

Series: AMOS - Sin Brings Judgment

Title: The Greatness of God

Author: AMOS as is with each of the minor prophets.

Purpose: Pronounce Judgment on Israel, Northern Kingdom

Date Written: 760-750 BC During Reign of Jeroboam II of Israel & Uzziah of Judah

The Social/Economic Times:

The wealthy of Israel were enjoying peace & prosperity. They were oppressing the poor, through Taxation. even selling them into slavery.

Soon, Israel would be conquered by Assyria, & the rich would not escape being made slaves.

Key Verse: (Amos 5:24) *"But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream."*

Background of the Book:

A. Jeroboam I. (I Kings Chapters 12, 13, 14)

1. First King in the northern kingdom of Israel.
2. Created an apostate religion: (I Kings 12:27)
 - a. Two calves of gold: (I Kings 12:28)
 - 1.) Same sin as in the wilderness: (Exo 32:4)
 - 2.) Now double trouble with the 2 calves.
 - b. Established calves in Bethel and Dan: (I Ki 12:29)
 - c. It was a sin. (I Kings 12:30)
 - d. False Teachers of our day: (2 Pet 2:1-6)

B. Jeroboam II.

1. 200 Years later.
2. Amos Prophet.
3. Judgment again pronounced.

KEY VERSES: (Ch 1:2)(Ch 5:4)

KEYWORDS:

A. The "I WILLS" of Chapter 9.

8 times in Chapter 9 & 42 in the remainder of the book.

B. Negative words.

1. Evil. 7 times.
2. Punishment. 8 times.

C. Positive words.

1. Hear. 7 times.
2. Seek. 6 times.
3. Tum. 13 times.

OTHER FACTS:

Israel had a spirit of self-sufficiency & smug complacency. They thrived on material prosperity.

The rich were getting richer, & the poor were getting poorer.

Idolatry, hypocrisy, moral corruption, & social injustices.

The nation was truly on the brink of disaster.

Spiritual decay had threatened their very existence.

Amos preached to Israel that sin, brings judgment

Amos Presents: The Greatness of God

A. God's Name is Great: (Ch 4:13, 5:8, 9:6)

1. His Name is The LORD.
 - a. They profess to worship God, but don't.
 - b. They worship false gods, the 2 golden calves.
2. The God of hosts. (4:13, 5:27)

B. God's Knowledge is Great

Mankind fails to measure up to God's standards.

1. He knows where men are: (9:2)
2. On Mount Carmel He will find them. (9:3)
3. In the bottom of the sea He will find them. (9:3)

4. He knows what they are doing. (Ch 5:12)
 - a. Number of their sins are many.
 - b. Nature of their sins are great, mighty.
 - 1.) Afflicting the just.
 - 2.) Taking a bribe.
 - 3.) Reject the poor.
5. He knows their very thoughts. (Ch 4:13)

C. God's Judgment is Great:

1. Once God has decided, judgment will come.
2. God will not be turned aside. (Ch 7:7-9)
 - a. No more pardon. vs 8
 - 1.) Mercy door is closed.
 - 2.) Judgments door is open.
 - 3.) Doom is inevitable. vs 9
 - b. A plumbline of separation.
 - c. The plumbline has 2 purposes.
 - 1.) To build up.
 - 2.) To pull down by.
3. God swears an oath to His intention to punish Israel.
 - a. He will take you away. (Ch 4:2)
 - b. I will deliver up the city. (Ch 6:8)
 - c. I will never forget. (Ch 8:7)

D. God's Holiness is Great.

1. Man cannot compare to the moral character of God.
2. Man is sinful, corrupt. (Ch 2:7)

E. God's Sovereignty is Great.

1. Created the Mountains & The Winds: (Ch 4:13)
2. Created the Stars. (Ch 5:8)
3. Created the Heavens in which He dwells. (Ch 9:6)
4. Controls all that He created.

- a. Controls the animals.
 - 1.) Palmerworm. (Ch 4:9)
 - a.) Devoured all their increase.
 - b.) Yet they did not return.
 - 2.) Lion, Bear, Serpent. (Ch 5:19)
 - a.) Flee from God if you will.
 - b.) When you fell safety the serpent strikes.
 - 3.) Grasshoppers. (Ch 7:1)
 - a.) Grass eaten. (Ch 7:2)
 - b.) Repentance allowed. (Ch 7:3)
 - 4.) Serpent shall bite. (Ch 9:3)
- b. Controls weather and related items.
 - 1.) Rain. (Ch 4:7)
 - a.) Withholds.
 - b.) In designated areas.
 - c.) Yet they did not return.
 - 2.) Wind. Blasting. (Ch 4:9)
 - 3.) Mildew. (Ch 4:9)
 - 4.) Floods. (Ch 5:8, 9:6)
 - 5.) Earthquakes. (Ch 8:8)
- c. Controls the movements of the earth, moon & sun. (Ch 4:13, 8:9)
5. Controls Nations.
 - a. Rise & fall, Governs their movements: (2:9-10, 9:7)
 - b. Has authority to judge them. (Ch 1:3-2:5)
 - 1.) Damascus. (Ch 1:3-2:3)
 - a.) Cruelty to Gilead. (vs 3)
 - b.) Speaks of death by instrument of war. vs 3
 - c.) Slaughter of men, women & children. vs 3
 - d.) Punished by fire. (vs 4)
 - 2.) Gaza. Philistia. (Vs 1:6 - 8)
 - a.) Traffic in human beings. vs 6
 - b.) Entire population seized & sold into slavery.

- c.) Punished by fire. vs 7
 - 3.) Tyre. (Ch 1:9, 10)
 - a.) Mass enslavement of Israel. (vs 9)
 - b.) Broke Covenant between David & Hiram
(II Sam 5: 11, I Kings 5:1, 9:11-14)
 - c.) Punished by fire. vs 10
 - 4.) Edom. Esau. (Ch 1: 11-12)
 - a.) Received the slaves from verses 6 & 9. vs 11
 - b.) Continued raids on his brother Jacob. vs 11
 - c.) Punished by fire. vs 12
 - 5.) Ammon. (1:13 -15)
 - a.) Slaughter of women & unborn children. vs 13
 - b.) Punished by fire. vs 14
 - 6.) Moab. 2:1 - 3
 - a.) Dishonoring of a corpse. (Ch 2:1)
 - b.) Punished by fire. (Ch 2:2)
 - 7.) His Own people, Judah. (Ch 2:4-5)
 - a.) Rejected the Law of God. vs 4
 - b.) Have not kept God's statutes. vs 4
 - c.) Their lies have caused them to err. vs 4
 - d.) Punished by fire. vs 5
 - 8.) His Own people Israel: (Ch 2:6-16)
 - a.) Greed) (Vs 6)
 - b.) Sexual Sin: (Vs 7)
 - c.) Oppressed the Poor: (Vs 8)
6. Has power over life and death.
- a. Life to whomever will meet the requirements.
Seek and live. 5:4, 6, 14
 - b. Threatens death. (Ch 9:1-2)
 - 1.) I will slay. (Ch 9:1)
 - 2.) I will bring them down. (Ch 9:2)