

AMOS 8: The 4th Vision



- 4 visions given in 2 pairs
- Both the 3rd and 4th visions are symbolic word-plays
- The 4th vision is of “summer fruit”
- The object (basket) has no relevance; it was chosen for how it sounds when spoken
- **Qayits** is a homonym for another word that sounds like it
- The second word means “the final hour”



- The 4th vision portrays a wholesale slaughter of the population of Ephraim/Israel
- By the 8th cent. B.C. Israel had become a 2-class society: the rich subjugates the poor
- God's attitude concerning finances and societal structure: Exodus 23:6 Deuteronomy 15:7 - 11

ROSH HODESH



THE NEW MOON

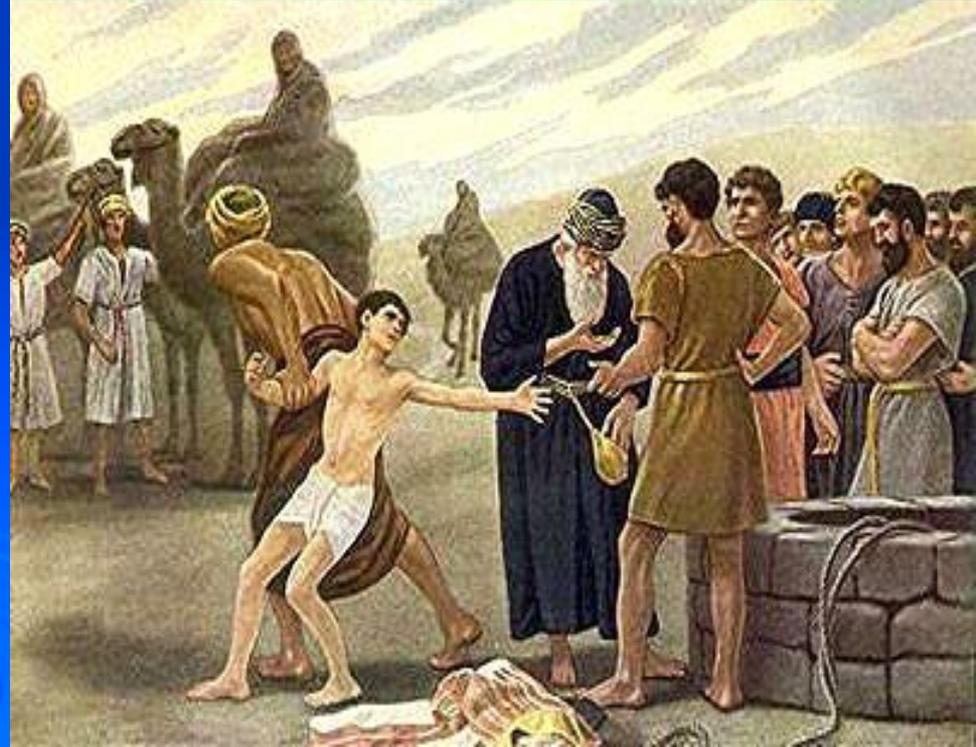
- God wants a balance of responsibility to the poor between government and individuals
- Israel's businessmen want ***Rosh Hodesh*** and ***Shabbat*** to hurry and get over so they can make profit
- Ephraim/Israel had declared Rosh Hodesh to be an added sabbath



- Every few years a 13th month is added
- Numbers 10:10 Ordinance of Rosh Hodesh does NOT declare the day a sabbath
- Ephraim/Israel was deeply religious; re-wrote the Torah by adding Traditions and pagan elements
- Mark 7:13

FUNDAMENTAL DISHONESTY

- 1) They shrink the size of an ephah
- 2) They overweight the shekel
- 3) They use rigged scales
- Leviticus 19:35 – 36
- Vs. 6 Human trafficking
- Slavery = owning a human being
- Bond servitude = laborers under contract



- Jacob's pride
- 1) Land of Israel?
- 2) Ironic expression?
- A reversal of salvation history and blessings history is coming
- Earthquake is a common biblical sign of God's wrath Isaiah 24:17 – 20
- It is likened to the Nile River that rises and floods, then recedes and rests



ON THAT DAY



- “On that day” = Judgment Day, Day of the Lord
- A solar eclipse; sun is not going to rush to sundown
- Probably meant to recall Deuteronomy 28:28 – 29
- Why would people be so afraid after an eclipse if it does no harm ?
- Earthquakes and eclipses were signs of God’s wrath
- When an only son dies, the family’s blood line comes to an end

DIVINE DIRECTION



- A famine of a lack of God's presence is predicted
- It was believed that a god's presence was in the local Temple
- The Word of Yehoveh in vs. 11 means that YHWH won't reside in the land any longer
- No God. No Prophets. No divine direction.
- Deuteronomy 4:25 - 31



- In vs. 12 “word of YHWH” means the Torah and prophetic revelation
- Likely “north to east” because Judah was south and God had not yet removed His blessing from them

“As thy god,
Dan, lives....”

- “At that time” a common prophetic word formula that indicates a new thought
- *Yapheh* = beautiful virgin girls
- *Bachur* = youthful males
- The “sin of Samaria” is probably the Golden Calf or Ba'al idols
- Although located in Judah, Be'er Sheva identified with Israel and so they worshipped idols

