SERMON NOTES: THE BOOK OF AMOS

I. INTRODUCTION - 1:1

A. Name: אֹם
   1. Meaning - Burden Bearer
   2. Only Occurrence in the Old Testament

B. Family
   1. Nothing Known
   2. From Tekoa in Judah
   3. Occupation
      a. Not a professional prophet or a member of prophetic guild
      b. Breeder of sheep: יֶּבֵית - Only here and in II Kings 3:4
      c. Grower of sycamore figs - 7:14

C. Date
   1. Uzziah - King of Judah (792-740) (Sole ruler: 767-740)
   2. Jeroboam II - King of Israel (783-753)
   3. Two Years Before the Earthquake
      a. Zechariah 14:5
      b. Exact date unknown
   4. Puts his ministry between 770-750 (767-753) in a narrow sphere or in a Wider Sphere of 810-750
   5. Best Estimate: 760-755 B.C.

D. Locale
   1. From Tekoa in Judah
2. But Sent to Bethel in Israel

E. Historical Setting
   1. Time of outward prosperity and luxury
   2. But heavy idolatry

F. Major Points
   1. God's Righteous Judgments
   2. Israel's Unrighteousness
   3. Social Injustices
   4. Israel’s False Worship

G. Theme - The Coming Destruction of Israel

H. Quoted in the New Testament

I. The Verse
   1. The Prophet: *The Words of Amos*
   2. His Occupation: *Who was among the herdsmen*
   3. His Origin: *Of Tekoa*
   4. The Revelation: *Which He Saw*
      a. תַּקְוִי - Which he visioned
      b. Revelation came to Amos by means of a prophetic vision
   5. The Content: *Concerning Israel* - His subject is the Northern Kingdom
   6. The Date
a. In the days of Uzziah - King of Judah

b. In the days of Jereboam the son of Joash - King of Israel

c. The timing: Two years before the earthquake
II. THEME - 1:2 - The Judgment of Israel

A. Quotation of Joel 3:16
   1. Joel - Against the Gentiles
   2. Amos - Against Israel

B. God's Roar: And He Said
   1. Origin – Jerusalem
      a. Jehovah will roar from Zion
      b. Utter His voice from Jerusalem
   2. The Result
      a. The pastures of the shepherds shall mourn - The lowlands
      b. The top of Carmel shall wither - The mountains
         (1) Carmel noted for its many springs
         (2) Outlasted the drought of Elijah for 3½ years - I Kings 17-18
         (3) If Carmel dries up, how much more the rest of Israel
      c. Depicts the roaring judgment as covering the entire country
III. GOD’S JUDGMENTS AGAINST THE NATIONS - 1:3 - 2:16

A. Introduction

1. *For three transgressions, yea for four*
   a. Symbol of multiplication of sin
   b. *Three* - The cup of iniquity is full
   c. *Four* - The cup of iniquity overflows

2. *I will not turn away: לֹּא יַעֲשֵׂה נֶפֶשׁ - I will not reverse it*
   a. Gentiles - For what they did to the Jews
   b. Jews - For disobedience to the Law of Moses

3. Order moves from that which is distant to Israel by blood to what is close
   a. Unrelated to Israel by blood
      (1) Syria
      (2) Philistia
      (3) Phonecia
   b. Distantly related to Israel by blood
      (1) Edom
      (2) Ammon
      (3) Moab
   c. Closely related to Israel by blood – Judah
   d. Hitting home – Israel


5. The Nature of the judgment is to leave them vulnerable
B. Damascus (Syria): *Thus Says Jehovah* - 1:3-5

1. The Cause - 1:3

   a. The refrain

      (1) *For three transgressions of Damascus* - Yea for four

      (2) *I will not turn away the punishment thereof*

   b. The crime: *Because they have threshed Gilead with threshing instruments of iron*

      (1) Prisoners cut in pieces

      (2) II Kings 10:32-33; 13:3-7

2. The Judgment - 1:4-5

   a. Destruction of the Royal House - 1:4

      (1) *But I will send a fire into the House of Hazael*

      (a) Who killed the previous king, Ben-Hadad I

      (b) II Kings 8:7, 15

      (2) *And it shall devour the palaces of Ben-Hadad*

      (a) Now the judgment will fall on Ben-Hadad II

      (b) II Kings 13:31A

   b. Destruction of the whole nation - 1:5

      (1) The City Gate: *I will break the bar of Damascus*

      (2) The Country: *The inhabitant from the Valley of Aven*

      (3) The King: *And him that holds the scepter from the House of Eden*
(4) The People: *The people of Syria shall go into captivity unto Kir* - II Kings 16:9

(5) Says Jehovah – Happened in 732 B.C. by Tiglath-Pileser III

C. Gaza (Philistia): *Thus Says Jehovah* - 1:6-8

1. The Cause - 1:6

   a. The refrain

      (1) For three transgressions of Gaza - Yea for four

      (2) I will not turn away the punishment thereof

   b. The crime: Sold Jewish slaves to Edom - Worst enemy of the Jews

      (1) Because they carried away captive the whole people

      (2) To deliver them up to Edom

2. The Judgment - 1:7-8

   a. Gaza destroyed - 1:7

      (1) But I will send a fire upon the wall of Gaza

      (2) It shall devour the palaces thereof

   b. Philistia destroyed - 1:8

      (1) Ashdod - I will cut off the inhabitants of Ashdod

      (2) Ashkelon: The king - Him that holds the sceptre from Ashkelon

      (3) Ekron: The city - I will turn my hand against Ekron

      (4) The remnant of the Philistines shall perish

      (5) Says Jehovah

      (6) Gath
(a) Not mentioned

(b) Already destroyed by Uzziah - II Chronicles 26:6

D. Tyre (Phonecia): Thus Says Jehovah - 1:9-10

1. The Cause - 1:9
   a. The refrain
      (1) For three transgressions of Tyre - Yea for four
      (2) I will not turn away the punishment thereof
   b. The crime: Delivered up Jewish slaves to Edom - Because they delivered up the whole people to Edom
   c. Did not remember the brotherly covenant
      (1) David - II Samuel 5:11
      (2) Solomon - I Kings 5:1-18
      (3) No king of Israel or Judah ever made war against the Phoenicians

