

Amos + Obadiah



St. Rose Community Church EQUIP

Amos

Amos 1:1

The words of Amos, who was among the shepherds of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

History/Context

Who is Amos?

A **shepherd** from Judah

A **prophet** to Israel

Lived during the reign of **Jeroboam II** in Israel and
Uzziah in Judah

History/Context

Israel at this Time

Economically **thriving**

Economic prosperity → **oppression** of the poor and
idolization

Structure of Amos

- Oracles against the nations
- Warning to Israel
- Judgement through Visions

Warnings against the Nations

Prophecies against surrounding nations

1:3 against Damascus

1:6 against Gaza

1:9 against Tyre

1:11 against Edom

1:13 against Ammon

2:1 against Moab

2:4 against Judah

Warnings against the Nations

Prophecies against surrounding nations

The surrounding nations are judged for **war crimes**

God's kingship is not **exclusive** to Israel but extends to **all nations.**

Judgement against Israel

Shift in 2:6

Thus says the Lord:

“For three transgressions of Israel,
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment...”

Judgement Speeches against Israel

Amos writes in the form of **prophetic lawsuit**

Plaintiff and defendant established (3:1)

Past relationship and breach in relationship (3:1-2)

Cross examines the defendant (3:3-6)

Witnesses called in (3:9)

Israel sentenced to judgement (3:10-15)

Judgement against Israel

Categories of Israel's sins

Social and political injustice

Religious sins

Judgement against Israel

Social and Political Injustice

2:6-7 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

Judgement against Israel

Social and Political Injustice

4:1 “Hear this word, you cows of Bashan,
who are on the mountain of Samaria,
who oppress the poor, who crush the needy,
who say to your husbands, ‘Bring, that we may drink!’

Judgement against Israel

Social and Political Injustice

5:10 “They hate him who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor him who speaks the truth.”

5:12 “you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and turn aside the needy in the gate.”

Judgement against Israel

Social and Political Injustice

Deuteronomy 15:11 “..Therefore, I command you, ‘You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy, and to the poor in your land.’”

Judgement against Israel

Social and Political Injustice

James 1:27 “Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.”

Judgement against Israel

Religious Sins

Amos 2:12 “But you made the Nazarites drink wine,
and commanded the prophets,
saying, ‘You shall not prophesy.’”

Judgement against Israel

Religious Sins

Amos 2:7-8

“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.”

Judgement against Israel

God's election heightens personal responsibility

Amos 3:2

“You only have I known
of all the families of the earth;
therefore I will punish you
for all your iniquities.

Judgement against Israel

We are called to live lives worthy of the gospel

1 Peter 3:12

“For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
and his ears are open to their prayer.

But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

God's Judgement through Visions

God gives Amos five visions

1. Locust Plague
2. Fire/Drought
3. A Plumb Line
4. A fruit Basket
5. Israel's Destruction

Vision of the Plumb Line

Amos 7:7-9

7 This is what he showed me: behold, the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. **8** And the Lord said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said, “Behold, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass by them; **9** the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”





Vision of the Plumb Line

A symbol of **God's measure of righteousness**

A city built with walls that are not plumb cannot expect to **remain standing**. Similarly, sinful people cannot expect to remain **in right standing before God**.

Jesus made a way to **restore** right relationship with God.

We can be declared righteous through repentance and faith in Jesus.

Amos Ends with a Promise of **Salvation**

Amos 5:14-15

14 Seek good, and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, as you have said. **15** Hate evil, and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Promise of Salvation Despite Sinfulness

Amos 9:11

11 “In that day I will raise up the booth of David that is fallen and repair its breaches, and raise up its ruins and rebuild it as in the days of old,

Amos 9:14-15

14 I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel, and they shall rebuild the ruined cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine, and they shall make gardens and eat their fruit. **15** I will plant them on their land, and they shall never again be uprooted out of the land that I have given them,” says the Lord your God.

Promise of Salvation Despite Sinfulness

God is just and **merciful** in his judgement

Amos 9:12 "...that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations who are called by my name," declares the Lord who does this."

