

AMOS CHAPTER 7

- Main roles of a Prophet: 1) intercessor 2) messenger
- Chapter 7 should include verses 1 – 3 of chapter 8
- 4 visions introduced
- First 2 visions Amos intercedes and God relents
- Second 2 visions God interrogates Amos, Amos responds, but God does NOT relent

"All thy trees and the
fruit of thy land shall
the locust possess..."

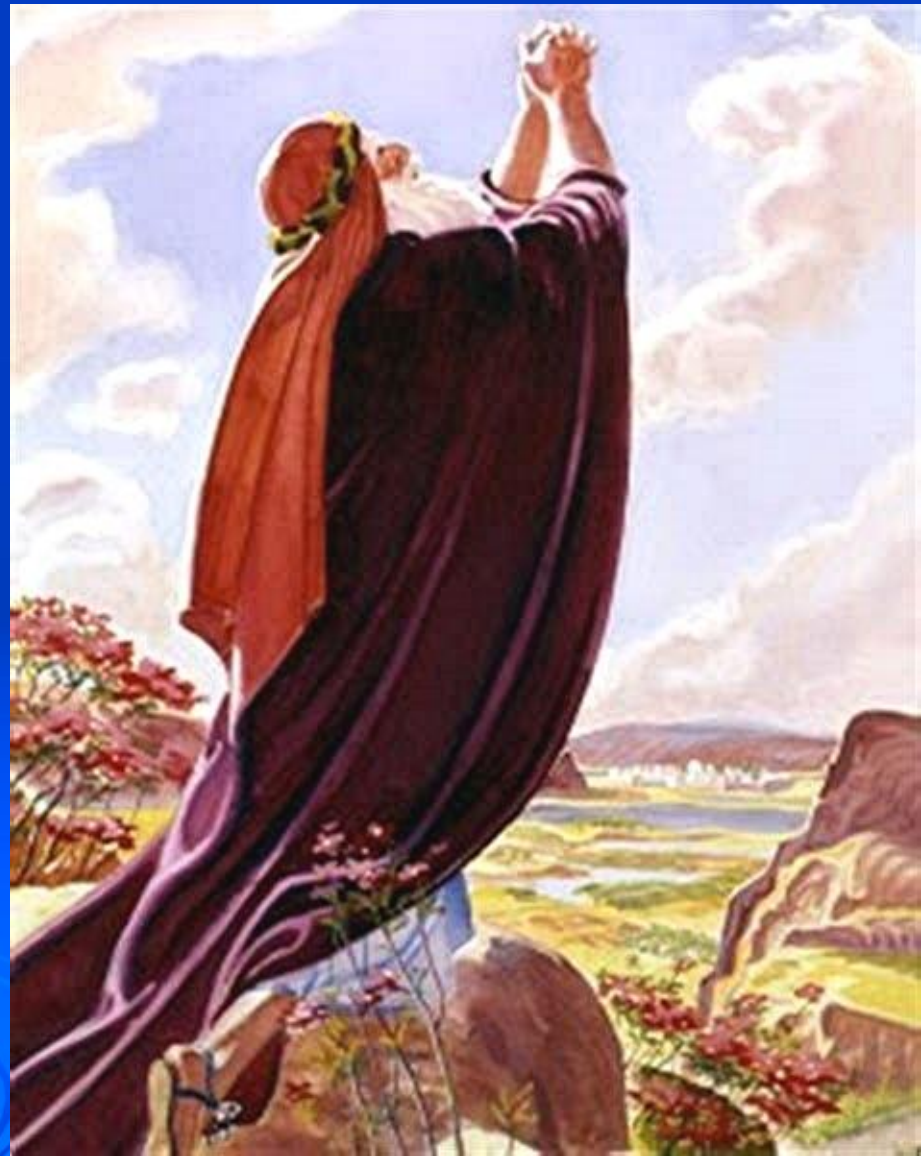
Deut. 28:42



- Vs. 1 should say: Lord Yehoveh
- 1st cutting or crop goes to the king
- 2nd cutting or crop goes to the common people
- Grasshopper invasion occurs after the 1st harvest, but before the 2nd
- The locust disaster is a God-directed curse

“How could Jacob survive?”

- A *potential* future scenario
- **Salach** = pardon (better translation than “forgive”)
- The use of the word “Jacob” likely meant to humanize Israel
- Amos always thought a remnant of Israel would remain
- But, the locust invasion made him think Israel would come to an end
- **Nacham** = comforted, consoled (less so “repent”)
- God does not “repent”





VISION #2:

fiery heat

- Deuteronomy 32:22
- Sheol and Abyss used as parallel terms
- Isaiah 66:15
- Better translation of verse 4: “...*behold, the Lord God called to contend by a fiery heat; and it devoured the great deep, and would have eaten up the land...*”



“Oh, Lord God, refrain!”

