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A just weight
and balance

are the
LORD'S:

Thus saith the Lord...

- Prophetic books cover **over one-quarter of the Bible,**
- Yet no section of the Bible is more neglected.
 - **Why?**
 - Since we are no longer under the Law of Moses, **It is assume we no longer need to study the Old Testament.**
 - **Romans 15:4**

For whatsoever things were written before were written for our learning, ...

- Amos means "burden-bearer"
- From the village of Tekoa
12 miles south of Jerusalem
and
18 miles west of the Dead Sea
- He was from Judah,
- But primarily prophesied against Israel in the north

- He was a shepherd and a tender of sycamore fruit.
(Amos 7:14)

- Probably not known for his sympathy or warmth,
 - But for his sense of justice and right

- His preaching was primarily to the northern kingdom of Israel.
 - People who were:
 - Wealthy,
 - Enjoyed great luxury.
 - But were morally, religiously,
politically corrupt

- The Israelites during the time of Amos did not love justice and righteousness,
- Yet, they were very particular to keep the outward and ceremonial forms of their religion.
- They came together in worship.
 - They offered:
burnt-offerings,
meal-offerings
peace-offerings,
songs of praise.

- **Dr. Karl Menninger wrote:**

***“They hang prophets.
Or ignore them,
which hurts worse.”***

(Karl Menninger, M.D.,
Whatever Became of Sin?, pg. 1).

- It is to
our peril
to ignore them!

- Amos 7:12

Amaziah
said unto Amos,
O thou seer, go,
go away into
the land of Judah,
and prophesy there:

- The book of Amos is divided into
three sections...
 - # 1 A series of
"prophecies
(ch. 1-2)
 - # 2 A series of
"sermons
(ch. 3-6)
 - # 3 A series of
"visions
(ch. 7-9)

- In Amos 1:2,
we see a vivid picture of the Lord
as a lion.

- Amos 1:2 (KJV)

- **And he said, The LORD will roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the habitations of the shepherds shall mourn, and the top of Carmel shall wither.**

- God through Amos is proclaiming a fiery message of condemnation:

- Against Israel and surrounding nations

- Amos 1:3–2:15

we read of the
sins and the
coming judgment
upon the nations.

- Amos 1:3

"For three transgressions
yea, for four."

- This is an expression meaning
"for more than enough crimes.."

- I list them briefly:

- **# 1 DAMASCUS**
(Amos 1:3-5)
- **Sin of cruelty**
toward the
inhabitants of Gilead
(Tribes of Gad and Reuben).
- **JUDGMENT**
destruction and **captivity**.
- **FULFILLMENT**
by the Assyrians
(2 Kings 16:1-9)

- **# 2 GAZA or PHILISTIA**
 - We know them as **Philistines**
(**Amos 1:6-8**)
 - **SIN**:
engaging in slave traffic.
 - **JUDGMENT**:
total devastation.
 - **FULFILLMENT**:
by the Assyrians

- **# 3 TYRE**
(**Amos 1:9-10**)

- **SIN:**
slave traffic

- Did not remember the covenant of
"brotherhood"
between Solomon and Hiram
(**1 Kings 5:12**)

- **JUDGMENT:**
destruction

- **FULFILLMENT:**
By Nebuchadnezzar;
finished by
Alexander the Great

- **# 4 EDOM**
(**Amos 1:11-12**)

- **SIN**:
cruelty to their brethren
(**Obadiah 1:10-12**)

- **JUDGMENT**:
destruction upon chief cities

- **FULFILLMENT**:
by Sennacherib, Nebuchadnezzar:
(**400 B.C.**)

- **# 5 AMMON**
(**Amos 1:13-15**)

- **SIN**:

Murder of pregnant women in Gilead
(Tribes of Gad and Reuben)

- **JUDGMENT**:

destruction and captivity

- **FULFILLMENT**:

By Nebuchadnezzar,
king of Babylon

- **# 6 MOAB**
(**Amos 2:1-3**)

- **SIN:**

Burned king of Edom's
bones to lime.

- **Unrestrained hatred!**

- **JUDGMENT:**

Destruction of Moab.

- **FULFILLMENT:**

By the Babylonian
Nebuchadnezzar

- **# 7 JUDAH**
(**Amos 2:4-5**)

- **SIN:**

Apostasy from the Law

- **JUDGMENT:**

Jerusalem to be destroyed

- **FULFILLMENT:**

By Nebuchadnezzar,
(**586 B.C.**)

- **# 8 ISRAEL**
(**Amos 2:6-16**)

- **Several sins are listed:**

- **Social injustice**

(slave trade and abuse of the poor)

- **Immorality**

(prostitution)

{**Amos 2:7**}

- **Idolatry**

worshipping other gods

- **# 8 ISRAEL**
(**Amos 2:6-16**)

- **For Their rebellion against God,**
Who...

