

I. INTRODUCTION

A. The prophet Amos give us more information about himself, his date of writing, and his purpose, than Hosea or Joel.

B. Amos's earthquake – AMOS 1:1-2

1. A Magnitude 8+ Event is archaeologically evident to have taken place in about 750 B.C.
2. Archaeologists have dated it within about 30 years of its occurrence.
3. ICR's web site has great details about this earthquake including the map seen here. It was an epic event.
4. "Earthquake evidence is seen prominently at Hazor, Israel's largest ancient city. In excavations beginning in 1955 by archaeologist Yigael Yadin, twenty-two successive cities were discovered to have been built on top of each other.² Excavations in Hazor's Stratum VI revealed tilted walls, inclined pillars, and collapsed houses." (ICR)
5. Josephus mentioned this earthquake.
6. The Hebrew word for "earthquake" means "to roar." (Ref. Amos 1:1-2)
7. Note the word "shake" in Amos 9:1
8. Zech 14:5 mentions this earthquake – "ye shall flee, like as ye fled from before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah"

C. The theme of Amos is "Impending Judgment"

D. Outline of Amos

1. Judgment of the Nations (Ch. 1-2)
2. Judgment of Israel (Ch. 3-6)
3. Visions of Restored Kingdom (Ch. 7-9)

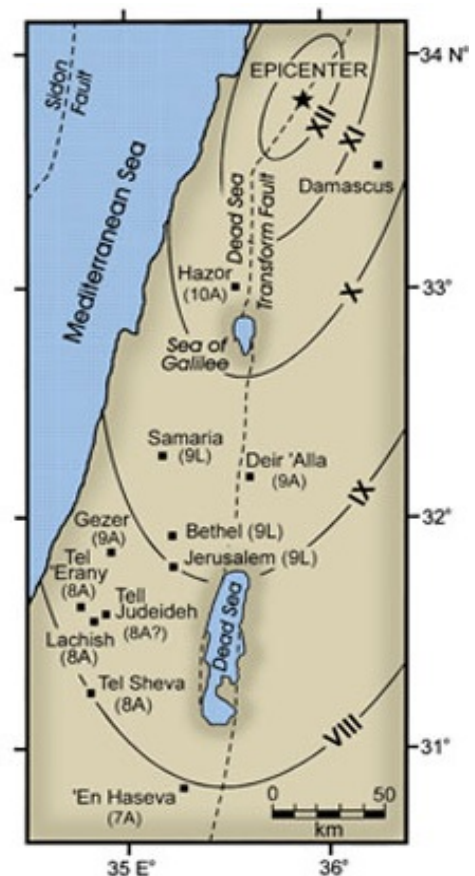
E. Amos wrote during the reign of Uzziah (Azariah) and Jeroboam II.. This was about 760 B.C. (Unger says 765 to 750 B.C.). The Northern Kingdom fell about 30 years later.

F. Amos was a layman – only a herd man in his words (Amos 7:14)

1. God chose an ordinary man to give his message to priests and kings
2. Amos had no particular credentials, until his prophesied earthquake became a reality.

G. Amos was from Tekoa, a small city about twelve miles South of Jerusalem, but he was sent to the Northern Kingdom of Israel and its religious capital Bethel. (1:1)

1. The word "tekoa" means, "stockade."



Map showing the locations of damaged cities and the earthquake's probable epicenter.

- 2. It was built by Rehoboam (see II Chron 11:6), as was Bethlehem
- H. Messianic prophecy in Amos
 - 1. The darkening of the sun at noon (Matt 27:45 ref. Amos 8:9)

II. TOUR OF THE REGION TO BE PUNISHED

- A. Am 1:3 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of **Damascus**, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron:
- B. Am 1:6 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of **Gaza**, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they carried away captive the whole captivity, to deliver them up to Edom:
- C. Am 1:9 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of **Tyrus**, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they delivered up the whole captivity to Edom, and remembered not the brotherly covenant:
- D. Am 1:11 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of **Edom**, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he did pursue his brother with the sword, and did cast off all pity, and his anger did tear perpetually, and he kept his wrath for ever:
- E. Am 1:13 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of the children of **Ammon**, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have ripped up the women with child of Gilead, that they might enlarge their border:
- F. Am 2:1 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of **Moab**, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because he burned the bones of the king of Edom into lime:
- G. Am 2:4 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of **Judah**, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have despised the law of the LORD, and have not kept his commandments, and their lies caused them to err, after the which their fathers have walked:
- H. Am 2:6 Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of **Israel**, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they sold the righteous for



silver, and the poor for a pair of shoes;

