

Amos 1-3, 7-9 & Hosea 1-3 - Amos and Hosea

Amos and Hosea are two prophets who ministered in the northern Kingdom Israel and whose oracles were written down and became books of the Bible.

1. Read **Amos 7:10-17**, which gives some background to Amos' ministry. What did Amaziah, the priest at Bethel, say to King Jeroboam?
2. What did Amaziah say to Amos?
3. If Amos didn't start out as a prophet, what was his occupation?
4. What did Amos predict would happen to Amaziah?
... to his wife?
... to his children?
... to the people of Israel?
5. The opening sermon, **Amos 1:3-2:8**, promises a fiery judgment on the surrounding nations, including Israel. Match them with their anti-social sins.

_____ Damascus	A. did not take pity on its brother nation
_____ Gaza	B. burned the bones of the king of Edom
_____ Tyre	C. mistreated the poor
_____ Edom	D. exiled neighboring communities to Edom
_____ Ammonites	E. rejected the law of the Lord
_____ Moab	F. threshed, i.e. beat down, Gilead
_____ Judah	G. killed pregnant women
_____ Israel	
6. Amos saw five visions which predicted punishment for Israel. Match them up.

_____ locusts (7:1-3)	A. the end of the people of Israel
_____ fire (7:4-6)	B. all the people killed, even in exile
_____ a plumb line (7:7-9)	C. crops ruined, famine in the land
_____ a fruit basket (8:1-3)	D. holy sanctuaries ruined
_____ Yahweh at the altar (9:1-4)	E. the deep waters eaten up

7. Read **Hosea 1:2-8**. Hosea's marriage to a prostitute, named *Gomer*, was a symbol of how Yahweh's people had prostituted themselves by not remaining faithful. Check the footnotes to see what the names of their children meant.

Jezreel _____

Lo-ruhamah _____

Lo-ammi _____

8. **Hosea 2:1-13** sounds like Yahweh's oracle of divorce. If the people of Israel had been worshiping the fertility god Baal, notice how the Lord threatened to bring famine on the land. Specifically, what would he do?

9. **Hosea 2:14-23** is a promise of restoration, as Yahweh intends to woo Israel back. The people will no longer call him "my _____," but "my _____." Check the footnotes here and at **2:23** for the meaning of his children's new names.

Jezreel _____

Ruhamah _____

Ammi _____

10. **Hosea 3:1-5** tells how the prophet remarried *Gomer*. How does this compare with Yahweh's treatment of Israel?

11. Hosea was the first prophet to emphasize the idea of "love." The Lord loves his people, and so cannot give up on them. Likewise, his people are to love him in return and practice loving one another. Here are several verses which emphasize this theme. Circle one of them, and copy it here.

Hosea 6:6 Hosea 10:12 Hosea 11:1 Hosea 12:5-6 Hosea 14:4