

Amos 3

Week of 8th November 2023



Leader: Opening prayer

Read Amos 8 : 1 – 12

Ref V1

What is the significance of the basket of summer fruit?

Ref V2 and V3

God says, “The end has come upon my people Israel; I will never again pass by them.” Does this really mean that he is effectively excluding Israel and its people from any further relations?

Ref V4 to V7

The passage once again, focuses on inequality of personal circumstances and to some extent dubious practices. Do we really believe that V7 will / has actually been fulfilled?

Ref V8 to V10

Are we aware of examples of times when these things have actually happened or is it currently a prophesy that is yet to take place?

Ref V11 to V12

A famine “of hearing the words of the Lord,” is a terrible prospect and appears to exclude any possibility of forgiveness and being given another chance. The New Testament promotes something rather different. Perhaps God changed his mind? Perhaps God is yet to do so?

Leader: Closing Prayer

Background

The main theme of the book of Amos is God’s passionate concern for justice. Justice is seen as relational as it promotes good relations between people and groups of people. Injustice breaks down good relationships and breeds discontent and anger, hostility and violence. God created the human race to enjoy good relations with Him and one another. Injustice that breeds alienation in all its varieties must logically be highly undesirable from God’s perspective.