

**The Lion Speaks** Amos 1:3-2:5 Jeremy Mikeska August 10, 2025 Life Change: That we hold fast to God's Word and walk faithfully

STAY ON THE PATH!	
The Oracles against the nations	
Syria	1:3-5
Philistia	1:6-8
Phoenicia	1:9-10
Edom	1:11-12
Ammon	1:13-15
Moab	2:1-3
Judah	2:4-5

Romans 3 Indictment against all mankind

Response needed?

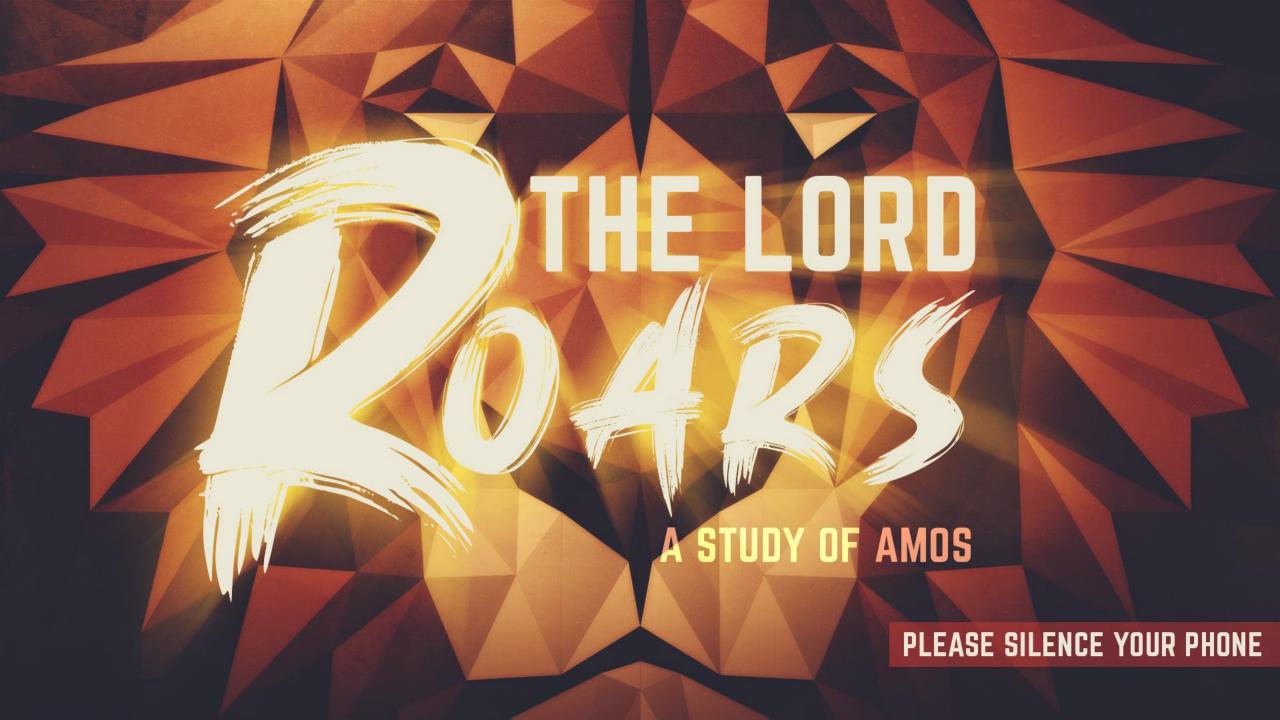


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## "Stick to the Trail"



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- <sup>10</sup> Listen, my son. Accept my words, and you will live many years.
- <sup>11</sup>I am teaching you the way of wisdom;

I am guiding you on straight paths.

<sup>12</sup> When you walk, your steps will not be hindered;

when you run, you will not stumble.

<sup>13</sup> Hold on to instruction; don't let go. Guard it, for it is your life.

<sup>14</sup> Keep off the path of the wicked; don't proceed on the way of evil ones.