2. The Judgment - 1:10
   a. The city destroyed
      (1) I will send a fire on the wall of fire
      (2) It shall devour the palaces thereof
   b. Fulfilled by Alexander the Great

E. Edom: Thus Says Jehovah - 1:11-12

1. The Cause - 1:11
   a. The refrain
      (1) For three transgressions of Edom - Yea for four
Sermon Notes: The Twelve Minor Prophets

(2) _I will not turn away the punishment thereof_

b. The crime: For killing Jews
   (1) _Because he did pursue his brothers with the sword_
   (2) _He did cast off all pity_

c. For the perpetual hatred of Edom against the Jews
   (1) _His anger did tear perpetually_
   (2) _He kept his wrath forever_

2. The Judgment - 1:12
   a. Teman destroyed - _But I will send a fire upon Teman_
   b. Bozrah destroyed - _And it shall devour the palaces of Bozrah_

F. Ammon: _Thus Says Jehovah_ - 1:13-15

1. The Cause - 1:13
   a. The refrain
      (1) _For three transgressions of the Children of Ammon - Yea for four_
      (2) _I will not turn away the punishment thereof_
   b. The crime: _Because they have ripped up the women with child of Gilead - Ripped up pregnant women_
   c. Reason
      (1) _That they may enlarge their borders_
      (2) _Attempt to enlarge their own borders by destroying seed_

2. The Judgment - 1:14-15
   a. Destruction of Rabbah the capital city by war - 1:14
(1) But I will kindle a fire in the wall of Rabbah
(2) It shall devour the palaces thereof
(3) With shouting in the day of battle
(4) With a tempest in the day of the whirlwind

b. Exile of the Royal House - 1:15

(1) Their king shall go into captivity
(2) He and his princes together

3. Says Jehovah

G. Moab: Thus Says Jehovah - 2:1-3

1. The Cause - 2:1

a. The refrain

(1) For three transgressions of Moab - Yea for four
(2) I will not turn away the punishment thereof

b. The crime: Because he burned the bones of the king of Edom into lime

c. II Kings 3:26-27 (Possibly shows special antagonism against the king of Edom)

2. The Judgment - 2:2-3

a. Destruction of the city (Kerioth) and country by war - 2:2

(1) I will send a fire upon Moab
(2) It shall devour the palaces of Kerioth
(3) Moab shall die

(a) With tumult
(b) With shouting

(c) With the sound of a trumpet

b. Death of all the rulers - 2:3

(1) I will cut off the judge from the midst thereof

(2) I will slay all the princes thereof with him

3. Says Jehovah

H. Judah - 2:4-5

1. Cause - 2:4

a. The refrain

(1) For three transgressions of Judah - Yea for four

(2) I will not turn away the punishment thereof

b. They have rejected the Law of Jehovah

c. They have not kept His statutes - Failed to keep the statutes

d. Lies: Their lies have caused them to err

e. After which their fathers did walk - Repeated the errors of the fathers

2. The Judgment - 2:5

a. Fall of Jerusalem

(1) But I will send a fire upon Judah

(2) It shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem

b. Fulfilled by Babylon in 586 B.C.

I. Israel: Thus Says Jehovah - 2:6-16
1. The Cause - 1:6-12
   a. The refrain - 1:6a
      (1) *For three transgressions of Israel - Yea for four*
      (2) *I will not turn away the punishment thereof*
   b. Oppression of the poor - 2:6b-7a
      (1) Enslavement
      (a) *They have sold the righteous for silver*
      (b) *The needy for a pair of shoes*
      (c) Violation of Deuteronomy 16:19
      (2) *They that pant after the dust of the earth on the head of the poor - So oppressed the poor that the poor put dust on their heads as a sign of mourning*
      (3) *They turn aside the way of the meek*
   c. Immorality - 2:7b
      (1) *A man and his father go unto the same maiden - Father and son have intercourse with the same girl*
      (a) Violation of Leviticus 18:7, 15
      (b) Punishable by death - Leviticus 20:11
      (c) She may be a temple prostitute (v. 8)
      (2) The purpose: *To profane My Holy Name*
      (a) *יִשָּׁמְעֵה*  
      (b) For the specific purpose and in deliberate attempt to profane God's Name
   d. Drinking parties - 2:8
(1) _They lay themselves down beside every altar upon clothes taken in pledge_

   (a) Was to be returned by sundown - Exodus 22:26-27
   
   (b) Was not to be slept upon - Deuteronomy 24:12-13

(2) _In the house of their god they drink wine of such as have been fined_ - Drink wine which was bought with unjust fines

e. Rebelled against God's blessings - 2:9-12

(1) God destroyed the Amorites out of the land - 2:9

   (a) _Yet I destroyed the Amorite before them_

      i. _Whose height was like the height of the cedars_

      ii. _He was strong as the oaks_

   (b) _And I destroyed_

      i. _His fruit from above_

      ii. _His roots from beneath_

   (c) Meaning: They were totally cut off

(2) He brought them out of Egypt: _Also - I brought you up out of the Land of Egypt_ - 2:10a

