



THE BOOK OF

# AMOS

*...a verse by verse study*

# Amos' Message

- The promised judgments of eight nations
  - Chapters 1–2
- The guilt and punishment of Israel
  - Chapters 3–6
- The symbols of approaching judgment
  - Chapters 7:1 – 9:10
- The future restoration of Israel
  - Chapters 9:11–15

# Amos

- *“Amos, a shepherd and tender of sycamore trees, was happily going about his business one day when the call of God came upon him. Now, at a moment like that you can either choose to run (Jonah style – that didn’t end well!), or you can try and ignore the call (that’s what many do – but then they lose out on an opportunity to serve God, and that moment will be lost forever), or they can choose, like Amos, to obey.*

# God's Divine Order

- *“The spiritual saint never believes circumstances to be haphazard, or thinks of his life as secular and sacred; he sees everything he is dumped down in as the means of securing the knowledge of Jesus Christ. There is a reckless abandonment about him. The Holy Spirit is determined that we shall realize Jesus Christ in every domain of life, and He will bring us back to the same point again and again until we do.”*

– Oswald Chambers

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- Oswald Chambers



THE BOOK OF

# AMOS

*Chapter 8*

# Amos' 4 Visions

- *“Amos, having effectively disposed of the interruption by Amaziah, proceeded to deliver his sermon. The first four visions actually occur in pairs, the two first being of disasters averted through prayer, and the next two announcing the summary and forthcoming end of Israel, the first of these (the third) having already been delivered. This fourth one, therefore (Amos 8:1-3) is not a recapitulation of the third, nor the introduction of any startling new element. Amos' denunciation continued as if nothing had occurred. "Notwithstanding the interference of Amaziah, the prophet finishes the recital of his visions.”*

- J Coffman

<sup>1</sup> Thus hath the Lord God shewed unto me: and behold a basket of summer fruit.

<sup>2</sup> And he said, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A basket of summer fruit. Then said the Lord unto me, The end is come upon my people of Israel; I will not again pass by them any more.

<sup>3</sup> And the songs of the temple shall be howlings in that day, saith the Lord God: there shall be many dead bodies in every place; they shall cast them forth with silence.

**Amos 8:1-3**



4 Hear this, O ye that swallow up the needy,  
even to make the poor of the land to fail,

5 Saying, When will the new moon be gone, that we  
may sell corn? and the sabbath, that we may set forth  
wheat, making the ephah small, and the shekel great,  
and falsifying the balances by deceit?

6 That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy  
for a pair of shoes; yea, and sell the refuse of the  
wheat?

**Amos 8:4-6**

7 The Lord hath sworn by the excellency of Jacob,  
Surely I will never forget any of their works.

8 Shall not the land tremble for this, and every one  
mourn that dwelleth therein? and it shall rise up  
wholly as a flood; and it shall be cast out and drowned,  
as by the flood of Egypt.

9 And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord  
God, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon,  
and I will darken the earth in the clear day:

**Amos 8:7-9**

# Prophesied Eclipses?

- God here prophesied that the sun would go down at noon and 'darken the earth in a clear day'
- Is this just a figure of speech?
- It might simply be that because of the desolation and devastation of their enemies it would be like saying "*Oh, the sun really set on me yesterday.*" i.e. that the gloom and the sorrow overcame you.

# Prophesied Eclipses?

- However, Amos may of actually been predicting eclipses that took place in Israel within twenty years.
- Bishop Usher records three eclipses that took place in succeeding years.
- Each of them on the feast days:
  - The 1<sup>st</sup> on the Feast of Pentecost,
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Feast of Trumpets the following year,
  - Then a third the following year again on the Feast of Pentecost.

<sup>10</sup> And I will turn your feasts into mourning,  
and all your songs into lamentation;  
and I will bring up sackcloth upon all loins,  
and baldness upon every head;  
and I will make it as the mourning of an only son,  
and the end thereof as a bitter day.

