

- I) V1-2 INTRO: Woe to you who are *at ease* in Zion and *trust* in Mount Samaria
- II) AMOS: Has just declared that Israel, in the future, would be punished
- III) AS A NATION: They had been guilty of mixing idolatry with the worship of God
  - a) They had told the prophets not to prophesy, and had worshiped at pagan altars
    - 1) They took advantage of the poor, and sold justice to the highest bidder
- IV) THE RESULT: Was a series of punishments that devastated the nation
  - a) He brought famine, drought, pestilence, and plagues upon the nation and spoke through Amos
    - 1) In spite of all of this, they refused to listen to what God was saying
- V) IN CH. 5: He ultimately let them know that He hated their feast days and sacred assemblies
  - a) He let them know He would not accept their burnt offerings or grain offerings: they had no value
- VI) FACT: He did not want to hear the *noise of their songs* or their music because it was all polluted
  - a) They would be taken into captivity beyond Damascus, which pointed to the Assyrian invasion
- VII) V1-2 HE BEGINS: This chapter with a *woe* (a word of sorrow, grief, or regret)
  - a) *Woe* is an exclamation of judgment upon God's enemies, or of misfortune on oneself
    - 1) KEY: in the ministry of Jesus it spoke of sadness *over those* who failed to recognize the true misery of their condition
- VIII) THIS WORD: Is intended for the nation, from north to south
  - a) Zion is another word for Jerusalem, and Mount Samaria is at the border of the northern kingdom
    - 1) Jerusalem was where the temple was, and Mt Samaria represented prosperity and fortification
- IX) V1 NOTABLE PERSONS: Speaks of the rulers whom Israel came to for guidance and judgment
  - a) God is bringing all of them to judgment
- X) THIS IS A WORD OF JUDGMENT: Against religious compromise and materialism
  - a) This compromise and love for materialism has put them in the position of receiving judgment
    - 1) They are pictured as recklessly at ease, tranquil and content but *insensible to danger*
- XI) BY TRUSTING IN THEIR RICHES: They have become unaware of their true condition before God
  - a) They are living luxuriously and have thought themselves as *blessed by God*
- XII) THE FACT IS: They are actually ripe for judgment
  - a) Lu 12:16-21 Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; *take your ease*; eat, drink, *and* be merry. But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' So *is* he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God
  - b) Mk 10:23-24 Then Jesus looked around and said to His disciples, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were astonished at His words. But Jesus answered again and said to them, Children, how hard it is for those who *trust in riches* to enter the kingdom of God!

- I) **V2 GO OVER:** To Calneh (Assyria?) and from there go to Hamath (upper Syria) then go down to Gath  
a) Seeing that these territories have once been great but have been conquered, are you safer than they  
1) You are not better than them, in that you engage in the same sins that they engage in  
2) The fact is, because you have greater revelation you stand in greater judgment than they
- II) **V3-7 WOE TO YOU:** Who put far off the day of doom who cause the seat of violence to come near  
a) **FIRST:** Israel is guilty of not applying God's word to themselves
- III) **KEY:** Israel knew that God had said that judgment would come, but did not apply it  
a) Yes, judgment is coming but it is still future and does not affect us, so don't worry about it  
1) Ezek 12:22 Son of man, what is this proverb you have in the land of Israel: The days go by and every vision comes to nothing  
2) Mt 24:38-39 But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were *eating* and *drinking*, *marrying* and *giving in marriage*, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and *took them all away*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.
- IV) **KEY:** The judgment that you are aware of yet think is still future is actually in your midst  
a) The awareness of coming judgment is an incentive to safeguard your walk with God  
1) Ro 13:11-14 Another reason for right living is that you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for the coming of our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is almost gone; the day of salvation will soon be here. So don't live in darkness. Get rid of your evil deeds. Shed them like dirty clothes. Clothe yourselves with the armor of right living, as those who live in the light. We should be decent and true in everything we do, so that everyone can approve of our behavior. Don't participate in wild parties and getting drunk, or in adultery and immoral living, or in fighting and jealousy. But let the Lord Jesus Christ take control of you, and don't think of ways to indulge your evil desires.
- V) **V4 SECOND:** Who lie on beds of ivory stretch out on your couches eat lambs from the flock and calves  
a) This is a picture of luxurious self-indulgence  
1) Beds of ivory speaks of luxury, as does eating the best lamb and veal  
2) Stretching out on couches can infer sexual promiscuity  
3) 1 Ti 6:6-8 Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content.
- VI) **V5 THIRD:** Who chant (improvise carelessly) to the sound of stringed instruments and invent for  
a) They have extremely accomplished song writers and musicians, using David as their example  
1) 1 Sa 16:23 tells us that David played a lyre and had a beautiful singing voice  
2) 2 Sa 23:1 These are the last words of David: "David, the son of Jesse, speaks--David, the man who was raised up so high, David, the man anointed by the God of Jacob, David, *the sweet psalmist of Israel*."
- VII) **THEY:** Say their songs are equal and as inspirational as David himself  
a) Music reveals the soul of a nation, and the spiritual health of professing believers  
1) Our music should be fresh, relevant, worshipful, and centered on Jesus
- VIII) **V6 FOURTH:** Who drink wine *from bowls* and anoint yourselves with the best ointments  
a) They drink wine from bowls, not from glasses: they are given over to drunkenness  
1) The best ointments were used as deodorant: they care about perspiration but not holiness  
2) For them, drinking was no problem whatsoever and even showed sophistication