(3) Provided for them in the Wilderness: _I led you forty years in the Wilderness_ - 2:10b

(4) Gave them the land: _To possess the Land of the Amorite_ - 2:10c

(5) Gave spiritual leadership - 2:11a

   (a) Prophets: _I raised up of your sons for prophets_

   (b) Nazirites: _Of your young men for Nazirites_
(6) **Affirmation** - *Is it not so? O ye Children of Israel, says Jehovah* - 2:11b

(7) Israel's response - 2:12

(a) Nazirites - *But ye gave the Nazirites wine to drink*

(b) Prophets: Told not to prophesy - *And commanded the prophets saying - Prophesy not*


a. The pressure of Israel by God - 2:13

(1) *Behold: I will press you in your place*

(2) The comparison: *As a cart presses that is full of sheaves*

b. The results of the pressing - 2:14-16

(1) The failure of strength - 2:14

(a) *The flight shall perish from the swift*

(b) *The strong shall not strengthen his force*

(c) *Neither shall the mighty deliver himself*

(2) The failure of weapons - 2:15

(a) *Neither shall he stand that handles the bow*

(b) *He that is swift of foot shall not deliver himself*

(c) *Neither shall he that rides the horse deliver himself*

(3) The failure of courage - 2:16

(a) *He that is courageous among the mighty - Shall flee away naked in that day*

(b) *Says Jehovah*
IV. FIVE PROPHETIC PROCLAMATIONS CONCERNING THE SINS AND JUDGMENTS OF ISRAEL - 3:1 - 6:14

A. The First “Hear Ye” Judgment: Hear ye this word - 3:1-15

1. The Cause - 3:1-10

a. Israel's unique relationship to God - 3:1-2

(1) The call to Israel: Hear ye this word that Jehovah has spoken against you

(a) O ye Children of Israel

(b) Against the whole family which I brought up out of the Land of Egypt – Saying

(2) Only Israel was known by God - 3:2

(a) You only have I known of all the families of the earth

i. Known: יִדּוּ - By experience

ii. Chosen, set apart

iii. Entered into a covenantal relationship

iv. Israel is the only covenant nation

(b) Therefore: Will I visit upon you all your iniquities

i. Israel will especially be punished

ii. The principle: To whom much is given - Much is required

b. The cause and the effect - 3:3-8

(1) Effects have causes and causes have effects - 3:3-6

(a) People: Shall two walk together - Except they have agreed? - 3:3
(b) Animals - 3:4

i. *Will* a lion roar in the forest when he has no prey?

ii. *Will* a young lion cry out of his den - And have taken nothing at all?

(c) Birds - 3:5

i. *Can a bird fall in a snare upon the earth* - Where no gin is set for him?

ii. *Shall a snare spring up from the ground* - And have taken nothing at all?

(d) Cities - 3:6

i. *Shall a trumpet be blown in a city* - And the people not be afraid?

ii. *Shall evil befall a city* - And Jehovah has not done it?

(2) The Role of the Prophet - 3:7-8

(a) *Surely Jehovah will do nothing - Except He reveal His secret unto His servants the Prophets* - 3:7

i. Whatever happens to Israel are effects that have causes

ii. Both the effect and cause will be revealed through the prophets

(b) Prophetic utterances are themselves effects, the cause being that God has spoken - 3:8

i. *The lion has roared* - Who will not fear?

ii. *The Lord Jehovah has spoken* - Who can but prophesy?

c. The call to witnesses - 3:9-10
Sermon Notes: The Twelve Minor Prophets

(1) Gentiles called to witness the sins of Israel - 3:9

(a) The two witnesses: Publish ye

i. In the palaces of Ashdod of the Philistines - A newer enemy

ii. In the palaces of the Land of Egypt - An older enemy

iii. Both nations had a history of cruelty toward Israel - But now Israel has sunk to a lower moral standard than they

(b) And say

i. Assemble yourselves upon the Mountains of Samaria

ii. And behold

(A) What great tumults are therein

(B) What oppressions in the midst thereof

iii. Surrounding mountains are higher than the mount on which Samaria sits, and so they can look down and view the sins of Israel

(2) Descriptions of the sins of Samaria to be witnessed - 3:10

(a) For they know not to do right - Says Jehovah

(b) Who store up in their palaces

i. Violence

ii. Robbery

2. The Judgment - 3:11-15
a. Samaria to be destroyed: *Therefore - Thus says the Lord Jehovah* - 3:11

(1) *An adversary there shall be - Even round about the land*

(2) *He shall bring down your strength from you*

(3) *Your palaces shall be plundered*

b. Only a remnant will escape: *Thus says Jehovah* - 3:12

(1) *As the shepherd rescues out of the mouth of the lion*

(a) *Two legs*

(b) *Or a piece of an ear*

(2) *So shall the Children of Israel be rescued - That sit in Samaria*

(a) *In the corner of the couch*

(b) *On the silken cushions of a bed*

c. Bethel to be destroyed - 3:13-14

(1) The indictment: *Hear ye and testify against the House of Jacob - Says the Lord Jehovah, the God of Hosts* - 3:13

(2) The Judgment - 3:14

(a) *For in the day that I shall visit the transgressions of Israel upon him - I will also visit the altars of Bethel*

(b) *And the horns of the altar shall be cut off - And fall to the ground*

d. The wealth destroyed - 3:15

(1) *And I will smite the winter-house with the summer-house*

(2) *The houses of ivory shall perish*

(3) *The great houses shall have an end - Says Jehovah*
B. The Second "Hear Ye" Judgment: Hear ye this word - 4:1-13