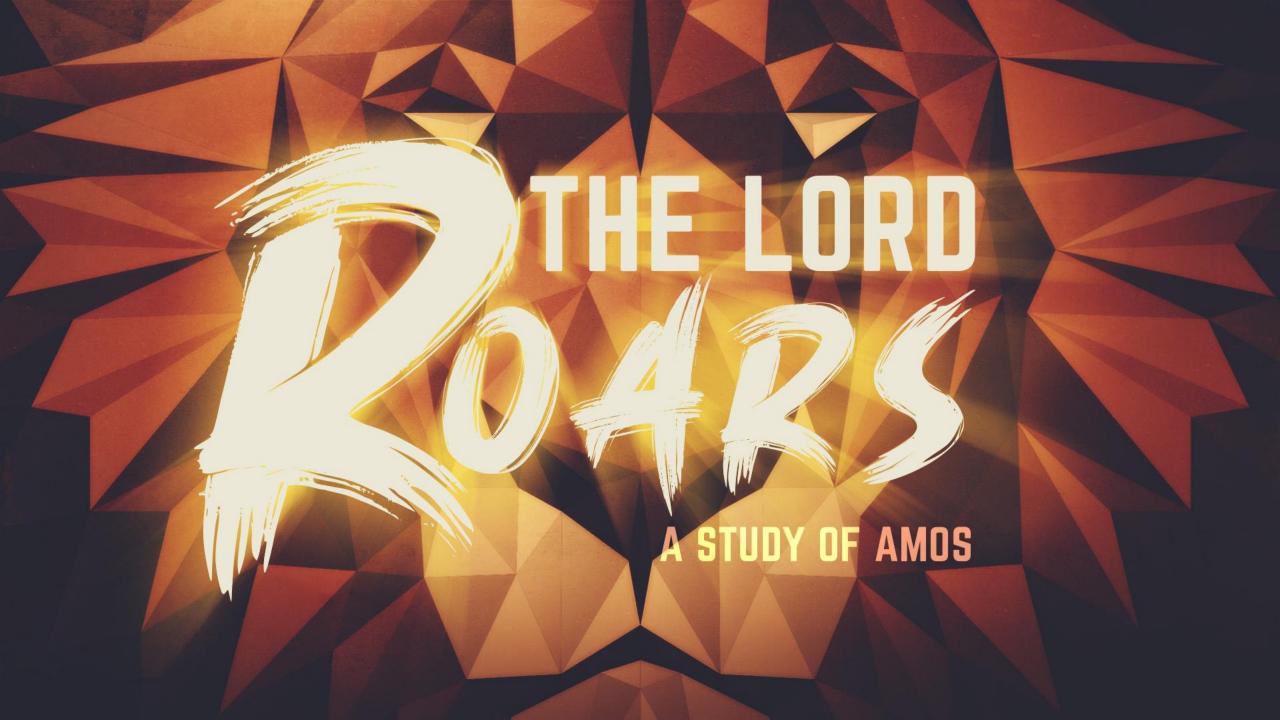
<sup>15</sup> Avoid it; don't travel on it.

Turn away from it, and pass it by.





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<sup>3</sup>The LORD says: I will not relent from punishing Damascus for three crimes, even four, because they threshed Gilead with iron sledges. <sup>4</sup> Therefore, I will send fire against Hazael's palace, and it will consume Ben-hadad's citadels. <sup>5</sup> I will break down the gates, of Damascus. I will cut off the ruler from the Valley of Aven, and the one who wields the scepter from Beth-eden. The people of Aram will be exiled to Kir. The LORD has spoken.

<sup>6</sup> The LORD says: I will not relent from punishing Gaza for three crimes, even four, because they exiled a whole community, handing them over to Edom. <sup>7</sup> Therefore, I will send fire against the walls of Gaza, and it will consume its citadels. <sup>8</sup>I will cut off the ruler from Ashdod, and the one who wields the scepter from Ashkelon. I will also turn my hand against Ekron, and the remainder of the Philistines will perish. The Lord God has spoken.