Promise of Salvation Despite Sinfulness

Acts 15:16-17

15 And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written,**16**“After this I will return, and I will rebuild the tent of David that has fallen; will rebuild its ruins, and I will restore it, that the remnant of mankind may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who are called by my name, says the Lord, who makes these things **18** known from of old.’

God’s mercy extends to all who **place faith** in Christ.

Obadiah

History/Context

Obadiah is a prophet to **Edom—a gentile nation**

- Amos 9:12 “that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations who are called by my name, declares the Lord who does this.”

History/Context

Esau

- Firstborn
- Gave up birthright
- Lost the blessing
- Descendants
become Edomites

Jacob

- Born second
- Traded birthright
- Took Esau's blessing
- Descendants
become Judah

History/Context

- **Blessing to Jacob** “Let peoples serve you, and nations bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers, and may your mother's sons bow down to you. Cursed be everyone who curses you and blessed be everyone who blesses you!”
- **Curse to Esau** “Behold, away from^[b] the fatness of the earth shall your dwelling be and away from^[c] the dew of heaven on high. ⁴⁰ By your sword you shall live, and you shall serve your brother; but when you grow restless you shall break his yoke from your neck.”

History/Context

Edom and Judah have a long history. Edom was consistently **cruel and oppressive** to Judah.

Amos 1:11 “because he pursued his brother with the sword and cast off all pity.”

Three Sections of Obadiah

- The sentence of coming destruction
- The charge against Edom: oppressing God's people
- The day of the Lord

God Promises to **Judge** Edom

1:2 Behold, I will make you small among the nations; you shall be utterly despised.

1:4 Though you soar aloft like the eagle, though your nest is set among the stars, from there I will bring you down, declares the Lord.

Edom is sentenced to **destruction**.

God Promises to Judge Edom

Obadiah 1:8-9

“Will I not on that day, declares the Lord, destroy the wise men out of Edom, and understanding out of Mount Esau? And your mighty men shall be dismayed, O Teman, so that every man from Mount Esau will be cut off by slaughter.”

God Promises to Judge Edom

God promises that he will **judge** Edom.

God's kingship and divine judgement is **for all**.

God's Reasons for Judging Edom

God is judging Edom for **pride** and **oppression of God's people**.

1:3 The pride of your heart has deceived you,

you who live in the clefts of the rock,

in your lofty dwelling,

who say in your heart,

“Who will bring me down to the ground?”

Though the Edomites felt invincible, God promises to **bring them down**.

God's Reasons for Judging Edom

God announces judgement on a gentile nation **specifically for how they treated God's people.**

1:10-11 “Because of the violence done to your brother Jacob, shame shall cover you, and you shall be cut off forever. On the day that you stood aloof, on the day that strangers carried off his wealth and foreigners entered his gates and cast lots for Jerusalem, you were like one of them.”

The Day of the Lord

- Judgement is coming on **Edom**.
- Judgement is coming on **all**.

The Day of the Lord

Judah is a symbol of Jesus.

Edom is a symbol of sin, death, & Satan.

<u>Judah & Edom</u>	<u>Jesus & Sin, Death, and Satan</u>
v.17—holy	Acts 3:14—Jesus is the Holy One
v.18—will burn and consume them, they shall be as though they had never been v.16--Edom will be as though they had never been	Revelation 20:10—Satan is thrown into the lake of burning sulfur Hebrews 2:14—through death he might destroy death and Satan Revelation 21:4—death shall be no more
v.21—Judah will rule over Mount Esau	Psalm 9:7—Jesus is enthroned forever

Takeaways

1. Beware of prosperity that causes you to not rely on the Lord.
2. Share the Gospel with those around you.
3. Be encouraged that God wins.

Discussion

- Is there anything that you value or are tempted to value above God? Pray to seek God first.
- Talk about opportunities that you have to share the Gospel with others. Pray for them.
- Discuss scriptures that come to mind to show that God is the ultimate victor. Praise God for this through prayer.

To Do

Watch the Bible Project Overview of both Jonah and Micah
Jonah and Micah

Memorize Jonah 3:10 and Micah 6:8