

# **Amos**

## **Part 5: Justice and Mercy**

### **Introduction**

In the final three chapters of this book, Amos shares 5 different visions with the people in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Each vision brings Israel closer to their destruction. Yet, in the epilogue of this prophetic book we get a glimpse of hope in the person of Jesus.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. What has been your biggest take away from your study of the book of Amos so far? How have you begun to apply this to how you live?
2. Read Amos 7:1-9. What can we learn from Amos' interactions with God regarding prayer? What was God trying to teach Amos through these first two visions? How is the vision of the plumb line different from the first two?
3. Read Amos 7:9-17. In this section Amos has some trouble with the priest of Bethel. There was an incident, a letter from the priest, and a response from Amos. What do their interactions tell you about Amos and Amaziah?
4. Read Amos 8. With the vision of the fruit, God lets Israel know that the time is now. They are ripe for judgement. As you read the description of that judgement in the rest of the chapter, what verse, word, or phrase stands out? What might God be trying to show you?
5. Read Amos 9:1-10. In Amos' final vision we see God himself standing at the altar and destroying Israel's temple. As you continue to read about these moments of judgement and destruction, discuss the relationship between God's justice and mercy. Can you see both in this passage of scripture? What about the whole book?
6. Read Amos 9:11-15. At the end of Amos, we get a glimpse of Jesus about 800 years before he was born to Mary. Discuss how these final verses point towards hope not just for Israel but for all who call on the name of Jesus.

### **Scripture**

"I will restore David's fallen shelter— I will repair its broken walls and restore its ruins — and will rebuild it as it used to be, so that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations that bear my name," declares the Lord, who will do these things. (Amos 9:11–12).