- I) **V6 BUT ARE NOT: Grieved for the *affliction of Joseph***
  - a) They do not care about others, in the same manner of Joseph's brothers selling him into slavery
  - 1) His brothers had thrown him into a pit and then sat down to eat a meal (Gen 37:24-25)
  
- II) **V7 THEREFORE: They shall now go captive as the first of the captives and those who recline**
  - a) As they were first among the people in rank and anointed themselves with the chief ointments so shall they be among the first in going into captivity
  
- III) **INTERESTINGLY: Those who recline at banquets shall be removed**
  - a) Banquet speaks of a loud and boisterous party: the party is over!
  
- IV) **V8 THE LORD GOD: Has sworn by Himself the Lord God of hosts says I abhor the pride of Jacob**
  - a) **PRIDE: Excellency; arrogance**
  - 1) The sanctuary was in Jerusalem, as was the priesthood and God was going to humble them
  
- V) **KEY: How does God feel about pride, sexual sin, partying, filthy lyrics, and drunkenness: He hates it**
  
- VI) **WHY: Because they can take you away from Him, or prevent you from coming to Him in the first place**
  
- VII) **NOTICE: And hate his palaces therefore I will deliver up the city and all that is in it**
  - a) Palaces can also speak of storehouses, speaking of Israel's prosperity: God brings judgment
  
- VIII) **V9 THEN: It shall come to pass that if ten men remain in one house they shall die**
  - a) When the judgment hits, and Israel is under siege those who are surviving will die
  - 1) Jer 24:10 I will send the sword, famine and plague against them until they are destroyed from the land I gave to them and their ancestors
  
- IX) **V10 AND: When a kinsman of the dead, with one who will burn the bodies, picks up the bodies to take**
  - a) When someone dies, the nearest of kin would come to take the body for burial or disposal
  - 1) Because they most likely died of plague, the body would be cremated
  
- X) **KEY: It seems that one out of the ten may survive**
  - a) When spoken to, the survivor will be told not to even mention God for fear of more wrath
  
- XI) **V11 FOR BEHOLD: The Lord gives a command He will break the great house into bits and the little**
  - a) When God gives a command, it will be completely fulfilled
  - 1) Is 55:10-11 For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.
  - 2) They are going into Assyrian captivity
  
- XII) **GOD KEEPS HIS THREATS: As well as His promises for our good**
  
- XIII) **V12-13 DO HORSES: Run on rocks does one plow there with oxen Yet you have turned justice into**
  - a) Even as horses do not run on rocks and plowing over rocks is useless, so are you useless
  - 1) You are incapable of fulfilling justice, and block God's blessings from the people
  - 2) Justice and righteousness have been made unattractive and even bitter to others

- I) **V13 YOU WHO: Rejoice over Lo Debar who say Have we not taken Karnaim for ourselves**
  - a) Lo Debar is a town east of the Jordan, and Karnaim speaks of a location south of Damascus
  
- II) **POINT: Karnaim is translated horns: this speaks of Israel trusting in its military strength**
  - a) Ps 20:7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses; But we will remember the name of the LORD our God.
  - b) Ps 115:11 You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield.
  - c) Ps 118:8 It is better to trust in the LORD Than to put confidence in man.
  
- III) **V14 BUT: Behold I will raise up a nation against you O house of Israel says the Lord God of hosts**
  - a) From all over, your enemies will come and take you into captivity: Assyria will take you