

A dramatic landscape featuring rolling hills and a stormy sky. The foreground is filled with tall, dry, golden-brown grass. The middle ground shows rolling hills with a winding road. The background consists of more hills under a dark, cloudy sky with a hint of a rainbow. The overall mood is somber and powerful.

WHEN THE LION ROARS

AMOS 3

Hear this word that the LORD has spoken against you, O people of Israel, against the whole family that I brought up out of the land of Egypt: “You only have I known of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

AMOS 3:1-2

The Hebrew “yada” refers to intimate, covenantal, chosen relationship—the very same word used for the deepest knowing between a husband and a wife.

Hear this word that the LORD has spoken against you, O people of Israel, against the whole family that I brought up out of the land of Egypt: “You only have I known of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

AMOS 3:1-2

**Israel had turned their election into entitlement,
and God says the relationship they leaned on
for comfort is the very ground of their correction.**

“Do two walk together, unless they have agreed to meet?

Does a lion roar in the forest, when he has no prey?

Does a young lion cry out from his den, if he has taken nothing?

Does a bird fall in a snare on the earth, when there is no trap for it?

Does a snare spring up from the ground, when it has taken nothing?

Is a trumpet blown in a city, and the people are not afraid?

Does disaster come to a city, unless the LORD has done it?”

AMOS 3:3-6

**For the Lord GOD does nothing without revealing
his secret to his servants the prophets.**

AMOS 3:7

**A God who announces judgment in advance
is a God still pleading for their return.**

**The lion has roared; who will not fear?
The Lord GOD has spoken; who can but prophesy?"**

AMOS 3:8

**God has spoken with exactly that kind of authority,
and the only fitting response is to listen and obey.**

Proclaim to the strongholds in Ashdod and to the strongholds in the land of Egypt, and say, “Assemble yourselves on the mountains of Samaria, and see the great tumults within her, and the oppressed in her midst.” “They do not know how to do right,” declares the LORD, “those who store up violence and robbery in their strongholds.”

AMOS 3:9-10

**When sin becomes our normal,
we lose the very ability to recognize it.**

Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: “An adversary shall surround the land and bring down your defenses from you, and your strongholds shall be plundered.” Thus says the LORD: “As the shepherd rescues from the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear, so shall the people of Israel who dwell in Samaria be rescued, with the corner of a couch and part of a bed.

AMOS 3:11-12

Judgment is real, but grace is never entirely absent.



“Hear, and testify against the House of Jacob,” declares the Lord GOD, the God of hosts, “that on the day I punish Israel for his transgressions, I will punish the altars of Bethel, and the horns of the altar shall be cut off and fall to the ground.

AMOS 3:13-14

**The cross of Jesus is the one place
of refuge that cannot be cut off.**

I will strike the winter house along with the summer house, and the houses of ivory shall perish, and the great houses shall come to an end,” declares the LORD.

AMOS 3:15

**Everything we build for our own security crumbles.
Only what we have in Christ will stand.**