1. The Cause - 4:1-11

   a. Oppression of the poor - 4:1-3

      (1) By the luxury living women - 4:1

         (a) The call: *Hear ye the word* - Ye Kine of Bashan

         i. *Kine* - Wealthy women of Samaria oppress the poor in order to live in luxury

         ii. *Fat* - They have become so by oppressing the poor

         (b) *That are in the Mountain of Samaria*

         (c) *That oppress the poor*

         (d) *That crush the needy*

         (e) *That say unto their lords* - Their husbands

            i. *Bring*

            ii. *And let us drink*

            iii. *Lords* - Instigate husbands to carry out oppression so they could continue living in luxury

      (2) Announcement of the coming captivity - 4:2-3

         (a) *The Lord Jehovah has sworn by His Holiness*

            i. *That lo - The days shall come upon you*

               (A) *That they shall take you away with hooks*

               (B) *And your residue with fish-hooks*
ii.  And ye shall go out at the breaches

iii. Every one straight before her

iv.  And ye shall cast yourselves into Harmon

(b)  Says Jehovah.

b.  Adherence to idolatry - 4:4-5

(1) Place - 4:4a

(a)  Bethel:  Come into Bethel - And transgress

(b)  Gilgal:  To Gilgal - And multiply transgression

(2) Deeds - 4:4b-5

(a)  Proper sacrifice

i.  Bring your sacrifices every morning

ii. Your tithes every three days

iii. And offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving of that which is leavened

iv.  And proclaim freewill-offerings and publish them

(b) Improper use - Being offered to the wrong gods

(c) Very religious but false

i.  For this pleases you - O ye Children of Israel

ii.  Says the Lord Jehovah

c.  Ineffectiveness of previous chastisements - 4:6-11 (Ye have not returned unto Me)

(1) Famine - 4:6
(a) Clean teeth - And I also have given you cleanness of teeth in all your cities

(b) No food to dirty them with - And want of bread in all your places

(c) The failure: Yet have ye not returned unto Me –
     Says Jehovah

(2) Drought - 4:7-8

(a) The fact: And I also have withheld the rain from you

(b) The timing: Where there was yet three months to the harvest
   i. Three months before the harvest
   ii. Most devastating

(c) Selective - To show that God was in control
   i. I caused it to rain upon one city - And caused it not to rain upon another city
   ii. One piece was rained upon - And the piece whereupon it rained not, withered

(d) And so two or three cities wandered unto one city to drink water - And were not satisfied

(e) The failure: Yet have ye not returned unto Me –
     Says Jehovah

(3) Hamsin, mildew and locusts - 4:9

(a) I have smitten you with blasting and mildew

(b) The palmerworm has devoured the multitude of
   i. Your gardens
   ii. Your fig trees
iii. Your olive trees

(c) The failure: *Yet have ye not returned unto Me - Says Jehovah*

(4) War - 4:10

(a) *I have sent among you pestilence after the manner of Egypt*

(b) *Your young men have I slain with the sword*

(c) *I have carried away your horses*

(d) *I have made the stench of your camp to come up even unto your nostrils*

(e) The failure: *Yet ye have not returned unto me - Says Jehovah*

(5) Complete desolation like that of Sodom and Gomorrah - 4:11

(a) *I have overthrown cities among you - As when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah*

(b) *And ye were as a brand plucked out of the burning*

(c) The failure: *Yet ye have not returned unto me - Says Jehovah*

2. The judgment: *Therefore* - 4:12-13

a. To meet God face to face - 4:12

(1) *Thus will I do unto you - O Israel*

(2) *And because I will do this unto you - Prepare to meet your God - O Israel*

b. The first hymn: The power and glory of God - 4:13

(1) *For lo – He*
Sermon Notes: The Twelve Minor Prophets

(a) That forms the mountains
(b) Creates the wind
(c) Declares unto man what is His thought
(d) That makes the morning darkness
(e) And treads upon the high places of the earth

(2) Jehovah - The God of Hosts - Is His Name

C. The Third “Hear Ye” Judgment: Hear ye this word - 5:1-17

1. The Cause - 5:1-15

a. The lamentation for Israel - 5:1-3

   (1) Declaration of the lamentation - 5:1

   (a) Hear ye the word which I take up for a lamentation over you

   (b) O House of Israel

(2) The Virgin of Israel is fallen - 5:2

   (a) She shall no more rise

   (b) She is cast down upon her land

   (c) There is none to raise her up

(3) The results of Assyrian destruction: Only one-tenth of the nation left - For thus says the Lord Jehovah - 5:3

   (a) The city

      i. That went forth a thousand - Shall have a hundred left

      ii. That which went forth a hundred - Shall have ten left
(b)  To the House of Israel

b.  Failure to seek God:  For thus says Jehovah unto the House of Israel - 5:4-7

(1)  Positive admonition - 5:4

(a)  The admonition: Seek ye God

(b)  The result: Ye shall live

(2)  Negative admonition: Not to seek idols - 5:5

(a)  Bethel

   i.  But seek not Bethel

   ii.  Bethel will come to be nothing

(b)  Gilgal

   i.  Nor enter into Gilgal

   ii.  Gilgal will go into captivity

   (A)  Play upon words: בְּלִיּוּ בֵּית לָבָד בְּלִיּוּ גִילָג

   (B)  Gilgal shall taste the gall of exile
        (Galut)

   (C)  Gilgal will go to the gallows

(c)  Beersheba: Pass not to Beersheba

   i.  The members of the Northern Kingdom
       even went to the southernmost city of Judah

   ii.  This would mean bypassing Jerusalem and
       go a great distance further south

