

Amos 1

Week of 8th October 2023



Leader: Opening prayer

Read Amos 5 : 1 – 15

Ref V7 and V10

What is the common theme running through these verses regarding the morality of peoples' behaviour at the time?

Ref V2 and V3

What is prophesied to be the likely outcome if everyone continues to look after their own interests?

Ref V14 and V15

How might the people avoid the wrath of God?

History tells us that during the life of Amos there was a major earthquake in the area in question in 750 B.C. Do you think the earthquake was a sign that the people had not heeded the words of Amos or is it just a coincidence?

Read Amos 5 : 21 – 24

Ref V21 and V22

What can we learn from this regarding the desirability or otherwise of ceremony and material displays in our worship?

Ref V24

Does this verse give you an image of a vengeful or forgiving God?

In what ways are the teachings of Amos consistent with what we know happened in the new testament?

In what ways do the teachings of Amos appear to conflict with what we know happened in the new testament?

Leader: Closing Prayer

Background

Amos was a native of Tekoa (12 miles south of Jerusalem), a shepherd (hence the motif) and a dresser of fig trees. The call of God to the prophetic ministry came to him whilst tending the flock. Amos prophesied in the northern kingdom during part of the reign of Jeroboam 2nd (785 – 744 B.C.), King of Israel, and during the reign of Uzziah (780 – 740 B.C.), King of Judah.