**Amos 8:10**

# A Day of Mourning

- *“However, we do read of one day which was a feast day, the Feast of Passover, in which it turned dark at noon on a clear day. It could not have been an eclipse, because Passover takes place at full moon, and it's impossible to have an eclipse on a full moon. That was the day that Jesus was crucified. You remember how it declares that darkness covered the land from the ninth hour onward, sixth hour there was darkness over the land? This could be a prophecy of that darkness of that time of the crucifixion of Christ. The sun to go down at noon and darken the earth on a clear day and turn the feast into mourning, the songs into lamentations, to bring up the sackcloth and all the loins. Baldness, which was a shaving of the head in grief over the dead”.*

– Chuck Smith

<sup>11</sup> Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, **but of hearing the words of the Lord:**

<sup>12</sup> And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it.

**Amos 8:11-12**

- Why did they not find it?
- Didn't Jesus say 'seek and you will find'?
- We have already been given the reason...
- They did not want to hear
- They had heaped up to themselves teachers to say what their itching ears wanted to hear!

# A Famine of Hearing God's Word

- I believe that we are living in those days where there is a famine for the Word of God. The paradox is that there was probably never more Bibles in print at any time in the history of the world than there is now, and more versions, and in more languages. The famine for the Word of God is that people would no longer be hearing the Word of God. It isn't that God isn't any longer speaking. It doesn't mean that the Word of God isn't there. It means that people are no longer hearing the Word of God. - Chuck Smith



# A Famine of Hearing God's Word

- 7x in Revelation Jesus said 'he that has ears let him hear'
- There is a difference between 'hearing' and understanding!
- *"God's hand is not short that He cannot save, neither is His ear heavy that He cannot hear, but your sins have separated between you and God" Isaiah 59:1-2*
- If God's Word does not satisfy you, be sure that nothing else will!

**13** In that day shall the fair virgins and young men faint for thirst.

**14** They that swear by the sin of Samaria, and say, Thy god, O Dan, liveth; and, The manner of Beersheba liveth; even they shall fall, and never rise up again.

**Amos 8:13-14**



THE BOOK OF

# AMOS

*Chapter 9*

<sup>1</sup> I saw the Lord standing upon the altar: and he said, Smite the lintel of the door, that the posts may shake: and cut them in the head, all of them; and I will slay the last of them with the sword: he that fleeth of them shall not flee away, and he that escapeth of them shall not be delivered.

<sup>2</sup> Though they dig into hell, thence shall mine hand take them; though they climb up to heaven, thence will I bring them down:

**Amos 9:1-2**

- This is now Amos' 5<sup>th</sup> vision (echoes of Ps 139)
- In contrast to the pagan shrines just addressed, the focus is now on the Temple in Jerusalem!

<sup>3</sup> And though they hide themselves in the top of Carmel, I will search and take them out thence; and though they be hid from my sight in the bottom of the sea, thence will I command the serpent, and he shall bite them:

<sup>4</sup> And though they go into captivity before their enemies, thence will I command the sword, and it shall slay them: and I will set mine eyes upon them for evil, and not for good.

**Amos 9:3-4**

- At the Great White Throne judgement death & hell and the sea will all give up their dead.
- Everyone will have to give an account to God\*

5 And the Lord God of hosts is he that toucheth the land, and it shall melt, and all that dwell therein shall mourn: and it shall rise up wholly like a flood; and shall be drowned, as by the flood of Egypt.

6 It is he that buildeth his stories in the heaven, and hath founded his troop in the earth; he that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The Lord is his name.

**Amos 9:5-6**

- Reference is here made to the Red Sea and the Flood of Noah – this is the God who is pronouncing this judgment

<sup>7</sup> Are ye not as children of the Ethiopians unto me, O children of Israel? saith the Lord. Have not I brought up Israel out of the land of Egypt? and the Philistines from Caphtor, and the Syrians from Kir?

<sup>8</sup> Behold, the eyes of the Lord God are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth; saving that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob, saith the Lord.

**Amos 9:7-8**

- ‘Bene Israel’ had become as ‘Bene Cushim’
- The chosen had become as the disobedient

# Noah

Shem

Ham

Japheth

Gomer — Ashkenaz, Riphath, Togarmah.

