

## AMOS

Written by Amos around 750 B.C

-lived during the same time as Jonah

Written as a warning to Israel (Northern kingdom) about God's impending judgment

Amos was not a priest like Ezekiel, but a country boy

-a shepherd and grower of sycamore figs

### Ch. 1 and 2

-announcements of God's judgment

-Basically all of Ch. 1 and 2 are God listing the reasons why he will punish the people

### Ch. 3-6

-describe the reasons for God's judgment and God pleading with them to repent

-He tells them pretty much what Hosea did

**Amo 5:21** "I hate, I reject your festivals, Nor do I delight in your solemn assemblies.

**Amo 5:22** "Even though you offer up to Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept *them*; And I will not *even* look at the peace offerings of your fatlings.

**Amo 5:23** "Take away from Me the noise of your songs; I will not even listen to the sound of your harps.

-they were still performing their religious rituals, but they had no meaning

-they were not worshipping God, just going through the motions

-Jesus warned His disciples of the same thing

**Mat 6:5** "When you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full.

**Mat 6:6** "But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees *what is done* in secret will reward you.

**Mat 6:7** "And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words.

-our flesh tells us "we need to do something for God"

-God says

**Hos 6:6** For I delight in loyalty rather than sacrifice, And in the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

## Ch. 7-9

-Amos' visions of judgment

- visions of their farmland being devoured by locusts, fire
- Amos intercedes and the Lord relents

## Interesting verse in Ch. 8

**Amo 8:11** "Behold, days are coming," declares the Lord GOD, "When I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine for bread or a thirst for water, But rather for hearing the words of the LORD.

-in some ways, I think we are seeing that famine now

- Not that there is a shortage of the Word of God
- but a shortage of people who know and understand the Word
- when you think of a famine, what do people do
- like we saw in Lamentations, when people get hungry enough, they will eat anything
- Since so many people don't get the pure milk of the word, as Peter says, they begin to starve spiritually
- and to satisfy that craving, they will eat just about anything that sounds spiritual

-this is why so many people fall prey to groups like Jehovah's witness, Mormonism, or even some "Christian denominations with strange practices

- we wonder "how could a thousand average men, women and children follow a guy named Jim Jones to Guyana and drink cyanide-laced kool-aid"
- or why would 100 people follow a guy named David Koresh into a compound where they would later be burned to death in a raid?
  - it's because the people don't know the word
  - and when you are starving spiritually, you will devour anything that sounds and looks spiritual

Amos closes with God telling the people that Israel will be reduced to a very small number

-but that He would restore the remnant to its former glory

**Amo 9:13** "Behold, days are coming," declares the LORD, "When the plowman will overtake the reaper And the treader of grapes him who sows seed; When the mountains will drip sweet wine And all the hills will be dissolved.

## Jesus Type:

### Amos prophesies of the crucifixion:

**Amo 8:9** "It will come about in that day," declares the Lord GOD, "That I will make the sun go down at noon And make the earth dark in broad daylight.

**Amo 8:10** "Then I will turn your festivals into mourning And all your songs into lamentation; And I will bring sackcloth on everyone's loins And baldness on every head. And I will make it like *a time of* mourning for an only son, And the end of it will be like a bitter day.