



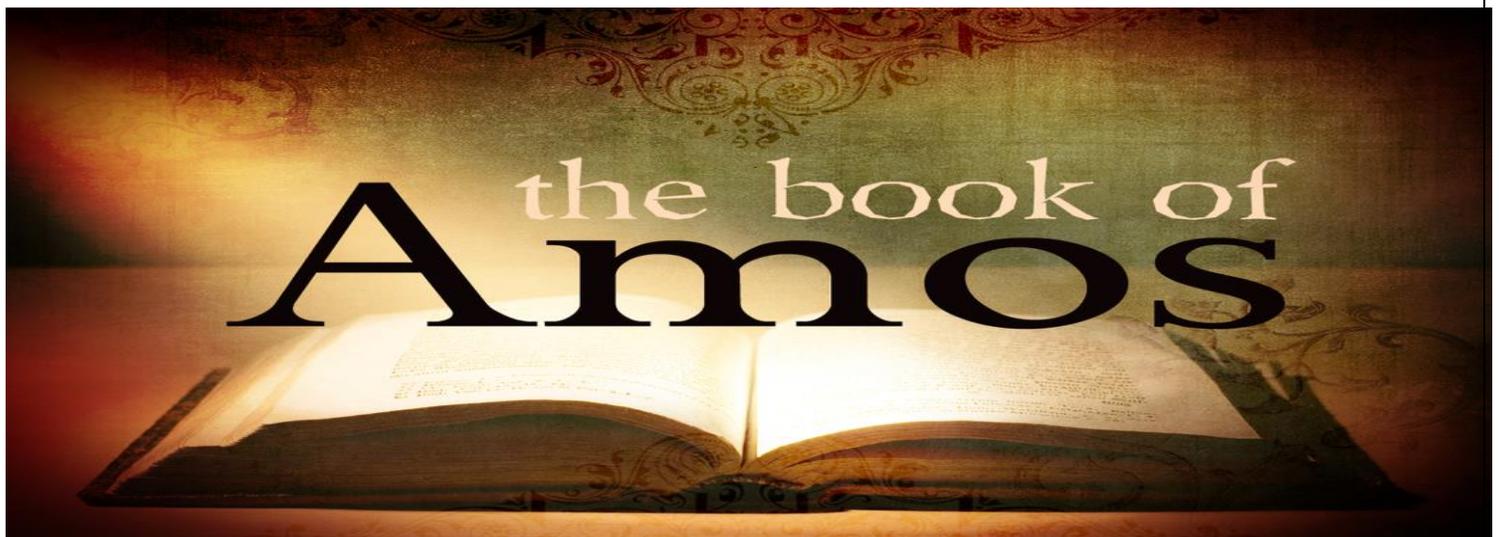
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“Almost” Everything You Need to Know About...



**Tuesday, May 18, 2021
Online Bible Study**

We go from **JUICY** (Hosea) to
PRACTICAL & DIRECT (Amos)

One of the Main Questions of The Book of Amos:

**Does Financial or Material
Prosperity Mean that “God Is
With You” or that “God Favors
You Over Others?”**

I. QUICK FACTS ON AMOS

1. He was a prophet. Let's be clear (again) on what this means.
 - a. Spokesperson, mouthpiece for God.
 - b. Does not imply that he was a “**minister**” or a “**priest.**” In fact, Amos was NOT a minister or priest. He was a shepherd, a herdsman, a cultivator of sycamore trees.
 - c. The significance of lay ministry.

The words of Amos, one of the shepherds of Tekoa—the vision he saw concerning Israel two years before the earthquake, when Uzziah was king of Judah and Jeroboam son of Jehoash was king of Israel. – 1:1

¹⁴ Amos answered Amaziah, “I was neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees. ¹⁵ But the LORD took me from tending the flock and said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’ - 7:14-15

2. Amos was from the Southern Kingdom (Judah) but his prophecy was primarily for the Northern Kingdom (Israel).
3. Amos began his prophecy addressing Israel's **neighbors** (1:1-2:5). This made Israel feel comfortable and secure because he was not talking about them. But then there was a...



SHIFT

4. Amos' prophecy moved from being external (about others) to being internal (about Israel.) Can you handle it when **“shift happens to you?”**
5. Amos went **in**:
 - a. Reached a state of complacency because of their wealth and material goods.
 - b. Focused on the military and political power.
 - c. Worshiped the **“created”** instead of the **“creator.”**
 - d. Ignored the poor, the widow, the weak. Rampant injustice.
 - e. Amos spends a good amount of time dealing with:



- f. It would be almost 30 years before God’s prophecies would be fulfilled.
- g. God always ends up with a word of hope, and usually restoration. Even though God says that “**I will send fire...**” seven times in the book, God makes 3 promises:
 - Reinstatement of the Davidic line
 - Renew the land
 - Restore the temple

II. LET’S READ

- “This is what the Lord says...I will not turn back my wrath.” (1:3, 1:6, 1:9, 1:11, 1:13, 2:1, 2:4, 2:6 (this is where the shift happens).
- 3:1-8
- 3:11 – What’s coming...
- Chapter 4 – Look at what God did/will do.
- 5:4-13 (Hmmm...)
- 5:14-15
- 5:18-27
- Chapter 6 – **COMPLACENCY!**
- Chapter 7 – God relented/delayed God’s judgment (7:1-3; 7:4-6)
- 9:11-12 – Restoration!

III. QUESTIONS

1. How should we view personal or societal prosperity? Our material goods? Our money?
2. Lay ministry concurrent with the sacerdotal authority of ministers.
3. What can we do to keep from becoming complacent?



IV. BIBLE PROJECT VIDEO ON AMOS

For Next Week: Please read The Book of Obadiah

Join us on the St. Matthew Prayer Line daily at 6 am & 9:30 pm.

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