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Amos 3

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Learn the Bible with Friends

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Amos 3.

Topics.

- The condemnation of wicked Samaria (the ten tribes of Israel).
- The LORD speaks against Israel.
- Do two walk together?
- God reveals his secrets to his prophets.
- An adversary will surround Israel.
- The day the LORD punishes Israel.

INTRODUCTION: the primary focus is the ten tribes of Israel, but much of Amos message can also apply to Judah (the two tribes) because those at Jerusalem are also practising idol worship and forsaking the ways of the LORD.

NOTE: for information of people, places and the meaning of words see Map Locations and People of the Bible, and Bible Dictionary on Website Menu.

AMOS 3:1-2

The LORD speaks against Israel.

- **Amos 3:1-2:** 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: ²"You only have I known of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.

God is about to punish Israel.

NOTICE: God says, Israel is the only family He has known, but today His family is made up of all who belong to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Sins of Israel: religious rituals and observances embraced gross idolatry Baal altars and worship of pagan gods, drunkenness, violence, robbery and gross sensuality. The rich corrupted justice and showed no sense of responsibility towards the poor, and instead of relieving their economic distress seemed bent upon devising new means of depriving them of their property. This indiscriminate, indulgent and excessive luxurious living resulted in the division and decay of social unity.

AMOS 3:3-6

Do Two Walk Together?

- **Amos 3:3-6:** Do two walk together, unless they have agreed to meet? ⁴Does 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? ⁵Does 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? ⁶Is a trumpet blown in a city, and the people are not afraid? Does disaster come to a city, unless the LORD has done it?

When Israel came before the LORD, they were to give Him honour and be living a life that showed respect to other humans, especially the less fortunate, but they had turned to idols, pagan gods, and were oppressing

the poor for their own selfish gain. Israel had a covenant with the LORD that had certain conditions, but they have forsaken what they agreed before God to do. God is basically saying, "Unless people agree on what they will do and how they behave when they meet, they cannot be friends." The words, "Do two walk together, unless they have agreed to meet simply means how can God be friends with Israel when they have rebelled against what they originally agreed to do?"

AMOS 3:7-9

God reveals His Secrets to His Prophets.

- **Amos 3:7-9:** "For the Lord GOD does nothing without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets. ⁸The lion has roared; who will not fear? The Lord GOD has spoken; who can but prophesy?" ⁹Proclaim 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."

A principal of God is that He does nothing without revealing his secrets to His faithful servants the prophets. Jesus said:

- No longer do I call you (those who belong to him) servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you (John 15:13-16).

God has revealed all His plans and purposes regarding salvation, eternal life and the return of the Lord Jesus Christ through Christ and the written word of God as it is recorded in the Bible

Ashdod: was a major city in the Philistine plain.

Samaria Old Testament: Samaria means watchtower or watch-station it was a region in Palestine and the capital city of the Northern Kingdom of Israel (the ten tribes). It was established in idolatry and a tradition of luxury, vice and paganism by Ahab and Jezebel his Phoenician bride. Amos, Micah, Isaiah and Hosea raised their protest against Ahab's and Jezebels paganism. Eventually Assyrian conquest brought the utter doom to Samaria, which the prophets had predicted. Today Samaria is called Syria.

Samaria in the New Testament: the people of Samaria expected the Messiah and the region had roads through it from Judea to Galilee. Jesus, Paul, Barnabas, Philip, Peter and John all visited the city and made disciples from its inhabitants.

AMOS 3:10-11

An Adversary will surround Israel.

- **Amos 3:10-11:** "They (Israel) do not know how to do right, declares the LORD," "those who store up violence and robbery in their strongholds." ¹¹Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "An adversary shall surround the land and bring down your defenses from you, and your strongholds shall be plundered."

The expression, "The LORD calls an adversary against Israel," refers to the surrounding nations that troubled Israel, but the ultimate adversary was Assyria. God used Assyria to fulfill the words of Amos. Assyria besieged Samaria (ten tribes) for three years and carried its more prosperous citizens into exile, replacing them with colonists from other provinces of Assyria.

AMOS 3:12

Israel is Partially Rescued.

- **Amos 3:12:** 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.

As a lion tears its prey into pieces, and rips the body apart and into many pieces so will an adversary do to Israel, but some of the inhabitants will survive.

AMOS 3:13-15

The Day the LORD Punishes Israel.

- **Amos 3:13-15:** "Hear, and testify against the house of Jacob," declares the Lord GOD, the God of hosts, ¹⁴"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. ¹⁵I 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.

Jeroboam set up a worship centre and golden calf at Bethel for the Ten Tribes of Israel to gather at and keep the LORD'S sacrifices and Holy Days etc.

The house of Jacob: refers to Israel, it is a unique nation, the LORD deals with Israel differently to any other nation, He calls Israel His Son and the apple of His eye and says they are born by Him and chosen to be a people for his treasured possession. God declared His word, statues and His rules to Israel. He has not done this with any other nation. Israel was entrusted with the oracles of God and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants and the patriarchs; they were given the law, the worship and the promises and from their race, came the Christ who is Lord over all.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.
