

MINOR PROPHETS STUDY

Christ the King Lutheran Church, Winter 2024–Spring 2025

Session Four: Amos – The Truth about Injustice

BACKGROUND

Who: Amos (“Carry”); shepherd in Tekoa (south of Bethlehem)

When: 792–740BC (Prophesying in Judah, North falls shortly after in 722; contemporary of Hosea and Isaiah)

INJUSTICE IS FUNDAMENTALLY CRUEL

AMOS 1–2

How does geography help us understand 1:2?

Whom does the Lord address? For what offenses?

- 1:3
- 1:6
- 1:9
- 1:11
- 2:1
- 2:4
- 2:6

What’s with the “three transgressions and four”?

How is Judah’s judgment different (2:4)?

What past faithfulness does God point out to Israel (2:9–11)?

INJUSTICE ANGERS GOD

JOEL 3–6

What is the tone of each main section here?

- 3:1–2 [*note: “to know”; parallels to Hosea*]
- 4:1–3
- 5:1–2
- 6:1

What is the role of prophecy? Is it optional? (3:7–8)

By what means did God try to correct Israel (4:6,7,9,10,11)?

How are verses 5:6–9 both frightening and comforting?

5:18–24 can be considered the main thesis of Amos… discuss. [consider parallels to James]

INJUSTICE REMEDIED BY JUSTICE

JOEL 7–9

Only biographical exchange in the book: 7:10–17 – how is this revealing?

Series of visions:

- Locusts 7:1–3 – Amos intercedes
- Fire 7:4–6 – Amos intercedes
- Plumb Line 7:7–9
- Summer fruit 8:1–14 –
 - day of judgment (vv.7–10)
 - silence of God (v.11–14)
- The Lord at the altar 9:1–14
 - v.11… compare with v.1
 - v.12… compare with chs. 1–2
 - vv. 13–15… compare with 4:6–11