

Amos and Hosea
Class 2 — Texts

Judgment on Israel
(Amos 2:6-8.12.9-11.13-16)

6	<i>Thus says Yahweh:</i> “For the three transgressions of Israel, — and for the four, I will not turn it back.	Introductory Formulas
7	“Because they sell the innocent for silver, and the needy for a pair of shoes, They who trample the head of the weak, and push the humble from the way. And a man and his father go to the maiden, to profane my holy name.	Accusation (six lines)
8	And they stretch out upon pledged garments beside every altar. And drink wine taken in fines in the house of their God.	
12	And they force the Nazirites to drink wine, and command the prophets, saying, “Don’t prophesy!”	
9	“Yet it was I who destroyed the Amorite before them, who was as tall as the cedars. Though he was as strong as the oaks, I destroyed his fruit above and his roots below.	Recollection (six lines)
10	And it was I who brought you up from the land of Egypt, And made you walk in the wilderness for forty years, in order to inherit the Amorite’s land.	
11	And I raised up some of your prophets, and your stalwart youths as Nazirites. Isn’t this so, O Israelites?” <i>The oracle of Yahweh.</i>	Concluding Formula
13	“Behold, I am about to make you totter in your place, as a wagon totters that is full of sheaves.	Announcement (four lines)
14	Refuge will vanish from the swift; the strong will not exert his strength,	

nor the warrior save himself.
 15 The archer will not stand,
 nor the fleet runner save himself,
 nor the horseman save his life.

16 But the stout-hearted warrior
 will run away naked in that day.”

The oracle of Yahweh.

Concluding Formula

The Chosen Family

(Amos 3:1-2)

1 Hear this word that the Lord has spoken against you, O people of Israel,
 against the whole family that I brought up out of the land of Egypt:

2 You only have I know
 of all the families of the earth;
 therefore I will punish you
 for all your iniquities.

The Women of Samaria

(Amos 4:1-3)

1 Hear this word, you cows of Bashan
 who are on Mount Samaria,
 who oppress the poor, who crush the needy,
 who say to their husbands, ‘Bring something to drink!’

2 The Lord God has sworn by his holiness:
 The time is surely coming upon you,
 when they shall take you away with hooks,
 even the last of you with fish-hooks.

3 Through breaches in the wall you shall leave,
 each one straight ahead;
 and you shall be flung out into Harmon,
 says the Lord.

The Remnant
(Amos 5:14-15)

- 1 Seek good and not evil,
 that you may live;
 and so he Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you,
 just as you have said.
- 15 Hate evil and love good,
 and establish justice in the gate;
 it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts,
 will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

The Day of Yahweh
(Amos 5:18-20)

- 18 Woe to those who yearn
 for the day of the Lord!
 What will the day of the Lord mean for you?
 It will be darkness, not light.
- 19 As if someone fled from a lion
 and a bear met him;
 Or as if on entering a house
 he rested his hand against the wall,
 and a snake bit it.
- 20 Truly, the day of the Lord will be darkness, not light,
 gloom without any brightness.

Famine for Hearing the Word of God
(Amos 8:11-14)

- 11 See, days are coming — oracle of the Lord —
 when I will send a famine upon the land:
 Not a hunger for bread, or a thirst for water,
 but for hearing the word of the Lord.
- 12 They shall stagger from sea to sea
 and wander from north to east
 In search for the word of the Lord,
 but they shall not find it.
- 13 In that day, beautiful young women and young men
 shall faint from thirst.
- 14 They who swear by Ashima of Samaria,
 and who say, “By the life of your god, O Dan,”
 “By the life of the power of Beer-sheba!”
 They shall fall, never to rise again.