

# AMOS 5 vs 1

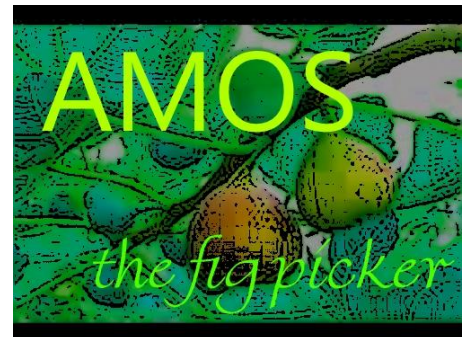
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<sup>1</sup> Hear this word which I take up against you / the Lord spoke to the House of Israel, so is this just an old message? Or is He still speaking to the remnant House of Israel today... as the time of the Gentiles finishes?

even a death dirge, O **House of Israel**.

<sup>2</sup> She has fallen, the virgin **Israel**; she will rise **no** more: she is forsaken on her own land; with none to raise her up / till this time she had been unconquered; now she is neglected, deserted...abandoned; long ago, our ancestors were warned – for us to learn what really happened.



<sup>3</sup> For the Lord GOD says,

The city that marched out 1000 strong, will only have 100 left, and those who marched out 100 strong, will only have 10 left -- of the house of **Israel**. **90% loss**

<sup>4</sup> For the LORD said to the house of **Israel**, **Seek Me, and you will live**: / so where is greater Israel today, 2500 years later? Perhaps they should know this,

<sup>5</sup> But do **not** seek Bethel / the capital city – to the north, do **not** enter historic Gilgal – to the east, and do **not** pass to Beersheba – to the south: for Gilgal will surely go into captivity, and Bethel will come to nothing.

<sup>6</sup> **Seek the LORD, and you will live**; lest like a fire He spreads and consume the **house of Joseph** and there are none to quench it in Bethel.

The **10 northern tribes** including Joseph's 2 sons: Ephraim the younger inherited the birthright promises of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, **his descendants would become a multitude of nations**; Manasseh the older would become a great nation; they represent the **House of Israel** not the 2 southern tribes **House of Judah**,

<sup>7</sup> You who turn judgment to wormwood / to bitterness, and throw rightness to the ground,

<sup>8</sup> **Seek Him who made the seven stars and Orion** / seek the Creator; He is very creative, who turns darkness into dawn, and makes the day dark as the night: who summons the waters of the sea, and can flood the face of the earth:

**The LORD is His name:**

<sup>9</sup> Who flashes forth destruction on the strong, so that destruction falls on their fortress.

<sup>10</sup> Yet you hate the one who reproves in the gate, and abhor the one who speaks rightly.

<sup>11</sup> So, because you impose heavy rent on the poor, and you exact a grain tax on them:

you built houses of cut stone, but you will **never** dwell in them; you planted pleasant vineyards, but you will **never** drink its wine.

<sup>12</sup> For I know your many rebellions, and your sins are countless:

<sup>1</sup> you afflict the just,

<sup>2</sup> you take a bribe,

<sup>3</sup> and you turn aside the poor in the gate. And it is as if the Lord said: 3 strikes and you are OUT!

<sup>13</sup> **Therefore** the wise person will keep silent at such a time; for it is an evil time.

Our country filled with people who think they are above the law... is getting very close to this same evil time. Thankfully, it is very wise to get on the Lord's side; He will take care of business come the right time. There is a time to protest, and raise your voice to be heard, but there comes a time to let God work...

<sup>14</sup> Seek good, and **not** evil, that you may live: and the LORD, the God of hosts will be with you, just as you have said / the Lord of all things animate and inanimate, visible and invisible, He has every resource available to Him; and He will accomplish His will. Look to Him.

<sup>15</sup> Hate evil, love good, and establish justice in the gate; perhaps the LORD God of hosts will be gracious to the **remnant of Joseph** / do this at the local level, at the national level even today.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore YHWH, the God of hosts, the LORD, says;

There will be wailing in all the public squares; and in all the streets they will say, Alas! alas! They will call the farmer to mourning, and the professional mourners to lament.

<sup>17</sup> And in all the vineyards will be wailing: for I will pass among you, says the LORD.

<sup>18</sup> Woe to you who long for the day of the LORD! / how terrible it will be for those self-righteous who call for the Judgment of God to come down on others... Amos said, **the prudent will keep silent in that time.**

to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light;

<sup>19</sup> it will be like a man who flees from a lion, and a bear confronts him; or goes home, and leans his hand against the wall, and a snake bites him.

<sup>20</sup> Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light? even gloom with no brightness in it? C.S. Lewis said: when the Author finally steps on the stage, we know the dramatic play is over.

<sup>21</sup> I loathe, I despise your feast days / your manmade, artificial hocus pocus days, including your stale leftovers patched up and packaged as Christmas days. You know in heaven they don't celebrate Christmas?

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Notice, the LORD did **NOT** say, He hates **the 7 Days that belong to Him**. 4 Days were fulfilled in Christ, the Messiah; 3 last days of the Lord still await His completion... Paul said they are **a shadow of things to come**.

**I loathe, I despise your feast days, and your solemn assemblies stink.**

<sup>22</sup> **Though you offer up burnt offerings and grain offerings to Me, I will not accept them: nor regard the peace offerings of you fat beasts** / previously He called them cows of Bashan.

<sup>23</sup> **Take away from Me the noise of your songs;** as the last undergraduate of Church Music from USC, I have always sought to subordinate the gift of music, to the Word of God, guided by this verse;

**for I will not hear the melody of your strings** / your viols, harps or guitars.

<sup>24</sup> **But let justice roll down like waters, and rightness like a mighty stream.**

<sup>25</sup> **Did you offer Me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel?** / does this suggest for 40 years they were more takers, than givers? Wow!

<sup>26</sup> **You carried the tabernacle of your Moloch and Kiyyun your images, the star of your god, which you made for yourselves** / the Lord was clear, **make NO images** -- Deut.5. Yet does this verse describe the Jewish hexagram which recently has been called: the Star of David? Anyone take bets?

<sup>27</sup> **Therefore I will cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus** / having selectively ignore God and His word... picking and choosing those verses they liked, the 10 tribes of the **House of Israel** resettled in Assyria, near the capital Nineveh - modern day Mosul; 170 years later the **House of Judah** would go that same way but to Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon,

**said the LORD, whose name is The God of hosts.** These words speak to our times too; don't they?

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