Magog

Madai

Javan — Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, Dodanim.

Tubal

Meshech

Tiras



# Japheth

- **Gomer:** (Herodotus, Plutarch, et al):
  - Cimmerians settled along the Danube and Rhine.
  - **Ashkenaz:** Germany.
  - **Riphath:** (Josephus: Paphlagonians; "Europe" from Riphath.)
  - **Togarmah:** Armenians, Turkey, Turkestan
- **Magog:** "Scythians" (Critical to understanding Ez. 38 & 39)
  - Hesiod, Greek didactic poet, 8<sup>th</sup> cent. B.C.
  - Herodotus, "The Father of History", 5<sup>th</sup> cent. B.C.
  - The Scythians were the forbears of Russia

# Japheth

- **Madai:** Medes (Kurds)
  - Emerged about 10<sup>th</sup> cent. BC; coalition with Persia (Elam), 7<sup>th</sup> cent BC.
- **Tubal:** Eastern Anatolia (Turkey)
- **Meshech:** Eastern Anatolia (Turkey)
- **Javan:** Ionia; Greece
- **Tiras:** Pelasgians of the Aegean; the Etruscans of Italy

# Noah

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Tubal

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Tiras

British Isles?

# Japheth



# Japheth



Noah

Shem

Ham

Japheth

Gomer

Magog

Madai

Javan

Tubal

Meshech

Tiras

# Noah

Shem

Ham

Japheth

Gomer

Magog

Madai

Javan

Tubal

Meshech

Tiras

Cush

Mizraim

Phut

**Canaan**

Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, Sabtecha

Sheba  
Dedan

Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim,  
Pathrusim, Casluhim, (out of whom  
came Philistim,) Capthorim.

Sidon, Heth, the Jebusite, the Amorite,  
the Girgasite, the Hivite, the Arkite, the  
Sinite, the Arvadite, the Zemarite, and  
the Hamathite:

# Ham

- **Mizraim**: Upper & Lower Egypt
  - Philistines (“Palestinians” = not sons of Ishmael)
- **Cush**: Ethiopia, Kassites, E of Assyria  
(Settled S of the 2<sup>nd</sup> cataract of the Nile)
  - **Nimrod**: Bab-El, Erech, Accad, Calneh
- **Phut**: (Settled W of Egypt) Ethiopia, N Africa
- **Canaan**: Sidon to Gaza, Sodom, & Gomorrah
  - **Khittae** (“Cathay”)
  - **Sinites** (Sino = China)



# Ham



# Ham



# Noah

Shem

Ham

Japheth

Elam (Persia) Iran

Asshur

Arphaxad

Lud

Aram

Uz

Hul

Gether

Mash.

Salah

Eber

Cush

Mizraim

Put

Canaan

Gomer

Magog

Madai

Javan

Tubal

Meshech

Tiras

# Shem

- **Elam:** Persia (Iran)

- **Asshur**

- **Arphaxad**

Salah

Eber

Peleg (“earth divided”)