(3)  Warning of failure to seek God - 5:6
(a) The admonition: *Seek Jehovah*

(b) The result: *Ye shall live*

(c) The warning:

i. *Lest He break out like fire in the House of Joseph*

ii. *And it devour*

iii. *And there will be none to quench it in Bethel*

(4) Status of the people: Unrighteous - 5:7

(a) *Ye who turn justice to wormwood*

(b) *And cast down righteousness to the earth*

c. The second hymn: God as the Creator and Controller of the universe - *Seek Him - 5:8-9*

(1) *That makes the Pleiades and Orion*

(a) Job 9:9

(b) Job 38:31

(2) *That turns the shadow of death into morning*

(3) *That makes the day dark with night*

(4) *That call for the waters of the sea*

(5) *That pours them out upon the face of the earth - Jehovah is His Name*

(6) *That brings sudden destruction upon the strong - So that destruction comes upon the fortress*

d. Unrighteous judgments - 5:10-13

(1) Hated the righteous judges - 5:10
(a)  They hate him that reproves in the gate

(b)  They abhor him that speaks uprightly

(2)  Extortion of the poor to become rich - 5:11

(a)  The crime:  For as much therefore as

   i.  Ye trample upon the poor

   ii.  Take exactions from him of wheat

(b)  The judgment

   i.  Ye have built houses of hewn stone - But ye shall not dwell in them

   ii.  Ye have planted pleasant vineyards - But ye shall not drink the wine thereof

(3)  Bribery - 5:12

(a)  For I know

   i.  How manifold are your transgressions

   ii.  How mighty are your sins

(b)  Their sins:  Ye that

   i.  Afflict the just

   ii.  Take a bribe

   iii.  That turn aside the needy in the gate from their right

(4)  The prudent find it useless to speak up - 5:13

(a)  Therefore - He that is prudent shall keep silence in such a time

(b)  The reason:  For it is an evil time
e. Rejection of the Law of Moses - 5:14-15

(1) The Admonition: Seek good - And not evil

(2) The results

(a) That ye may live

(b) And so Jehovah the God of Hosts will be with you - As ye say

(3) The admonitions

(a) Hate the evil

(b) Love the good

(c) Establish justice in the gate

(4) The result: It may be that Jehovah - The God of Hosts - Will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph


a. Wailing for the dead - 5:16

(1) Wailing shall be in all the broad ways

(2) And they shall say in all the streets - Alas! Alas!

(3) They shall call the husbandmen to mourning

(4) And such as are skillful in lamentation to wailing

b. Wailing for the crops - 5:17

(1) The fact: And in all the vineyards shall be wailing

(2) The reason: For I will pass through the midst of you - Says Jehovah
3. Chiasm of 5:1-17

A. Lamentation as announcement - 1-3

B. Admonition - 4-6

C. Accusation - 7

D. Hymn - 8a

E. Jehovah is His Name - 8b

D. Hymn - 9

C. Accusation - 10-13

B. Admonition - 14-15

A. Lamentation as announcement - 16-17

D. The First Woe Judgment: Woe unto you that desire the Day of Jehovah - 5:18-26

1. The Cause - 5:18-26

a. Desire for the Day of Jehovah - 5:18-20

(1) Woe unto you that desire the Day of Jehovah - 5:18a

(a) Therefore would ye have the Day of Jehovah!

(b) Misconception of the Day of Jehovah

i. Punishment of the Gentiles (True but that's not all)

ii. Exaltation of Israel (True but that's not all)

(2) It is also a day of judgment for Israel and Israel will suffer - 5:18b-20

(a) It is a day of darkness: It is darkness and not light - 5:18b (Joel 2:2)

(b) It is inescapable - 5:19
Sermon Notes: The Twelve Minor Prophets

i. *As if a man did flee from a lion - And a bear met him*

ii. *Or: He went into the house and leaned his hand on the wall - And a serpent bit him*

(c) It is a day of total hopelessness - 5:20

i. *Shall not the Day of Jehovah be darkness - And not light?*

ii. *Even very dark - And no brightness in it?*

b. False sacrifices - 5:21-26

(1) Their present condition - 5:21-23

(a) Festivals unacceptable - 5:21

i. *I hate - I despise your feasts*

ii. *I will take no delight in your solemn assemblies*

(b) Offerings unacceptable - 5:22

i. *Yea though ye offer Me your burnt-offerings and meal-offerings - I will not accept them*

ii. *Neither will I regard the peace-offering of your fat beasts*

(c) Worship unacceptable - 5:23

i. *Take you away from Me - The noise of your songs*

ii. The reason: *For I will not hear the melody of your viols.*

(2) Their present need - 5:24

(a) Justice: *But let justice roll down as waters*
(b) Righteousness: *And righteousness as a mighty stream*

(3) Their past connections in the Wilderness - 5:25-26

(a) *Did ye bring unto Me sacrifices and offerings in the Wilderness forty years - O House of Israel?* - The forty years of suffering was not only for God - 5:25

(b) Worship of the Assyrian-Babylonian star god - 5:26

i. *Yea - Ye have borne the tabernacle of your king*

(A) סִיקָעוּ - *Sikkut* (Tabernacle)

(B) *Adarmelech*

(C) *Sakkut* your king

ii. The shrine of your images

(A) *חֵינ - Chiun* (Shrine)