III. THE JUDGEMENT OF THE NATIONS, JUDAH, AND ISRAEL

- A. In Amos 1, and the first part of Amos 2, the LORD declares that He will punish the nations surrounding Israel.
- B. Surely when God said he would judge Damascus, the Philistines, Tyre, Moab, Edom, and Ammon, the Israelites were glad to hear it. When He said He would judge them, their opinion would have been quite different.
- C. The Judgment of Israel
 - 1. In Amos 3:1, the LORD declares that He is addressing “the whole family which he brought from Egypt.” This includes Judah.
 - 2. In Chapter 3, The LORD details two reasons that Israel is being judged
 - a. Because of its privileged status
 - (1) “You only have I known” 3:2
 - b. Because of its idolatry
 - (1) “The altars of Bethel” 3:14

IV. PREPARE TO MEET THY GOD (4:12) – Chapter 4

- A. For luxury at the expense of the poor – the “kine of Bashan” are the people living in luxury (4:1)
- B. For ritual sacrifice that means nothing to God (4:4-5)
- C. For ignoring prior judgment from the Lord (4:6-11)

V. JUDGMENT FORETOLD FOR ISRAEL – Chapter 5, 6

- A. A chance to repent – Amos 5:5 & 6 “Seek ye me, and ye shall live.”
- B. That taken from the poor will not profit you (Amos 5:11)
- C. Seek good and hate evil (Amos 5:14,15)
- D. Wailing shall come (Amos 5:16-20)
- E. The LORD’s hatred for their empty religion (Amos 5:21-27)
- F. Those at ease (6:1, 4, 5, 6) will be the first taken captive (6:7)
- G. The ten tribes will be judged (6:9) by the enemy God has raised up (6:14)

VI. THE VISIONS OF AMOS

- A. A vision of famine which Amos prevented (7:1-6)
- B. A vision of a plumb line on a wall (7:7-9)
 - 1. When a wall is crooked, the only solution is to tear it down and start over
- C. An interlude of complaint (7:10-17)
 - 1. Amaziah accused Amos of conspiring against Israel
 - 2. Amaziah is cursed (7:17)
- D. A vision of a basket of summer fruit (8:1-3)
 - 1. When fruit is rotten, all you can do is throw it out
- E. The vision of the Lord standing upon the altar (9:1-10)
 - 1. Could “shaking” refer to the earthquake?
- F. The vision of a Restored Israel (9:11-15)

CHAPTERS 1 & 2
"EIGHT DOOMS"

1. DAMASCUS 1:3-5
2. GAZA 1:6-8
3. TYRUS 1:9-11
4. EDOM 1:11-12
5. AMMON 1:12-15
6. MOAB 2:1-3
7. JUDAH 2:4-5
8. ISRAEL 2:6-

"BURDEN BEARER"

AMOS

c. 765-755

JUDGMENT STILL AWAITS
THOSE WHO WORSHIP AT
THEIR SHRINES BUT WHO
IGNORE THE ALMIGHTY

CHAPTERS 3-6:
"FIVE SERMONS"

- 3:1 "HEAR THIS WORD...
CAN TWO WALK TOGETHER
EXCEPT THEY BE AGREED?"
- 4:1 "HEAR THIS WORD...
PREPARE TO MEET THY GOD!"
- 5:1 "HEAR THIS WORD...
SEEK YE THE LORD."
- 5:18 "WOE UNTO YOU... WHO
WORSHIP WITHOUT RIGHTEOUS-
NESS
- 6:1 "WOE TO THEM... WHO ARE
AFTER SELF-GRATIFICATION."

KEY VSS. 4:11-12; 9:14

CHAPTERS 7-9:6
"FIVE VISIONS"

1. LOCUSTS - 7:1
2. FIRE - 7:4
3. PLUMBLINE - 7:7

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HISTORICAL  
INTERLUDE  
7:10 - 17

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4. SUMMER-FRUIT - 8:1
  5. LORD STANDING ON THE ALTAR 9:1

THREE PROMISES 9:7-15

1. I WILL DESTROY THE SINFUL KINGDOM 9:7-10
2. I WILL RAISE DAVID'S FALLEN BOOTH 9:11-12
3. I WILL RESTORE THE PROMISE 9:13-15