- Cast out the Amorites before them
- Delivered them from the land of Egypt
- Gave them prophets and Nazarites,
whom they mistreated.
 - Warned by God:
 - ***I am about to crush you...***
as a wagon loaded with grain
crushes the ground.
(**Amos 2:13**)

- **# 8 ISRAEL**
(**Amos 2:6-16**)

- **JUDGMENT:**
Their inability to flee
when destruction
comes upon them.

- **FULFILLMENT:**
By the Assyrians in
722-721 B.C.
(**2 Kings 17:5-23**)

- **LESSONS FROM
THE "ORACLES" OF AMOS
(prophecies)**

- **GOD HOLDS
THE NATIONS OF MEN
ACCOUNTABLE...**

1. He was not just concerned
with His covenant people of Israel

- As we will see in
Obadiah and **Jonah**,
God judged
the surrounding nations
as well.

- Amos's whole message centers in the conviction that:

- God is the

- Righteous Governor**

- of the world,

- judging the people righteously,

- and when they rebel,

- dashing them to pieces**

- like a potter's vessel."

- The same authority
is given to Christ today!

(Amos 2:26-27; Rev. 1:5; 2:26-27)

- ***“the ruler over
the kings
of the earth.”***

(Revelation 1:5)

- **APOSTASY AND CRUELTY TREATED ALIKE.**
 - **God condemned:**
 - **The heathens**
for their cruelty
 - **Judah** and **Israel**
for their
apostasy from the Law
 - Their judgments were
basically the same!

- **THE STANDARDS TO WHICH NATIONS WERE HELD ACCOUNTABLE.**
 - **The heathen were judged**
for their violation of
basic life principles
of righteousness
 - **The people of God**
were judged by
their faithfulness
to God's revealed Word!
 - Mirrors what Paul wrote in
Romans 2:12-15

- It was inconceivable to them that their God would punish them for wickedness,
 - God was thought to be their protector always, no matter what they did.
- It was surely a difficult task which Amos discharged in "getting through" to the people with that attitude.

- It was this difficulty which led him to authentication of his message in

Amos 3:3-6.

Can **two** walk together, except they be agreed?

- **3:4** Will a **lion** roar in the forest, when he hath no prey? ...
- **3:5** Can a **bird** fall in a snare upon the earth, where no snare is for him? ...
- **3:6** Shall a **trumpet** be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? ...

- **Can a prophet remain silent when God speaks?**
(**Amos 3:7-8**)

- The Lord does nothing
unless

He reveals it by one of His prophets.

- **Like a lion that has roared**
God has spoken
and Amos must prophesy!
(**Amos 1:2**)

- Concerning Israel's coming punishment:
- Only a remnant will survive.
 - Of those who dwell in luxury,
like a piece of
lamb's ear
left over after being
ravaged by a lion.
(Amos 3:12)

- **Concerning Israel's coming punishment:**

- Destruction will come upon
the altars of Bethel
(Jeroboam's idolatry)
(**Amos 3:14**)

- Destruction will befall their luxurious homes.

Amos 3:15

***And I will smite
the winter house
with the summer house;***

- ***and the houses of ivory shall perish,***
- ***and the great houses shall have an end,
saith the LORD.***

- **Three Sermons Of Judgment**
(**Amos 3:1–6:14**)
 - **# 1** The first sermon:
Israel's Present
(**3:1–15**).
 - **# 2** The second sermon:
Israel's Past
(**4:1–13**).
 - **# 3** The third sermon:
Israel's Future
(**5:1–6:14**).

- **Five Visions Of Judgment**
(Amos 7:1–9:10)
 - **# 1 Vision
of the Locusts**
(**Amos 7:13**).
 - **# 2 Vision
of Fire**
(**Amos 7:46**).
 - **# 3 Vision
of the Plumb Line**
(**Amos 7:79**).

- **# 4** Vision of **the Summer Fruit**
(Amos 8:114).

- **# 5** Vision of the **Righteous Remnant**
(Amos 9:10).

- **THE VISION OF THE LOCUSTS**

(**Amos 7:1-3**)

- The vision and the **Lord's response** to Amos' prayer...
- The Lord shows Amos **a swarm of locusts** devastating the crops
- **Amos prays in their behalf.**
- The Lord **hears**, and **relents** so that the locust plague will not happen

- **The meaning of the vision.**
 - **The judgment is averted**
by the pleading of the prophet
 - **It is reminiscent of**
what we saw in Joel:
- How the nation's repentance
averted the
reoccurrence
of the
"locust invasion"
(Joel 2:1-24)

- We will now focus our attention on the **“Five Visions”** of Amos.
(Amos 7:1-9:15)

- **THE VISION OF THE FIRE**
(**Amos 7:4-6**)
 - The Lord shows Amos **a fire consuming** **the "great deep"** and the territory.
 - Once again **Amos cries out** in behalf of Jacob (Israel)
 - **The Lord again hears,** and relents from His anger.