(B) *Kaimanu* or Saturn

(C) *Kaiwan* your star-god

iii. They sacrifices to the star god

(A) *The star of your god*

(B) *Which ye made to yourselves*

2. The Judgment: *Therefore* - 5:27

a. Captivity: *Will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus - Assyria*

b. The Cause: *Says Jehovah - Whose Name is the God of Hosts*

E. The Second Woe Judgment: *Woe to them that are at ease in Zion - 6:1-14*
1. The Cause - 6:1-6
   a. False security - 6:1-2
      (1) Rest in the security of Samaria: *Woe* - 6:1
          (a) *To them that are at ease in Zion*
          (b) *To them that are secure in the Mountain of Samaria*
          (c) *The notable men of the chief of the nations - To whom the House of Israel come!*
      (2) But greater cities than Samaria have fallen - 6:2
          (a) The examples
             i. *Pass ye unto Calneh and see*
             ii. *From thence go ye to Hamath the Great*
             iii. *Then go down to Gath of the Philistines*
          (b) The Lesson
             i. *Are they better than these kingdoms?*
             ii. *Or is their border greater than your border*
   b. Luxury living - 6:3-6
      (1) *Ye that put far away the evil day*
      (2) *And cause the seat of violence to come near*
      (3) *That lie upon beds of ivory*
      (4) *And stretch themselves upon their couches*
      (5) *And eat the lambs out of the flock*
      (6) *And calves out of the midst of the stall*
      (7) *That sing idle songs to the sound of the viol*
(8) *That invent for themselves instruments of music* - Like David

(9) *That drink wine in bowls*

(10) *And anoint themselves with the chief oils*

(11) *But - They are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph*

(12) Extravagant use of wine and oil authenticated by the Samarian Ostraca

2. The Judgment: *Therefore* - 6:7-14

a. The captivity - 6:7

(1) *They shall now go captive with the first that go captive*

(2) *The revelry of them that stretched themselves shall pass away*

b. Destruction of the city - 6:8

(1) *The Lord Jehovah has sworn by Himself - Says Jehovah - The God of Hosts*

(a) *I abhor the excellency of Jacob*

(b) *And hate his palaces*

(2) *Therefore - Will I deliver up the city with all that is therein*

c. Decimation of the population - 6:9-11

(1) The one-tenth of the population left: *And it shall come to pass - If there remain ten men in one house - That they shall die* - 6:9

(2) Not to mention the name of Jehovah - 6:10

(a) *And when a man's uncle shall take him up*

   i. *Even he that burns him*
ii. To bring out the bones out of the house

(b) And he shall say unto him that is in the innermost parts of the house - Is there yet any with you?

(c) And he shall say – No

(d) Then shall he say - For we may not make mention of the Name of Jehovah

i. It might attract His attention

ii. he might them turn around and kill what is left

(3) The destruction: For behold - Jehovah commands - 6:11

(a) The great house shall be smitten with breaches

(b) The little house with clefts

d. The moral - 6:12-13

(1) As it is unnatural for the horse and the ox - 6:12a

(a) Shall horses run upon the rock?

(b) Will one plow there with oxen?

(2) It is unnatural for sin to go unpunished - 6:12b-13

(a) That ye have turned justice into gall

(b) The fruit of righteousness into wormwood

(c) Ye that rejoice in a thing of nought

(d) That say: Have we not taken to us horns by our own strength

e. Desolation of the whole land - 6:14

(1) For Behold: I will raise up against you a nation – Assyria
(a) \textit{O House of Israel}

(b) \textit{Says Jehovah - The God of Hosts}

(2) They shall afflict you

(a) \textit{The north: From the entrance of Hamath}

(b) \textit{The south: Unto the Brook of Egypt}
V. THE VISIONS OF AMOS - 7:1 - 9:15

A. The Vision of the Locusts - 7:1-3

1. The Plague of Locusts - 7:1-2a

   a. The plague - 7:1

      (1) The revelation: *Thus the Lord Jehovah showed me*

      (2) The content: *And behold*

         (a) *He formed locusts in the beginning of the shooting up of the latter growth*

         (b) *And lo - It was the latter growth after the king's mowings*

            i. King's mowing – Tribute

            ii. Latter growth – For the people

   b. Totality: *But it came to pass that when they made an end of eating the grass of the land - 7:2a*

2. Intercession of the Prophet: *Then I Said: O Lord Jehovah - 7:2b*

   a. *Forgive - I beseech you*

   b. *How shall Jacob stand?*

   c. *The reason: For he is small*

3. Judgment Averted - 7:3

   a. *Jehovah repented concerning this*

   b. *It shall not be - Says Jehovah*

B. The Vision of the Flaming Fire - 7:4-6

1. The Plague of Drought - 7:4
a. The Revelation: *Thus the Lord Jehovah showed me*

b. The content: *And behold*

(1) *The Lord Jehovah called to contend by fire*

(2) *And it devoured the great deep*

(a) Would have dried up the sea

(b) Probably the Mediterranean Sea

(3) *And would have eaten up the land* - Would have totally desolated the land

2. The Intercession of the Prophet: *Then said I - O Lord Jehovah - 7:5*

a. *Cease - I beseech You*

b. *How shall Jacob stand?*

c. The reason: *For he is small*

3. Judgment Averted - 7:6

a. *Jehovah repented concerning this*

b. *This also shall not be - Says the Lord Jehovah*

C. The Vision of the Plumbline - 7:7-9

1. The Vision: 7:7

a. The revelation: *Thus He showed me*

b. The content: *And behold*

(1) *The Lord stood by a wall made by a plumpline*

(2) *With a plumpline in His hand*

(a) Plumbline - Checks straightness of the wall

(b) Now to check the straightness of Israel
2. The Interpretation - 7:8-9

a. Plumbline shows crookedness of Israel - 7:8

   (1) And Jehovah said unto me: Amos - What did you see?

