



Amos

Background

- What does the Lecture suggest about the author of this book? To whom did he prophesy?
- What does the Lecture suggest about the date of this book? How is this related to major historical events?
- What was happening at this time of Amos's ministry? What was Israelite society experiencing? Why? How did this influence the message of this book?

Outline

- What are the three main sections of Amos? What does each section generally cover? What are the subsections in each? What does this all tell us about the overall content of this book? How does this help us to read, understand, and apply Amos?
- How does God's message against the surrounding nations set up for His message against Israel?
- What are the four visions of judgment that Amos gives against Israel? What does each symbolize? What message did each give to ancient Israel? How does each apply today?
- How did Amos reply to being commanded to stop speaking against Israel? What should we learn from this?
- How does the book of Amos give hope? How was this fulfilled? Why does this matter?

Content

- What are the key verses of Amos? What does each highlight? What does each tell us about the overall content and message of Amos? What does each tell us about how God deals with His people?
- Why did God hate the religious rituals of that time? What should we learn from this? How should we respond?
- What was the problem with their business practices at that time? Why? How did God punish them?
- What promise did Amos give to the northern kingdom through Amos? What difference does this make?

Themes

- Explain each of the theological themes in your own words. What does each tell us about the content, message and significance of Amos? How should each idea be applied in current life?
- How does the Lecture define "Biblical Justice"? Why is it necessary to connect our ideas of justice with God and His revelation? How does this compare to the various ideas of justice in our culture?
- How should we test and evaluate various claims about justice today? What difference should that make?
- How is injustice related to idolatry? Why is this important?
- What is "Gospel lift"? What does this prove? How should we respond?
- Describe how the phrase "no ritual without reality" should apply today? Should we oppose ritual to relationship? Why or why not?

Review

- Review the three main sections of Amos and work toward committing them to memory.
- Review the key themes of Amos and work toward committing them to memory.