

Discussion Questions

Date: January 11, 2026

Preacher: Josh Ratliff

Sermon Outline

Talking Points

Amos 7:10-17 | God's Word Must Not Be Ignored

Israel's Leaders Reject God's Warnings (Amos 7:10-13)

- God's word challenges unjust systems. (vv.10-11)
- God's power cannot be confined by human systems. (vv.12-13)
- **Question:** Are you grounded enough in God's word and the Spirit's power so as to resist leaders, and anyone else, who might lead you astray?

God's Judgment of Covenant Infidelity Is Assured (Amos 7:14-17)

- God's work is not constrained by human expectations or limitations. (v. 14-15)
- Resisting God's word brings judgment. (vv. 16-17)
- **Question:** Where might you be making excuses for ignoring God's word and God's call? Are you willing to repent and live in obedience to God?

Bottom Line: God's powerful word must be heeded, not resisted.

* Why do you think Amaziah frames Amos's warning as political treason rather than a spiritual warning? What does this say about Amaziah's priorities, and where do you see similar priorities today?

* What is your typical response when God's word challenges something in your life that benefits or comforts you?

* What kind of pressure was Amaziah trying to put on Amos to deter him from delivering God's word? Where do you experience, or have seen others experience, pressure like this today?

* In what ways have you disqualified yourself from obedience because you feel unimportant or not capable?

* Do you believe God defines effectiveness in your life? Or do you measure it by the expectations of those around you?

* What does it mean to resist God's word? What does judgement look like from doing this? When have you experienced this judgement/discipline in your life?

* Where are you delaying obedience or repentance in your life? How can you actively pursue repentance or obedience this week?

Understanding Scripture

1. Read the passage aloud.

- Question: How would the original audience have understood this passage?
- Question: What was God's desire for them?

2. Reread key verse(s) aloud.

- Question: What does this teach us about the human soul, desires, or behavior?
- Question: What does this teach us about the nature, desires, or behavior of God?

3. Ask if anything is difficult to understand in the passage, or simply point it out yourself.

- Back up from the confusing verse and reread the whole section slowly—highlight the author's flow of thought.
- Ask everyone, "What are some possible interpretations?" Encourage curiosity!
- If needed, provide clarification, but admit if you don't have a satisfactory explanation, and volunteer to research answers. Share your findings over text or at the next meeting.

4. Summarize the passage in 1-3 sentences to refocus the group ("Okay, so far we've seen in Amos...")

- Question: What does this say about our relationship with God and/or each other?
- Question: How do the teachings, actions, or person of Jesus shed light on this passage?

Prayer Requests

