

## Amos and Hosea

### Class 1 — Texts

#### Amos and Amaziah

(Amos 7:10-17)

10 Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam the king of Israel, saying,

“Amos conspires against you in the midst of the House of Israel.  
The land is unable to bear all his words.

11 For thus says Amos,  
‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword,  
And Israel shall be cast into exile from her land.’”

12 Then Amaziah said to Amos,

“Go, seer! Flee to the land of Judah.  
Eat bread there, and prophesy there.

13 But prophesy no more in Bethel;  
for this is the royal sanctuary;  
this is the temple of the kingdom.”

14 Then Amos answered Amaziah and said,

“I was no prophet, nor son of a prophet,  
But I was a shepherd and trimmer of sycamores,  
When Yahweh took me from tending the flock,  
And Yahweh said to me,

15 ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel!’  
16 “So now, hear the word of Yahweh:  
You say,  
‘Do not prophesy against Israel;  
speak not a word against the House of Isaac.’

17 Therefore, thus says Yahweh,  
‘Your wife shall be a harlot in the city,  
and your sons and daughters shall fall by the sword,  
and your land shall be parceled out by shares.  
You yourself shall die in an unclean land,  
and Israel shall be cast into exile from her land.’”

**“Who Will Not Prophesy?”**  
(Amos 3:3-6, 8)

- 3 Do two walk together,  
unless they have met?
- 4 Does a lion roar in the forest,  
when it has no prey?  
  
Does a young lion growl in its den,  
unless it has caught something?
- 5 Does a bird fall into a trap on the ground,  
when the trap is not set for it?
- 6 If a trumpet is blown in a city,  
are the people not afraid?  
  
If misfortune befalls a city,  
has Yahweh not brought it?
- 8 A lion has roared;  
who will not fear?  
  
The Lord Yahweh has spoken;  
who will not prophesy?

**The Visions**  
(Amos 7:1-9; 8:1-3)

7:1-2 *The Lord Yahweh showed me this:* behold, he was forming locusts in the first growth from the late sowing — it was the late sowing after the royal mowing. When they had finished devouring the grass of the land, I exclaimed,

“Lord Yahweh, forgive!  
How can Jacob stand,  
He is so small?”

3 Yahweh changed his mind.

“It shall not happen,” Yahweh declared.

4 *The Lord Yahweh showed me this:* behold, the Lord Yahweh was summoning a trial by fire. When it had consumed the great ocean and was consuming the dry land, I exclaimed,

5 “Lord Yahweh, stop!  
How can Jacob stand,  
He is so small?”

6 Yahweh changed his mind about this.

“This, too, shall not happen,” the Lord Yahweh declared.

7-8 *He showed me this:* behold, the Lord stood beside a plumb-line in his hand. And Yahweh asked me,

“What do you see, Amos?”

And I answered,

“A plumb-line.”

Then the Lord said,

9 “Behold, I am setting a plumb-line  
In the midst of my people Israel.  
I will never again pass by them.  
The high places of Isaac will be devastated,  
And the sanctuaries of Israel destroyed,  
When I rise against the House of Jeroboam with the sword.”

8:1-2 *The Lord Yahweh showed me this:* behold, there was a basket of ripe fruit. And he asked me:

“What do you see, Amos?”

And I answered,

“A basket of ripe fruit.”

Then Yahweh said to me,

“My people Israel is ripe for destruction.

I will never again pass by them.

3 They will wail the temple songs

In that day, is the Lord Yahweh’s utterance.

So many corpses!

Thrown everywhere!

Silence!”