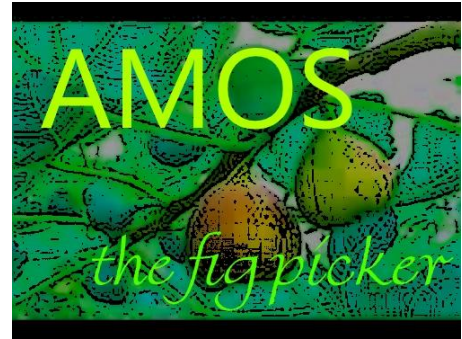


# AMOS 3 vs 1

Previously, Amos told us about 8 different Middle East groups, actual cousins... who did not remember their brotherly covenant; who are guilty, and none will be skilled enough to stand... when the Lord comes in judgment.

**<sup>1</sup> Hear this word that the LORD spoke against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family / the 12 tribes Israel and Judah... which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying,**



**<sup>2</sup> Of all the families of the earth, I have known only you** / God likes order; and so they were taught very well. It makes sense why God chose 1 puny, insignificant family to instruct in the way of faith and love toward Him; as well as toward one another. God invested in them, we know to whom much is given, much is required. The OT ends declaring: **from the rising of the sun to its setting, My Name will be great in all the earth**... which would happen as the population continued to increase. God expected His people to carry His good Name to the nations. Instead, they luxuriated in their special blessings, thinking it was their genius and doing; and forgot where all that ability came from:

**So, I will punish you for all your iniquities** / for your inequities and injustices.

Rhetorical questions of common experiences always have obvious answers:

**<sup>3</sup> Will two walk together, unless they agree?**

**<sup>4</sup> Will a lion roar in the forest, when it has no prey?**

**Will a young lion growl from its den, if it has captured nothing?**

**<sup>5</sup> Will a bird fall in a trap on the ground, if there is no bait for it?**

**Will a trap spring from the ground, if it caught nothing at all?**

**<sup>6</sup> If an alarm sounds in the city, will the people not be afraid?**

**If disaster comes to a city, will the LORD do nothing about it?**

**<sup>7</sup> Indeed, the Lord GOD does nothing without revealing His counsel to His servants the prophets / the problem Amos tells us is that the people told the prophets to stop prophesying -- Amos 2.**

**<sup>8</sup> A lion has roared, who will not fear?** / and did Amos want to add: unless you are deaf...

Well..

**The Lord GOD has spoken, who will not prophesy?** The prophets of the Lord don't listen to the people; like a volcano, they erupt with the powerful words of God.

# AMOS 3 vs 1

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<sup>9</sup>Proclaim... on the strongholds at Ashdod, and on the strongholds in Egypt, and say, Assemble yourselves on the mountains of Samaria / get to the best vantage point, see the big picture, the nations are called to witness the coming judgment on the Lord's chosen people **Israel**, their name meaning: **those ruled by God**; and is this old history 2500 years ago; or future history? Or both?

**Behold** / pay attention...

see the great turmoil in the city; the acts of oppression in its midst.

<sup>10</sup>For **they** do not know to do right, says the LORD, who store up **violence** and robbery in **their strongholds** / they sound like the goofy folks in our 21<sup>st</sup> century, who store up **hamas**... mentioned twice in the days of Noah; violence in their military fortresses, violence in their spiritual fortresses, violence in their family fortresses, violence in their educational fortresses, violence in their banking fortresses... every God ordained institution holding together the nation... is infected with violence and thieves and robbers.

<sup>11</sup>So the Lord GOD says / speaking to His people, the faithful and the faithless alike...

An enemy will surround the **earth**; and will pull down your strongholds, and plunder your strongholds / well, I guess the thieves have arrived, to overthrow fortresses, citadels, halls of leadership.

<sup>12</sup>The LORD says,

As the shepherd rescues

two legs out of the mouth of the lion, or a piece of an ear;

so few of the children of **Israel** will be rescued who dwell in Samaria on the edge of the bed, and in Damascus on the couch / few will survive among those who carelessly live and lounge in their make-believe comfort, luxury, privilege and ease, in the high places, especially the capital city center.

<sup>13</sup>Hear and testify against the house of Jacob says the Lord GOD, the God of hosts / the house of the scoundrel, the scheming cheat working deals,

<sup>14</sup>on that day I account for the transgressions of **Israel**, I will also account for the altars of Bethel: and the horns of the altar will be cut off, and fall to the ground.

<sup>15</sup>And I will destroy the winter house with the summer house; the houses of ivory will perish, and the great houses will come to an end, says the LORD.

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**The Mountain of Moses – Sinai in Arabia**

**We are grateful to God that the Saudi govt has preserved the Mountain of Moses.**