

Major Messages from the

MINOR PROPHETS



Who is Amos?

The words of Amos, **one of the shepherds of Tekoa**—the vision he saw concerning Israel two years before the earthquake, when Uzziah was king of Judah and Jeroboam son of Jehoash was king of Israel.

Amos 1:1

Amos answered Amaziah, “I was neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees. But the Lord took me from tending the flock and said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

Amos 7:14-15

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Who is Amos?

He preaches to a divided Jewish nation, Amos is from the south part, Judah, but is sent to prophesy to the northern part, Isarel

The king in Isarel is Jeroboam the 2nd

During this time he oversaw a prolonged period of physical prosperity in Israel

He was the one who restored the boundaries of Israel from Lebo Hamath to the Dead Sea (2 Kings 14:25)

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The Issue

He did evil in the eyes of the Lord and did not turn away from any of the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, which he had caused Israel to commit.

2 Kings 14:24

**The Plumb Line Drops
Shepherd Measures a Nation
and Found It Wanting**

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The Sins of Israel

This is what the Lord says: “For three sins of Israel, even for four, I will not relent. They sell the innocent for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals. They trample on the heads of the poor as on the dust of the ground and deny justice to the oppressed. Father and son use the same girl and so profane my holy name. They lie down beside every altar on garments taken in pledge. In the house of their god they drink wine taken as fines.

Amos 2:6-8

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The Sins of Israel

They are selling people into slavery

The poor they are not selling, they are taking advantage of

Their justice system is corrupt and oppressive

Sexual misconduct is rampant

The Sins of Israel

If you take your neighbor's cloak as a pledge, return it by sunset, because that cloak is the only covering your neighbor has. What else can they sleep in? When they cry out to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.

Exodus 22:26–27

They were also participating in the religious festivals to other gods and in so doing using wine they had claimed as taxes or fines

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A Call for Repentance

This is what the Lord says to Israel: “Seek me and live; do not seek Bethel, do not go to Gilgal, do not journey to Beersheba. For Gilgal will surely go into exile, and Bethel will be reduced to nothing.” Seek the Lord and live, or he will sweep through the tribes of Joseph like a fire; it will devour them, and Bethel will have no one to quench it.

Amos 5:4-6

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A Call for Repentance

We want to see God as some angry monster out to get us

This is the third prophet we are looking at and another call to repent

God does not want to execute judgement he desires relationship

However, there are some attitudes standing in the way

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Complacency

Woe to you who are complacent in Zion, and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria, you notable men of the foremost nation, to whom the people of Israel come!

Amos 6:1

They felt safe and secure, they had become comfortable in their sin and sought satisfaction in this life (Amos 6:4-6**)**

Jesus warned again complacency in his parable of the rich fool (Luke 12:18-20**)**

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Pride

The Sovereign Lord has sworn by himself—the Lord God Almighty declares: “I abhor the pride of Jacob and detest his fortresses; I will deliver up the city and everything in it.”

Amos 6:8

**It was not just that they loved their lifestyle;
their way of life had become how they valued their life**

**This is more than a sense of accomplishment and more
than a feeling good about doing a good job**

"You too can be god"

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The Price of Complacency and Pride

They valued their sin and their life so much they could not let it go and it's going to cost them dearly
For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.

Matthew 16:25

**Pride Comes Before a Fall
and in their case,
THE WALL WILL FALL!**

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God's Standard

The vision started with God standing beside a trued wall

He saw the image of God, the holder of the plumb line

He saw the wall built true by using the plumb line

But his focus was pulled to the measuring device, the plumb line which for this vision is the image of God's holy and righteous standard for his people.

Then the Lord said, "Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel"

Unstable Wall but Faithful God

“Surely the eyes of the Sovereign Lord are on the sinful kingdom. I will destroy it from the face of the earth. ***Yet I will not totally destroy the descendants of Jacob,***” declares the Lord. “For I will give the command, and I will shake the people of Israel among all the nations as grain is shaken in a sieve, and not a pebble will reach the ground. All the sinners among my people will die by the sword, all those who say, ‘Disaster will not overtake or meet us.

Amos 9:8-10

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We live in GRACE!

You are corrected but the standard did not change

Even at the cross we are dealing with the meeting of vertical and horizontal axis

Jesus never said grace tosses away the standard in fact, just the opposite, he raised the standard

Grace allows God to fill in the gaps when I fall short, so the wall will be true

It does not give me permission to become a sloppy builder

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A red conical pendulum bob hangs from a thin string against a textured, light-colored background. The bob is a smooth, reddish-brown cone with a small spherical cap at the top. To the left of the bob, there is a vertical strip of rough, reddish-brown rock or stone. The overall scene is lit with warm, golden light, creating a sense of depth and texture.

**Your Life
has been
Measured
and Found
Lacking**

Go Away

Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent a message to Jeroboam king of Israel: “Amos is raising a conspiracy against you in the very heart of Israel. The land cannot bear all his words. For this is what Amos is saying: “Jeroboam will die by the sword, and Israel will surely go into exile, away from their native land.”” Then Amaziah said to Amos, “Get out, you seer! Go back to the land of Judah. Earn your bread there and do your prophesying there. Don’t prophesy anymore at Bethel, because this is the king’s sanctuary and the temple of the kingdom.”

Amos 7:10-13



Rejected

For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, “The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,” and, “A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock that makes them fall.”

1 Peter 2:6-8

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**Have You
Allowed Him to
True Your Life?**