Joktan

- **Lud**

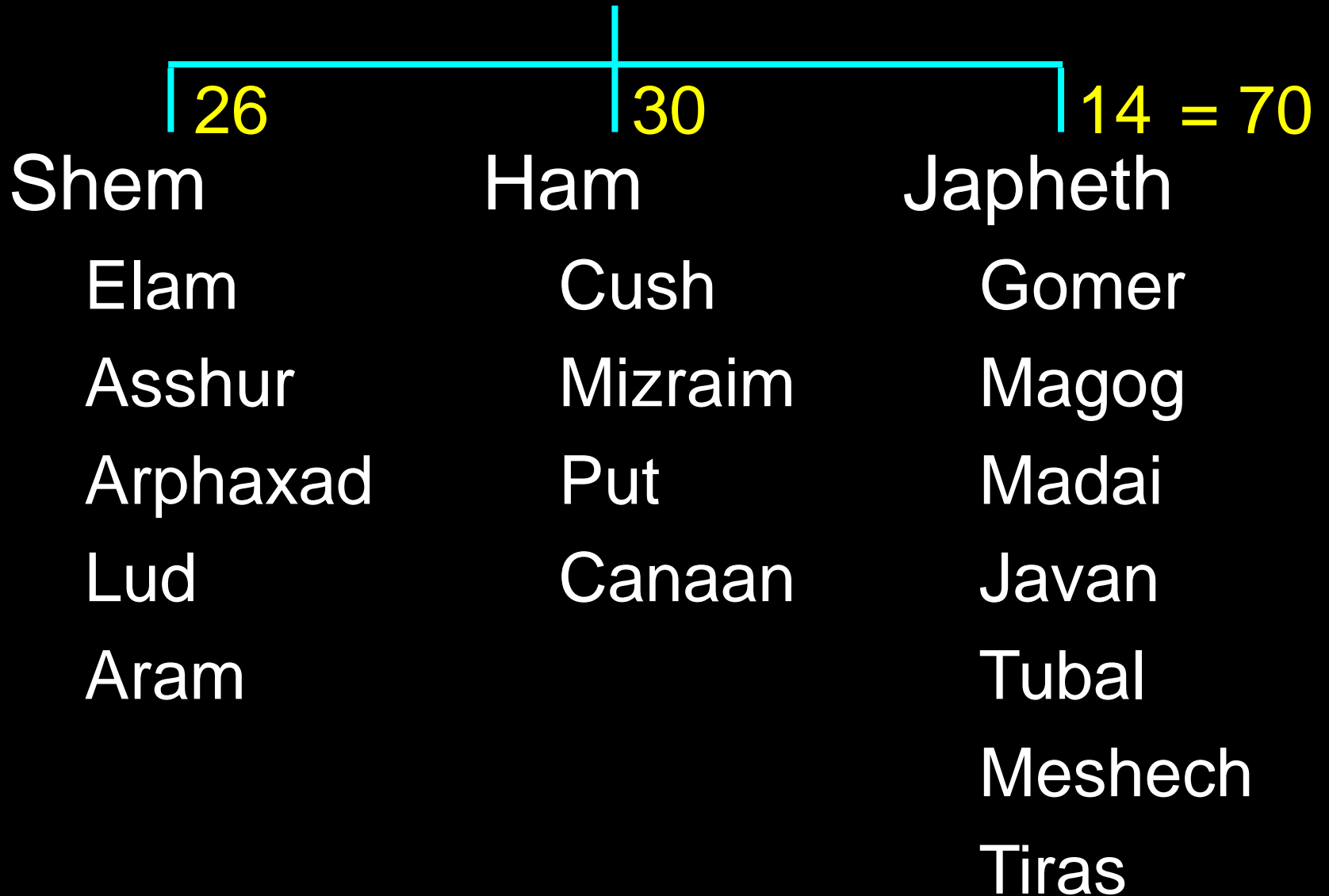
- **Aram**



# Shem



# Noah



# Dividing of the Nations

<sup>8</sup>When the most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.

**Deut 32:8**

**Deut 10:22** 70 children of Jacob go to Egypt

**Gen 10** 70 nations comprising the world's families

<sup>9</sup> For, lo, I will command, and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth.

<sup>10</sup> All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, which say, The evil shall not overtake nor prevent us.

**Amos 9:9-10**



**11** In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old:

**12** That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by my name, saith the Lord that doeth this.

**Amos 9:11-12**

13 And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men and brethren, hearken unto me:

14 Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.

15 And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written,

**Acts 15:13-15**

- 16 After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up:
- 17 That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things.

**Acts 15:16-17**

**13** Behold, the days come, saith the Lord,  
that the plowman shall overtake the reaper,  
and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed;  
and the mountains shall drop sweet wine,  
and all the hills shall melt.

**Amos 9:13**

<sup>14</sup> And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.

<sup>15</sup> And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the Lord thy God.

**Amos 9:14-15**

- The story of the Nation of Israel is the story of the Redemption of man.
- Called, rebelled, cast out, redeemed, regathered, given an eternal home!



THE MINOR

PROPHETS

To be continued...

*...a verse by verse study*