

Amos: Let Justice Roll – Student Study Guide

Time and Setting

Amos prophesied during the reign of **Jeroboam II (around 760 BC)** in the Northern Kingdom of Israel.

- Outwardly: booming economy, secure borders, thriving religion.
- Beneath the surface: spiritual decay, moral corruption, and social injustice.
- Amos was a shepherd and dresser of sycamore trees from Tekoa (Southern Judah), called by God to deliver a message of judgment and justice.

Key Idea: True blessing from God carries responsibility to live righteously.

Chapters 1–2: The Bullseye of Judgment

Theme: God’s Justice Is for Everyone

- Judgment starts with Israel’s neighbors: Damascus, Gaza, Tyre, Edom, Ammon, Moab.
- The “bullseye” lands on Israel, who should have known better.

Key Verse:

Amos 1:3 – *“For three transgressions of Damascus, and for four, I will not revoke the punishment...”*

Application:

- No one is exempt from God’s justice.
- God’s patience is real, but His limits are clear.

Chapter 2 Focus:

Amos 2:6–8 – Israel exploited the poor, trampled the needy, and mixed worship with immorality.

Related Scripture: Exodus 22:26–27 – God defends the vulnerable.

Reflection:

- How are you using your blessings to serve God and others?

Chapter 3: The Storm of Judgment

Theme: Privilege Comes with Accountability

Key Verses:

- **Amos 3:2** – Being chosen means responsibility.
- **Amos 3:7–8** – God warns before He judges.

Application:

- Don't mistake silence for approval.
 - God's correction is an act of mercy, not shame.
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Chapter 4: The Wake-Up Call

Theme: God Tries to Get Your Attention

- Targets the wealthy women of Samaria (“cows of Bashan”) for luxury and oppression.
- God disciplines repeatedly, but they refuse to repent.

Key Verses: Amos 4:1–11

Application:

- God uses hardships to wake us to righteousness.
 - Humility and responsiveness prevent unnecessary suffering.
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Chapter 5: True Worship, Not Empty Religion

Theme: God Wants Justice, Not Performance

Key Verse: Amos 5:21–24 – *“But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”*

Application:

- True worship flows from heart to action.
- Your life Monday–Saturday reflects your worship Sunday.

Chapter 6: False Security and Luxury

Theme: Complacency Leads to Collapse

Key Verse: Amos 6:1, 4–7 – Comfort can blind us to injustice.

Application:

- Prosperity is a tool, not a shield.
- Use blessings to uplift, not to numb compassion.

Chapter 7: The Visions Begin

Theme: God’s Mercy and the Power of Intercession

- Amos sees visions of locusts, fire, and a plumb line.
- **Amos 7:1–3** – God relents after Amos intercedes.
- **Amos 7:7–8** – Plumb line shows God’s standard; final judgment comes if ignored.

Application:

- God’s standard is higher than ours.
- Intercession matters, but ignoring God has consequences.

Chapter 8: The End Is Near

Theme: Spiritual Famine

Key Verse: Amos 8:11–12 – A famine of God’s Word comes to those who reject Him.

Application:

- Never take God’s Word for granted.
- Stay spiritually alert—rejection leads to emptiness.

Chapter 9: Judgment and Hope

Theme: Restoration Follows Repentance

Key Verses: Amos 9:11–12, 14–15 – God promises restoration even after judgment.

Application:

- God’s justice is real, but so is His mercy.
 - The fallen tent of David points forward to **Jesus**, who rebuilds what sin has broken.
 - There is always hope when you turn back to God.
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Reflection Questions

1. How does Amos challenge your understanding of God’s justice and mercy?
 2. What is the difference between outward prosperity and true righteousness?
 3. Are there “roots of injustice” in your own life or community that God is calling you to address?
 4. How can you live in a way that demonstrates mercy and justice daily?
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Memory Verses

- **Amos 1:3** – God’s patience has limits.
- **Amos 3:2** – Privilege comes with responsibility.
- **Amos 5:24** – *“Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”*