- **Chadal** = refrain, forego
- Just as in the 1st vision, God comforts Amos that the vision does not mean that every last Israelite will die
- Next 2 visions are symbolic, not literal or real
- **Anak** = plummet, a metal weight
- **Anaku** = Akkadian for tin

"I will never again overlook their offenses"

Amos 7:7



- The Hebrew word for groaning (*anaq*) sounds nearly identical to *anak*
- Word play on *naq* and *anak*
- God does NOT comfort Amos...the vision will happen
- Jeroboam's dynasty will end
- Jeroboam was the epitome of an unfaithful king

AMOS & AMAZIAH



- Vs. 10 a confrontation between Amos and Amaziah
- Amos is accused of a conspiracy against King Jeroboam
- There was precedent for a Prophet of God to foment rebellion
- 2Kings 9:1 – 10
- Prophets in Amos's era were paid to give prophecies from God



**We, the
Elites**



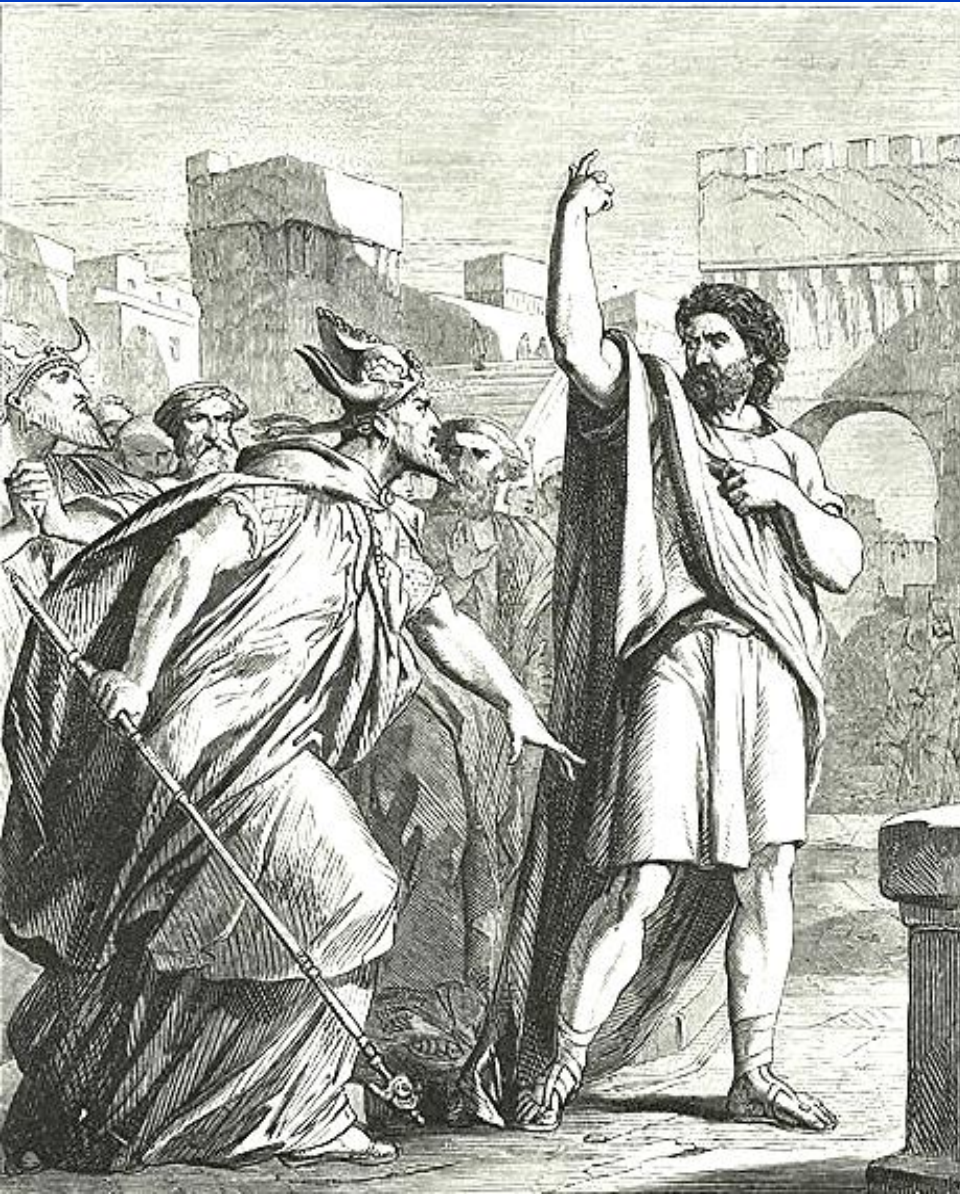
- Bethel was the royally authorized worship center for Ephraim/Israel
- Israel viewed as sophisticated and progressive, Judah as simple country hicks
- The Elites believe they have the right and duty to re-make our morals, ethics, and faith

A CALLING, NOT A PROFESSION

- Much controversy about vs. 14
- Likely meaning is: “I am a prophet, but not a member of a prophet guild”
- Vs. 15, God took Amos away from his normal occupation
- 2Samuel 7:8
- Deut. 17:14 – 15
- Deut. 18:15
- Amos was obedient to God’s call



GOD JUDGES AMAZIAH



- Amos 7:17
- God's oracle against Amaziah for trying to suppress the truth
- 5 judgments:
- 1) His wife will become a prostitute
- 2) His children will die violently
- 3) He will lose his land
- 4) Amaziah will die on foreign, unclean soil
- 5) Amaziah will be deported with the common folks of Israel