet it was I who destroyed the Amorite before them, whose height was like the height of the cedars and who was as strong as the oaks; I destroyed his fruit above and his roots beneath. Also it was I who brought you up out of the land of Egypt and led you forty years in the wilderness,

to possess the land of the Amorite. And

I raised up some of your sons for prophets, and some of your young men

for Nazirites. Is it not indeed so, O

people of Israel?” declares the LORD.

“But you made the Nazirites drink wine, and commanded the prophets, saying,

‘You shall not prophesy.’ “Behold, I will

press you down in your place, as a cart

full of sheaves presses down.

Flight shall perish from the swift, and the strong shall not retain his strength nor shall the mighty save his life; he who handles the bow shall not stand, and he who is swift of foot shall not save himself, nor shall he who rides the horse save his life; and he who is stout of heart among the mighty shall flee away naked in that day," declares the LORD.

he and his princes together,” says the LORD. Thus says the LORD: “For three transgressions of Moab, and for four, will not revoke the punishment, because he burned to lime the bones of the king of Edom. So I will send a fire upon Moab, and it shall devour the strongholds of Kerioth, and Moab shall die amid uproar, amid shouting and the sound of the trumpet; I will cut off the ruler from its midst, says the Lord.

Thus says the LORD: “For three transgressions of **Judah**, and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,



Damascus 1:3-5

Gaza 1:6-8

Tyre 1:9-10

Edom 1:11-12

Ammon 1:13-15

Moab 2:1-3

Judah 2:4-5



because they have **rejected the law of the LORD**, and have not kept his statutes, but their lies have led them astray, those after which their fathers walked.

## Leviticus 26:14-15

But if you will not listen to me and will not do all these commandments, if you **spurn my statutes**, and if your soul **abhors my rules**, so that you will not do all my commandments, but break my covenant

## 2 Samuel 12:9

Why have you **despised the word of the LORD**, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites.

because they have rejected the law of  
the LORD, and have **not kept his  
statutes**, but their lies have led them  
astray, those after which their fathers  
walked.

Amos emphasizes the inner spring of conduct and the outer manifestation of conduct. Life begins on the inside. Judah's abandonment of the fellowship of God and the foundational strength of God's truth began in the mind and nothing then could stop that rejection from appearing in life.

– J. A. Motyer



but their **lies** have led them astray,  
those after which **their fathers walked.**

Jeremiah 10:14

Every man is stupid and without knowledge; every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols, for his **images are false**, and there is no breath in them.

A law so holy, just, and good, and so righteous, as no other nation had; and yet was not only not observed, but hated: other nations sinned against the light of nature, and are not charged with breaches of the law of God, which was not given them; but these people had it, yet lightly esteemed it; counted it as a strange thing; walked not according to it, but cast it away from them; which was a great affront to the sovereignty of God.

– John Gill





Thus says the LORD: “For three transgressions of **Israel**, and for four, I will not revoke the punishment, because they sell the righteous for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals, those who trample the head of the poor into the dust of the earth and turn aside the way of the afflicted

## Deuteronomy 15:7

If among you, one of your brothers should become poor, in any of your towns within your land that the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother

a man and his father go in to the same  
girl, so that my holy name is profaned

No sin that a person commits has more built-in pitfalls, problems and destructiveness than sexual sin. It has broken more marriages, shattered more homes, caused more heartache and disease, and destroyed more lives than alcohol and drugs combined. It causes lying, stealing, cheating and killing, as well as bitterness, hatred, slander, gossip and unforgiveness.

– John MacArthur



they lay themselves down beside every altar on garments taken in pledge, and in the house of their God they drink the wine of those who have been fined.

## Exodus 22:25-27

“If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a moneylender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him. If ever you take your neighbor's cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.

“Yet it was I who destroyed the Amorite before them, whose height was like the height of the cedars and who was as strong as the oaks; I destroyed his fruit above and his roots beneath. Also it was I who brought you up out of the land of Egypt and led you forty years in the wilderness

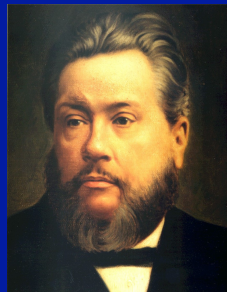
## Joshua 7:7

And Joshua said, "Alas, O Lord God ,  
why have you brought this people over  
the Jordan at all, to give us into the  
hands of the Amorites, to destroy us?  
Would that we had been content to  
dwell beyond the Jordan!



As Lord of the whole earth he transferred his estate from one tenant to another. The land did not become the property of the Israelites by their own sword and bow, but by a grant from the throne. He who brought his people out of Egypt also brought them in to the promised land. He who had promised the land to the seed of Abraham also saw to it that the deed of gift did not remain a dead letter. Both our temporal and our spiritual estates come to us by royal charter.

– Charles Spurgeon



And I raised up some of your sons for prophets, and some of your young men for Nazirites. Is it not indeed so, O people of Israel?”

Not only had God graciously delivered Israel and given them the land of Canaan he had also raised up from among them prophets to warn them, and Nazirites to shame them with the example of their commitment.

– ESV note

Flight shall perish from the swift, and the strong shall not retain his strength nor shall the mighty save his life; he who handles the bow shall not stand, and he who is swift of foot shall not save himself, nor shall he who rides the horse save his life; and he who is stout of heart among the mighty shall flee away naked in that day," declares the LORD.

Jeremiah 8:20

The harvest is past, the summer is  
ended, and we are not saved.