   (2) And I said: A plumbline

   (3) Then said the Lord

      (a) Behold: I will set a plumbline in the midst of My people Israel

      (b) I will not pass by them anymore - This time judgment will not be averted

b. The judgment - 7:9

   (1) The high places of Isaac shall be desolate

   (2) The sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste

   (3) I will rise against the House of Jeroboam with the sword - The Dynasty of Jeroboam II destroyed

D. The Conflict with Amaziah - 7:10-17

1. The Accusation of Amaziah - 7:10-13 (Shows Amos the truth and necessity of the third vision)

   a. To Jeroboam: Then Amaziah the Priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel saying - 7:10-11

      (1) Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the House of Israel (lie) - 7:10a

      (2) The land cannot bear all his words - His message (true) - 7:10b

      (3) The indictment: For thus Amos said - 7:11

         (a) Jeroboam shall die by the sword - Amos said you would be killed (lie)
(b) *Israel shall surely be led away captive out of his land* - Amos said Israel will go into captivity (true)

b. To Amos: *Also Amaziah said unto Amos* - 7:12-13

(1) *Go back to Judah* - 7:12

(a) *O you seer* - Amos is a mere seer (visionary)

(b) *Go* - *Flee you away into the Land of Judah*

(c) *There eat bread* - He is doing it for money

(d) *Prophecy there*

(2) *But prophesy not again any more at Bethel* - 7:13

(a) He is not to continue to preach at Bethel

(b) The reasons

   i. *For it is the king's sanctuary*

   ii. *It is a royal house*

2. The Answer of Amos: Then answered Amos and said to Amaziah - 7:14-17

   a. The call of Amos to the prophetic office - 7:14-15

(1) The occupation of Amos - 7:14

(a) *I was no prophet* - Not a professional prophet

(b) *Neither was I a son of the prophets* - Not a member of the prophetic guild

(c) *But was I a herdsman*

(d) *And a dresser of sycamore-trees*

(2) The call of Amos - 7:15
(a) And Jehovah took me from following the flock

(b) And Jehovah said unto me

i. Go - Came by prophetic revelation

ii. Prophesy unto My people Israel – Commanded to preach to Israel

b. The authentication of the Prophet - 7:16-17

(1) The sin of Amaziah: Now therefore - Hear you the Word of Jehovah - 7:16

(a) You say - Forbidding Amos to preach

i. Prophesy not against Israel

ii. Drop not your word against the House of Isaac

(b) Fulfilled Amos 2:12

(2) The judgment of Amaziah: Therefore - Thus says Jehovah - 7:17

(a) Your wife shall be a harlot in the city - Wife will become a prostitute

(b) Your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword - His children killed

(c) Your land shall be divided by line - His land divided as spoil

(d) You yourself shall die in a land that is unclean - He will die in exile

(e) Israel shall surely be led away captive out of his land - Israel will go into captivity

E. The Vision of the Basket of Summer Fruit - 8:1-14

1. The Vision and the Judgment - 8:1-3
a. The vision - 8:1

(1) The revelation: Thus the Lord Jehovah showed me

(2) The content: And behold - A basket of summer fruit

b. The interpretation: The judgment imminent - 8:2-3

(1) It will not be averted - 8:2

(a) And He said: Amos - What do you see?

(b) And I said: A basket of summer fruit

(c) Then Jehovah said unto me

i. The end is come upon My people Israel - Play upon words

(A) Summer fruit: γαιτς - kayitz

(B) The end: γίτς - keitz

ii. The judgment: I will not again pass by them anymore

(2) The result: Wailing - 8:3

(a) And the songs of the Temple shall be wailings in that day - Says the Lord Jehovah

(b) The dead bodies shall be many

(c) In every place shall they cast them forth with silence

2. The Cause of the Judgment - 8:4-6

a. Oppression of the poor - 8:4

(1) Hear this

(2) O ye
(a) That would swallow up the needy

(b) Cause the poor of the land to fail

b. Unjust balances: Saying - 8:5

(1) When will the New Moon be gone - That we may sell grain?

(2) And the Sabbath - that we may set forth wheat

(3) Making ephah small

(4) And the shekel great

(5) Dealing falsely with balances of deceit

c. Enlargement by enslavement of the poor - 8:6

(1) That we may buy the poor for silver

(2) The needy for a pair of shoes

(3) And sell the refuse of the wheat?

3. The Judgments - 8:7-10

a. God’s remembrance - 8:7

(1) Jehovah has sworn by the Excellency of Jacob

(a) The Excellency of Jacob - God Himself

(b) By Himself He has sworn

(2) The content: Surely I will never forget any of their works

b. Earthquake - 8:8

(1) Shall not the land tremble for this?

(2) And everyone mourn that dwells therein?

(3) Yea: It shall rise up wholly like the River
(a) The Euphrates River

(b) The northern border of the Promised Land

(4) And it shall be troubled and sink again

(a) Like the River of Egypt

(b) The southern border of the Promised Land

c. The blackout: And it shall come to pass in that day - Says the Lord Jehovah - 8:9