<sup>9</sup> The LORD says: I will not relent from punishing Tyre for three crimes, even four, because they handed over a whole community of exiles to Edom and broke a treaty of brotherhood. <sup>10</sup> Therefore, I will send fire against the walls of Tyre, and it will consume its citadels.

<sup>11</sup> The LORD says: I will not relent from punishing Edom for three crimes, even four, because he pursued his brother with the sword. He stifled his compassion, his anger tore at him continually, and he harbored his rage incessantly. <sup>12</sup> Therefore, I will send fire against Teman, and it will consume the citadels of Bozrah.

<sup>13</sup> The LORD says: I will not relent from punishing the Ammonites for three crimes, even four, because they ripped open the pregnant women of Gilead in order to enlarge their territory. <sup>14</sup> Therefore, I will set fire to the walls of Rabbah, and it will consume its citadels. There will be shouting on the day of battle and a violent wind on the day of the storm. 15 Their king and his princes will go into exile together. The LORD has spoken.

The LORD says: I will not relent from punishing Moab for three crimes, even four, because he burned the bones of the king of Edom to lime. <sup>2</sup> Therefore, I will send fire against Moab, and it will consume the citadels of Kerioth. Moab will die with a tumult, with shouting and the sound of the trumpet. <sup>3</sup>I will cut off the judge from the land and kill all its officials with him. The LORD has spoken.

<sup>4</sup> The LORD says: I will not relent from punishing Judah for three crimes, even four, because they have rejected the instruction of the LORD and have not kept his statutes. The lies that their ancestors followed have led them astray. <sup>5</sup> Therefore, I will send fire against Judah, and it will consume the citadels of Jerusalem.



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The cause of judgment for each nation was its "sins," its covenant violations. The word for "sin" (peša') means "rebellion" or "revolt," and was used in secular treaties to describe a vassal's disobedience of the terms of a covenant (1 Kings 12:19; 2 Kings 1:1; 3:5, 7; 8:22; Prov. 28:2). The Old Testament prophets also used the noun peša' or the verb pāša' in denouncing Israel's rebellion against God's covenant with her (Isa. 1:2, 28; 46:8; 66:24; Jer. 2:8; Hosea 7:13; 8:1; Micah 1:5, 13).

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<sup>6</sup> The LORD says: I will not relent from punishing Gaza for three crimes, even four, because they exiled a whole community, handing them over to Edom.

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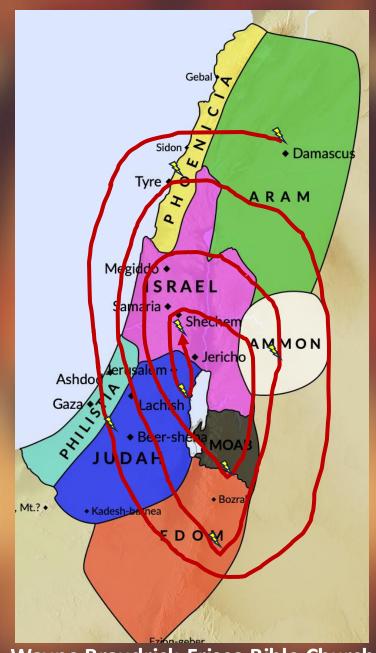
because he burned the bones of the king of Edom to lime.

Apparently Amos had in mind their rebellion against God's universal covenant with humanity made at the time of Noah (Gen. 9:5–17). In exchange for God's suzerain promise never again to destroy the earth with a flood (Gen. 9:11), the vassal peoples were to refrain from shedding blood because disregard for human life is an assault on God's own image in man (Gen. 9:5–6). Human life, rather than being destroyed or curtailed, was to multiply and increase on the earth (Gen. 9:7). This mutual agreement, whereby God would preserve the earth and people would honor and extend human life, was called an "everlasting covenant" (Gen. 9:16).





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<sup>4</sup>The LORD says: I will not relent from punishing Judah for three crimes, even four, because they have rejected the instruction of the LORD and have not kept his statutes.