- **The meaning of the vision...**
 - A great disaster representing **some type of Godly judgment.**
 - Whatever judgment it represents **is also averted by the prayer of Amos.**

- **THE VISION OF THE PLUMB LINE**

(**Amos 7:7-9**)

- **The vision**

and the

- **Lord's explanation...**

- The Lord is standing on a wall with a plumb line in hand.

- The plumb-line was **a symbol both:**

- **Building**

- and

- **destruction.**

- The Lord will now bring destruction upon:

The places of idolatrous worship

"high places"

and

"sanctuaries".

(**Amos 7:9**)

- **"idol-temples"**
at Dan, Bethel, Gilgal
(**1 Kings 12:29, Amos 4:4**),
- The house of Jeroboam
the ruling king of Israel.
(**Amos 7:9**)

- The meaning of the vision...
 - A plumb line is used to measure the correctness of any construction.
 - God has measured Israel, and found her so defective that He cannot overlook her anymore.
 - The judgment will involve destruction of her religious and political leaders.

- **THE VISION OF THE SUMMER FRUIT**
(Amos 8:1-14)

- Amos is shown a **basket of summer fruit.**
(evidently quite ripened)
- The Lord reveals **that Israel's end is near,**
and is ripe for judgment.

- Once again,
the nature of Israel's sin
is described.
(**Amos 8:4-6**)
- **Oppression**
of the poor and needy.
(**Amos 2:6-7**)
- **Disdain for religious observances,**
because they hinder economic enterprise
(**Amos 8:5**)
- **Dishonest economic practices,**
to further abuse the poor and needy.
(**Amos 8:6**)

- The nature of Israel's judgment is described.
(**Amos 8:7-14**)
- **A day of mourning is coming.**
(**Amos 8:7-10**)
 - **A day of famine**
for the word of God
is coming.
(**Amos 8:11-12**)
- **Those who trust in idolatry**
will fall and never rise again.
(**Amos 8:13-14**)

- **THE VISION OF THE LORD BY THE ALTAR**

(Amos 9:1-10)

- **The false altar shall be destroyed,**
and none shall escape.

(Amos 9:1-4)

- **Possibly an earthquake.**

(Amos 9:5-6)

- Israel has become
little different

than the heathen nations.

(Amos 9:8-10)

- The careful nature of the Lord's judgment.
(Amos 9:8-10)
 - "Jewish kingdom"
will be utterly destroyed
 - But the "house of Jacob" will not
 - The righteous remnant
will be spared,
as grain sifted in a sieve
(Amos 9:9).
 - But the unrighteous
shall not escape,
despite their claims to the contrary.
(Amos 9:10)

- **A GLIMPSE OF A BRIGHTER FUTURE.**

(**Amos 9:11-15**)

- The restoration of **the tabernacle of David** is foretold,

- In which even the remnant of **Edom** and **Gentiles** who are called by His name are possessed.

(**Amos 9:11-12**)

- The restoration is described in terms of **agricultural abundance.**

(**Amos 9:13-15**)

- **James applied the**
fulfillment of this prophecy
to the Lord's church
and the inclusion of the Gentiles
by the gospel.
(**Acts 15:13-17**)
- So the prophecy
is figurative.
 - Given in terms
especially comforting
to those of Amos' day.
- Yet actually referring
to spiritual blessings
found in Christ today!

- **A SUMMARY OF LESSONS GLEANED FROM AMOS CONCERNING GOD.**

- He rules over the nations, and holds them accountable.
(**Amos 1-2**).

- His omnipotence may be seen in:

- His acts of creation.
(**Amos 4:3; 5:8**)

- His control over the forces of nature.
(**Amos 4:6-11**)

- His supremacy over the nations.
(**Amos 1-2**)

- **His omnipresence**
is plainly taught.
(**Amos 9:2-4**),
 - And His Infinite
knowledge and **power**.
(**Amos 4:13**)
- **The righteousness of God**
is constantly emphasized
by Amos.
(**Amos 5:24**)

- **In Amos 8:11-12,**
we read of a famine
for the Word of the Lord
that would befall Israel,
- This occurred when
they were taken into
Assyrian captivity.
- Let's be sure we aren't
taken captive
by the world.

- Let's be sure
that we
do not experience
a self-imposed famine
of the Word
by neglecting to study
and learn from
prophets like
Amos!

- **Think on these things**
- **Philippians 4:8**

**The doors of the church
are open.**

**The Spirit and the Bride
Say
“Come”.**

Revelation 22:17