(1) That I will cause the sun to go down at noon

(2) And I will darken the earth in the clear day

d. Lamentations and mourning - 8:10

(1) And I will turn

(a) Your feasts into mourning

(b) All your songs into lamentation

(2) I will bring

(a) Sackcloth upon all loins

(b) And baldness upon every head

(3) And I will make it as the mourning for an only son

(4) And the end thereof as a bitter day

4. The Famine of Revelation: Behold - The days come - Says the Lord Jehovah - 8:11-14

a. The famine of the Word of God - 8:11-13

(1) The declaration of a new kind of famine - 8:11

(a) That I will send a famine in the land
i. Not - A famine of bread

ii. Not - A thirst for water

(b) But - Of hearing the Words of Jehovah

(2) Result: Seeking but not finding - 8:12

(a) And they shall wander

i. From sea to sea

ii. From the north - Even to the east

(b) They shall run to and fro

i. To seek the Word of Jehovah

ii. And shall not find it

(3) Result: Spiritual thirst - In that day shall faint for thirst - 8:13

(a) The fair virgins

(b) The young men

b. The futility of idolatry - 8:14

(1) They that swear by the sin of Samaria

(2) And say: As your god - O Dan – Lives

(3) And: As the way of Beersheba lives

(4) The idols

(a) They shall fall

(b) Never rise up again

F. The Vision of the Lord of the Altar - 9:1-15
1. The Judgment of the Smitten Altar - 9:1-4
   a. The destruction of the Temple - 9:1a
      (1) The revelation: I saw the Lord standing behind the altar
      (2) And He said
         (a) Smite the capitals - That the thresholds may shake
            i. Temple is that of Bethel
            ii. Capitals smitten so that the whole building falls
         (b) And break them in pieces on the head of all of them
   b. The inescapable judgment - 9:1b-5
      (1) It shall fall on all - 9:1b
         (a) I will slay the last of them with the sword
         (b) There shall not one of them flee away
         (c) There shall not one of them escape
      (2) Neither heaven or hell will provide escape - 9:2
         (a) Though they dig into Sheol - Thence shall My hand take them
         (b) And though they climb up to Heaven - Thence will I bring them down
      (3) Neither mountain or sea will provide escape - 9:3
         (a) Mountain: And though they hide themselves in the top of Carmel - I will search and take them out thence
         (b) Sea: Though they be hid from My sight in the bottom of the sea - Thence will I command the servants and it shall bite them
(4) Captivity will provide no escape - 9:4

(a) \text{\textit{Though they go into captivity before their enemies}}

i. \text{\textit{Thence will I command the sword}}

ii. \text{\textit{It shall slay them}}

(b) \text{\textit{I will set mine eyes upon them for evil - Not for good}}

2. The Third Hymn: The God of Judgment - 9:5-6

a. \text{\textit{For the Lord Jehovah of Hosts is He}}

(1) \text{\textit{That touches the land}}

(a) \text{\textit{And it melts}}

(b) \text{\textit{All that dwell therein shall mourn}}

(c) \text{\textit{It shall rise up wholly like the River}}

i. The Euphrates River

ii. The northern border of the Promised Land

(d) \text{\textit{And shall sink again}}

i. \text{\textit{Like the River of Egypt}}

ii. The southern border of the Promised Land

(2) \text{\textit{He that builds His chambers in the heavens}}

(3) \text{\textit{And has founded His vault upon the earth}}

(4) \text{\textit{He that calls for the waters of the sea - And pours them out upon the face of the earth}}

b. \text{\textit{Jehovah is His Name}}

3. The Destruction of the Sinful Kingdom - 9:7-10
a. God is in control of the nations - 9:7

(1) Are ye not as the Children of the Ethiopians unto Me - O Children of Israel - Says Jehovah

(2) Have not I brought up

(a) Israel out of the Land of Egypt?

(b) The Philistines from Caphtar?

(c) The Syrians from Kir?

b. The judgment - 9:8

(1) Behold: The eyes of the Lord Jehovah are upon the sinful kingdom

(2) The kingdom: I will destroy it from off the face of the earth

(3) The promise: Save that I will not utterly destroy the House of Jacob - Says Jehovah

c. The Dispersion - A.D. 70 - 9:9

(1) For lo - I will command

(2) I will sift the House of Israel among all the nations

(a) Like as grain is sifted in a sieve

(b) Yet shall not the least kernel fall upon the earth

d. The death of the sinners: The Great Tribulation - 9:10

(1) All the sinners of My people shall die by the sword

(2) Who say: The evil shall not overtake nor meet us

4. The Restoration of Israel - 9:11-15

a. Restoration of the Throne of David - 9:11
(1) *In that day* - *I will raise up the Tabernacle of David that is fallen*

(a) παραθύρον - Booth or hut

(b) But this time the House of David is but a broken down hut - Isaiah 11:1

(c) Origin of the Talmudic name for Messiah as *Ben Naphli* - Son of the Fallen

(2) To be repaired

(a) *And close up the breaches thereof*

(b) *I will raise up its ruins*

(3) *I will build it as in the days of old* - To be restored to its former glory

(4) Applied in Acts 15:16-17

b. Israel's supremacy over the Gentiles - 9:12

(1) Edom in particular - *That they may possess the remnant of Edom*

(2) Nations in general - *And all the nations that are called by My Name*

(3) The source: *Says Jehovah - That does this*

c. Production of the land - 9:13

(1) Increased production: *Behold - The days come* - *Says Jehovah*

(a) *That the plowman shall overtake the reaper*

(b) *The treader of the grapes him that sows seed*

(c) *The mountains shall drop sweet wine - And all the hills shall melt*
(2) Quoted from Joel 3:18

d. The restoration of the land: *And I will bring back the captivity of My people Israel* - 9:14

(1) *They shall build the waste cities* - *And inhabit them*

(2) *They shall plant vineyards* - *And drink the wine thereof*

(3) *They shall also make gardens* - *And eat the fruit of them*

e. The restoration will be perpetual - 9:15

(1) *And I will plant them upon their land*

(2) *They shall no more be plucked up out of their land which I have given them* - *Says Jehovah your God*