

# Outline of Amos-Amaziah Incident (III. D.)

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- 9 Redactional link to vision cycle
  - not pass by (v. 8); rise up against Jeroboam
  - “corrects” main text--the *house* of Jeroboam will die by the sword
- 10-11 Priest’s report to king: Amos has conspired--Jeroboam will die; Israel exiled
- 12-13 Priest’s command to Amos: Go prophesy *in Judah*. This is the king’s sanctuary

# Amos-Amaziah Continued

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- 14-17 Amos' answer to priest (oracle against an individual)
  - 16aa call to attention: “Hear the word of Yahweh”
  - 16abb reasons for punishment;
  - 17aa Logical transition and messenger formula;
  - 17abb announcement of punishment in Yahweh's words

# What irked Amos?

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- Title hozeh (seer)
- Command to leave Israel
- Insinuation that he was in it for money
- “king’s shrine”
- Don’t prophesy!

# I am not/was not a “prophet”

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- I am not a prophet
- I was not, but now I am (I’m not in it for money)
  - Visions
  - Messenger formula; word of judgment
  - intercessions
  - called, sent
  - Go, prophesy against my people Israel

# The Inevitability of Judgment--

## Chapter 3 (III. C. 1)

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- Vv 3-5 Event followed by its cause
- V 6a Cause followed by event--trumpet/fear
- v 6b Event followed by its cause
- v 7 Yahweh's deeds preceded by revelation to his servants the prophets
- v 8 Causes followed by events:
  - Lion--fear
  - Word of Yahweh--compulsion to prophesy

# Amos 5:1-3--An Elegy (theme of death)

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- vv. 1-2 Prophet: Maiden Israel fallen
  - genre for an individual applied to nation
  - fallen? In battle?
  - Hopelessness of the situation--listeners treated as dead people
- v. 3 Yahweh: City will have 90% casualties

# Amos 5:4-6 (theme of life)

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- vv. 4-5 Yahweh: **Seek** me, directly or through prophet, and live; *life*, not death
- **Do not seek** Bethel or Gilgal or Beersheba
  - Bethel: house of God becomes house of nothingness; royal sanctuary la tyb or !wa {[tyb\]}
  - Gilgal = home of the traditions about the conquest or Saul; hlgy hlg lglgh
  - Beersheba--Isaac (cf. 8:14)
- v. 6 Prophet: Coming judgment is conditional. **Seek** Yahweh and live

# Amos 5:7-13 (injustice-hymn-injustice)

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- v. 7 Complaint: justice and righteousness turned on their head
- vv. 8-9 Doxology of judgment: Praise of God who brings both death and life.
- vv. 10-13 Complaint about injustice and oppression; followed by frustration oracle--build houses and **not** live in them. The “gate” is the place where justice should reign



## Amos 5:14-15 (theme of life)

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- v. 14 **seek** the moral life--then the God of the heavenly armies will be with you
- v. 15 Hate evil; do not hate the one who reproves in the gate
- **“Perhaps”**--it all depends on the sovereign freedom of the God of the heavenly armies

# The Remnant

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- 5:15 Only the “remnant” of Joseph will be saved--and it only “perhaps”
- 2:14-16 no one escapes--not even the strong
- 3:12 “remnant” (two legs or piece of an ear)= proof of destruction
- 5:18-20 people flee to their death on day of Yahweh

# Amos 5:16-17--Mourning (theme of death)

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- Announcement of judgment via an oracle of Yahweh: In all the squares there will be wailing
- Vineyards, usually places of joy, will be places for wailing

# Turning the old traditions on their head

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- 5:18-20 The Day of Yahweh will be darkness not light (III. E.)
- 3:1-2 Election; **therefore**, I will punish you (III. I.)
- 9:7 Everybody's had an Exodus--Philistines and Syrians, too

# Amos and the Sacrificial System

## (III. F.)

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- Come to Bethel (Jacob) and **transgress** to Gilgal (conquest) and **multiply transgression**
- Bring a thankoffering and freewill offerings for **so you love to do** (4:4-5)
- Seek **me**; do not seek Bethel, enter Gilgal, or cross over to Beer-sheba (Isaac; 5:4-5)
- Justice to wormwood; righteousness to the ground (v 7)

## Sacrificial System (continued)

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- I hate, I despise your festivals....But let justice roll down like waters (5:24)
- Did you bring me sacrifices...the forty years in the wilderness [when faith was not overwhelmed by the cult of Baal] (5:25)
- You shall **carry** off Sakkuth (Sikkuth) and Kaiwan (Kiyyun)...into exile! (5:26-27) beyond Damascus (2 Kgs 14:28)

# Refusal to return

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- Famine, no rain, blight and mildew, pestilence, destruction as at Sodom and Gomorrah
- yet you did not return to me (6, 8, 9, 10, 11)
- Therefore, thus I am about to do to you
- Prepare to meet your God, O Israel: All former judgments ineffectual, Israel must now confront God in person.

# Amos 9:11-15: Roses and Lavender? (III. J.)

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- “booth of David”--Davidic dynasty, Judah, Davidic empire, Jerusalem, temple, house of Jacob?
- possesses the remnant of Edom and other nations
- reaping of April-May not completed when plowing of October must take place
- grape harvest so abundant that there is no time for planting



# Amos 9:11-15: Key to the Canon?

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- wine will ripple over slopes
- build houses **and** live in them--contrast 5:11
- I will plant them in their land
- exile--**never again**
- says Yahweh your God