

AMOS 4 vs 1

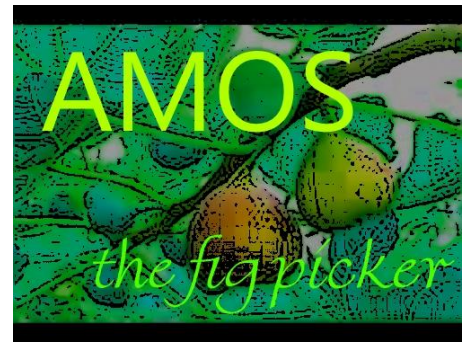
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¹ **Hear this word, you cows of Bashan that are on the mountain of Samaria / you sluggish and overfed; some scholars suggest Amos is addressing the wealthy women; definitely he is addressing the sluggish, overfed...**

who oppress the poor, who crush the needy, who say to their husband,

“Bring now, and let us drink” / it’s time to party! This chapter describes those who are insatiable in strong desires; weak in religion; and hardheads in the face of warning.



² **The Lord GOD has sworn by His holiness,**

Behold, the days are coming, that they will take you away with hooks, and the last of you with fishhooks.

³ **You will go out through the breaches / led like cattle, one after another; and you will be driven along to Harmon, declares the LORD.**

Next, Amos gives a sarcastic call to worship:

⁴ **Come to Bethel and rebel;**

at Gilgal multiply your rebellion / in these historical towns of great promise to the people of God: Bethel where Abraham gave offering to God, where Jacob rested and a stairway to heaven appeared; Gilgal, where they entered the land promised to their fathers under the leadership of Joshua; sin like crazy;

and bring your sacrifices every morning, and your tithes every three years:

⁵ **Offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving with leaven / strictly forbidden in the Mosaic law -- Lev. 6,**

and proclaim freewill offerings: for this you like to do, you children *supposedly* ruled by God, said the Lord GOD.

⁶ **I gave you cleanness of teeth / absolutely nothing to eat... in all your cities; and lack of food in all your places:**

1 yet you did **not return to Me, declares the LORD / Moses warned this people; in this chapter, 5 times the Lord kindly warns His people of their careless rebellion... attempting to get their attention.**

⁷ **I also withheld the rain from you, with three months before the harvest. Then I sent rain on one town, and **no** rain on another:**

one field was rained on, while a field where it did not rain withered.

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⁸ So two or three towns staggered to another, to drink water, but were **not** satisfied:

2 yet you did **not** return to Me, declares the LORD.

⁹ I smote your gardens and your vineyards with a scorching wind and mildew: when your fig trees and your olive trees increased, **the palmerworm devoured them** / read about it in Joel:

3 yet you did **not** return to Me, declares the LORD.

¹⁰ I sent plagues among you, after the manner of Egypt: I killed your young men by the sword, and took away your horses; I made the stink of your camps to come up to your nostrils / the smell of battle and death:

4 yet you did **not** return to Me, declares the LORD.

¹¹ I overthrew some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and you were like a firebrand snatched from the fire:

5 yet you did **not** return to Me, declares the LORD.

¹² So, I will do this to you, O **Israel**:

and because I do this to you, prepare to meet your God, O **Israel**.

/ unwilling to respond to the soft touch and discipline of a loving Father; next the LORD God turns up the heat. After all, no earthly trailer trash will populate His eternity. C.S. Lewis wisely pointed out, our little errors... in a million years, might not look so little. We don't miss eternity with an "oops" or a "sorry"

¹³ For, behold, He who formed the mountains, and created the wind, and declared to man what are His thoughts, who makes dawn into darkness, and treads on the high places of the earth,

The LORD, The God of hosts, is His name.

The Mountain of Moses – Sinai in Arabia

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

How long were the Israelites in Egypt? Every Praise

Genesis: One Blood, One Race

God of Wonders

Fibonacci in Nature; The Code of Life | We Came From Where?