

SIXTY-SIX BOOKS

Amos

Sunday, September 3, 2023

Author: Amos, a herdsman and farmer from Tekoa in Judah

Recipients: The northern kingdom of Israel during the time of the divided kingdom.

Setting: Approximately 760 B.C. during the reign of Jeroboam II during a the height of prosperity and military might of the northern kingdom.

Relation to other Prophets: Written after Obadiah, Joel and Jonah, but shortly before Hosea, Isaiah and Micah. Written 100-350 years before the remaining prophetic books of the Old Testament. Amos was the first writing prophet to the northern kingdom (followed by Hosea).

Theme: The Nature of God's Judgement

Theme Verse: Amos 1:2 "**Yahweh roars from Zion and from Jerusalem He gives further his voice**"

Purpose: Amos presents the causes of Israel's approaching judgement. God is merciful and patient, but his justice and righteousness will not allow sin to go unpunished indefinitely, and he urges Israel to seek Yahweh, to return to Him and live, and to repent from their false worship and injustice.

Outline

I. Yahweh's Impartial Judgment (1-2)

- a. Introduction (1:1-2)
- b. Eight Judgments (1:3-2:16)
 - i. Damascus/Arameans (1:3-5).
 - ii. Gaza/Philistines (1:6-8)
 - iii. Tyre (1:9-10)
 - iv. Edom (1:11-12)
 - v. Ammon (1:13-15)
 - vi. Moab (2:1-3)
 - vii. Judah (2:4-5)
 - viii. Israel (2:6-16)

II. Yahweh's Just Judgment (3-6)

- a. Three Messages (3:1-5:17)
 - i. Israel's Guilt Demonstrated (3:1-15)
 - ii. Israel's Pattern of Obstinacy (4:1-13)
 - iii. Israel's Neglected Opportunity (5:1-17)
- b. Woeful Destruction (5:18-6:14)
 - i. Two Woes (5:18-6:7)
 - ii. Certainty by God's Oath (6:8)
 - iii. Extensiveness of the Woe (6:9-11)
 - iv. Certainty of Woe by Wickedness (6:12-14)

III. Yahweh's Measured Judgment (7-9)

- a. Four Visions – Mercy and Justice (7:1-8:14)
 - i. Vision of Locust (7:1-3)
 - ii. Vision of Consuming Fire (7:4-6)
 - iii. Vision of Plum Line (7:7-17)
 - iv. Vision of Summer Fruit (8:1-14)
- b. One Different Vision – Punishment and Restoration
 - i. Punishment (9:1-4)
 - ii. God and His Proclamation – Punishment and Restoration (9:5-10)
 - iii. Restoration (9:11-15)