

Old Testament Survey

Amos

Introduction

- Amos was a herdsman (sheep breeder) and farmer from Tekoa (10 miles south of Jerusalem) whose name means “_____.” He did not have formal recognition as a prophet nor was he the son of a prophet (7:14-15).
- Although Amos is from Judah, his primary audience is the _____.

It is a time of political peace and prosperity. The Assyrian Empire has a series of weak kings enabling Israel to reestablish control of critical trade routes building their economic wealth.

While they increased financially the nation was declining spiritually. Immorality, idolatry, injustice, and superficial religion characterized the spiritual climate.

Worship attendance was up but righteousness was down.

- Amos is one of four 8th century prophets preaching around _____ BC (Isaiah and Micah preaching in Judah; Amos and Hosea in Israel).
- The Book of Amos can be divided into two parts:

The _____ of Amos (chapters 1-6) - “Hear this word...” 3:1; 4:1; 5:1

The _____ of Amos (chapters 7-9) – Five specific visions

Key Passages

- Judgment on the nations (chapters 1-2): Amos strategically denounces all the nations that surround Israel but purposefully keeps his strongest rebuke to the last.

Syria, Philistia, Phoenicia, Edom, Ammon, Moab, Judah.....Israel

- The sins of Israel (chapters 3-4): Bribery, greed, adultery, immorality, drunkenness

Amos 4:1-12

- The plea for _____ (chapter 5): **Amos 5:4-6; 14-15; 21-24**

- The example of _____ (chapter 7): Amaziah is the priest at Bethel. Bethel was a major worship center for the Northern Kingdom that had become spiritually diluted.

Ex. Puritan Congregations at Plymouth, Mass

Amos 7:10-17

- The rescue of a _____ (chapter 9): Despite the certainty of pending judgment, God would remain faithful to His covenant. He would preserve His promise to Israel.

Amos 9:11-15

Obadiah

- Obadiah means “_____ of God.” There are 13 different individuals in the Old Testament with this name.
- It is the shortest of all the OT books (21 verses) and is not quoted in the New Testament.
- The content is a strong message of judgment against _____ (Region south of Judah). No nation was spoken against more often than the nation of Edom. Two primary sins:
 1. P_____ (v. 1-4)
 2. P_____ in the destruction of Jerusalem (v. 10-14) – While the Babylonians were destroying the city (586 BC) Edom both aided and encouraged its demise.

Psalm 137:7

The long history of tension between Edom and Israel began in the womb of Rebekah between Esau (Edom) and Jacob (Israel) **Gen 25:21-26**

The continual tension is a picture of the clash between flesh/spirit.

- Although it is a message _____ the judgment of Edom, it is actually a message _____ the people of Israel. It was a message of encouragement.
 1. It was a _____ that God will bring judgment on all nations that oppose Him and His people (v. 15) – **Psalm 2**
 2. It was a _____ that God would remember and restore all of Israel to her possession (v. 17).