

# Amos: God's Judgment

Read Amos 2:6-16

Perhaps Amos' hearers agreed with him and urged him on as he systematically condemned neighboring peoples, including their enemies. "Preach it, brother!" But as he gradually moved closer and closer, they likely grew uneasy. And they had good reason.

Finally, beginning in 2:6, Amos speaks God's judgment on Israel, exactly as he did against her neighbors: "*For three transgressions of Israel and for four I will not revoke its punishment*" (NASB). he details her sins and her punishment.

First, take a close look at Israel's sins in 2:6-8. Listen as God speaks to them, and to us.

- You are only concerned for yourself. You value profit over people (2:6b). You sell the righteous and the needy just to squeeze out a little more money for yourself.
- You spend this money on your self-indulgent, immoral lifestyle (2:8a).
- Your sexual practices are disgusting and degrading (2:7b, 8a).

God then goes on to give them historical perspective on themselves. This will also sound uncomfortably close to our own situation. God says:

- I blessed you abundantly, establishing you in this beautiful country. But you have become as bad as those I have judged and removed before you (2:9-10).
- I raised up specially-called people to teach you and be a godly influence among you, but you have done all you could to corrupt or silence them (2:11-12).

Finally, as with the other nations, God pronounces the judgment on them:

- I am weary of bearing the weight of all your sins (2:13).
- Destruction is coming, and you can't run away. Your strength, skill, and bravery will not deliver you. No one will escape (2:14-16).

God loves people with a fierce, burning love, especially the needy. He will hold accountable all those who greedily abuse them.

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