Judah's indictment is not for war crimes, but "because they have rejected the law of the Lord" (2:4). The verb translated "rejected" may be rendered as correctly "despised." ... God charged Judah with not keeping or observing these laws.

The final part of the indictment against Judah is a charge of idolatry. This use of "lies" to mean false gods or idolatry is unique to Amos.

Rejection of Yahweh's word and practice of idolatry must be considered equal to (or worse than) atrocities of war.

So what advantage does the Jew have? Or what is the benefit of circumcision? <sup>2</sup> Considerable in every way. First, they were entrusted with the very words of God. <sup>3</sup> What then? If some were unfaithful, will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness? <sup>4</sup> Absolutely not! Let God be true, even though everyone is a liar, as it is written: That you may be justified in your words and triumph when you judge.<sup>4</sup>

but if our unrighteousness highlights God's righteousness, what are we to say? I am using a human argument: Is God unrighteous to inflict wrath? Absolutely not! Otherwise, how will God judge the world? But if by my lie God's truth abounds to his glory, why am I also still being judged as a sinner? And why not say, just as some people slanderously claim we say, "Let us do what is evil so that good may come"? Their condemnation is deserved!

<sup>9</sup> What then? Are we any better off? Not at all! For we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin, <sup>10</sup> as it is written:

There is no one righteous, not even one.

- <sup>11</sup> There is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God.
- <sup>12</sup> All have turned away; all alike have become worthless.

There is no one who does what is good, not even one.

<sup>13</sup> Their throat is an open grave; they deceive with their tongues.

Vipers' venom is under their lips.

- <sup>14</sup> Their mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.
- <sup>15</sup> Their feet are swift to shed blood;
- <sup>16</sup> ruin and wretchedness are in their paths,
- <sup>17</sup> and the path of peace they have not known.
- <sup>18</sup> There is no fear of God before their eyes.

<sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are subject to the law, so that every mouth may be shut and the whole world may become subject to God's judgment. <sup>20</sup> For no one will be justified in his sight by the works of the law, because the knowledge of sin comes through the law.

<sup>13</sup> Their throat is an open grave; they deceive with their tongues. Vipers' venom is under their lips. <sup>14</sup> Their mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.





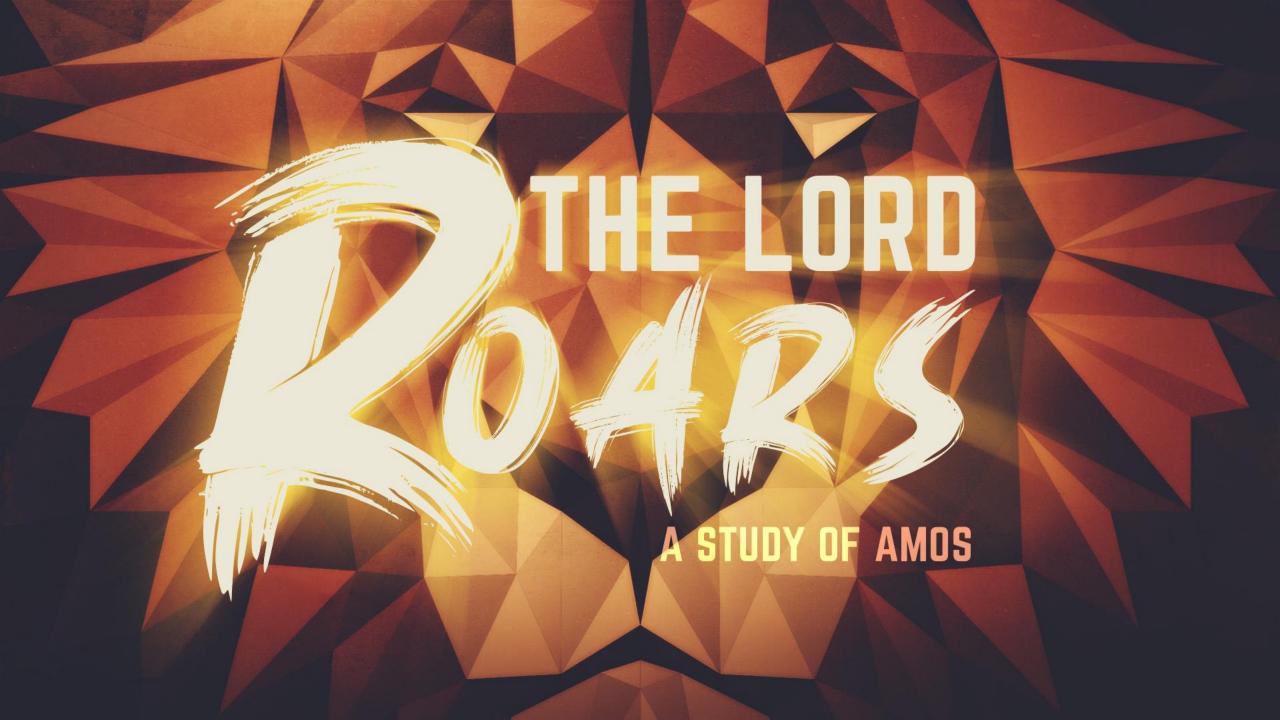
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<sup>1</sup> The earth and everything in it, the world and its inhabitants, belong to the LORD; <sup>2</sup> for he laid its foundation on the seas and established it on the rivers. <sup>3</sup> Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? <sup>4</sup> The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not appealed to what is false, and who has not sworn deceitfully.

Stuff?

**Control?** 

Kids?

Sex?

**Comfort?** 

Health?

Work?

Drink?

Food?

<sup>3</sup> Do not have other gods besides me.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind., 38 This is the greatest and most important command. <sup>39</sup> The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself.

My son, obey my words, and treasure my commands. <sup>2</sup> Keep my commands and live, and guard my instructions as you would the pupil of your eye. <sup>3</sup> Tie them to your fingers; write them on the tablet of your heart. <sup>4</sup> Say to wisdom, "You are my sister," and call understanding your relative.



<sup>6</sup> Only goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD as long as I live. Psalm 23

Recognize any idols leading you off the path.

Recognize any idols leading you off the path.

Repent of chasing after idols.

### Repent of chasing after idols.

<sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup> that he richly poured out on us with all wisdom and understanding. Ephesians 1

Remember The Word of The Lord
Recognize any idols leading you off the path.
Repent of chasing after idols.

Rejoice in the goodness of God.

My faithful father **Enduring friend** Your tender mercy is like a river with no end It overwhelms me Covers my sin Each time I come into your presence I stand in wonder once again Your grace still amazes me Your love is still a mystery Each day I fall on my knees 'Cause your grace still amazes me Your grace still amazes me

Andrew Shawn Craig / Connie Harrington. Your Grace Still Amazes Me (2001) © Emi April Music Inc., Little Cricket Music, Praise Song Press, Ariose Music Group Inc.

Remember The Word of The Lord
Recognize any idols leading you off the path.
Repent of chasing after idols.

## Rejoice in the goodness of God.

<sup>26</sup> God presented him [Jesus] to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so that he would be just and justify the one who has faith in Jesus. Romans 3:26

Recognize any idols leading you off the path.

Repent of chasing after idols.

Rejoice in the goodness of God.

Righteously walk the path of the Lord.

# Righteously walk the path of the Lord.



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We bow our hearts, we bend our knees O Spirit come make us humble We turn our eyes from evil things O Lord we cast down our idols Give us clean hands, give us pure hearts Let us not lift our souls to another Give us clean hands, give us pure hearts Let us not lift our souls to another O God let us be a generation that seeks that seeks your face O God of Jacob O God let us be a generation that seeks that seeks your face O God of Jacob

### Please Pause and Pray

Remember The Word of The Lord

Recognize any idols leading you off the path.

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Rejoice in the goodness of God.

Righteously walk the path of the Lord.