Chapter #1 I Can See Clearly Now

The Prophet Amos

Time of ministry:

The dates of this prophesy were sometime between 786 – 746 B.C., this was the time of the prosperous reign of *King Jeroboam II*.

Location of ministry:

The prophesy of Amos was delivered in the Northern Kingdom of Israel at the great *cult* worship center of Bethel.

Amos was forcefully expelled from Israel by the *chief priest* who oversaw the *Royal Sanctuary* and worship center. With his mission of delivering the warning words of *Father God* accomplished Amos returned to his home in Tekoa.

The Author:

This prophetic Bible book was thought to be written by the Prophet Amos or by some of his disciples.

Amos was not a Rabbi priest or religious leader the prophet had only a basic *Hebrew* religious education.

This Prophet was chosen by *Yahweh* to deliver the words of *God's Righteous Judgement* to the *Unreceptive* and *Arrogant* people of Israel.

Amos was not a "Holy Man" he was just a humble servant of God, a man of flesh and blood who was chosen to deliver a prophesy of Warning from Father God.

When Amos was called, he was not given the option of expressing his personal opinions or thoughts his instruction was to only deliver the *warning prophesy Father God* gave him. The prophet Amos had one mission and it was to be open humble and willing to be used by *Father God* as a *Faithful Messenger* of --- *Yahweh!*

Amos was a common working-class citizen and respected community member in the town of Tekoa. The Prophet Amos was not gifted with some *special ability* or *spiritual gift* to know the inner thoughts, or the heart and mind of *Yahweh*, he was to only be *God's messenger*. The prophet Amos did not live in the Northern Kingdom of Israel, but he was instructed to deliver *Yahweh's* message of coming Judgement at Bethel in Israel.

When Amos was called to be a prophet of *Yahweh* he was working and living as a farmer of sycamore trees and shepherd in the town of Tekoa, this small town was located near the *Dead Sea* in the remote outer border region of Juda.

The Prophesy:

The words of prophesy Amos delivered to Israel Juda and their "Gentile Neighbors" (One who is not a Hebrew) was the coming "Righteous Judgement" (Actions that are supported by a legally moral claim) by the "King of Kings" --- Father God!

With this Prophesy of Righteous Judgement of all Unrepentant Sinners, Yahweh demonstrated His "Undeniable" Total Sovereignty (The One and Only Independent Supreme Ruler of --- All Mankind!)

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Amos will first deliver *The LORD God's* warning of the coming *Judgement* and *Destruction* of Juda's and Israel's seven neighboring *Gentile Nations*.

God's Righteous Judgement will first be delivered to the seven *Gentile Nations* for their *murderous* attacks on and continuous *sinful* mistreatment of the Hebrews --- "*Father God's Chosen People*".

Father God's Prophet next warns the *sinful Hebrews* living Israel of *Yahweh's* coming disastrous painful Judgement, a Judgement for Israel that will include *Death Destruction Capture* and *slavery* in Egypt.

Both Juda and Israel will receive near total destruction and *Death* due to their *sinful* hollow and *Hypocritical "worldly prosperity"*. Their *sinful* acts of greed and theft are supported funded and defended by the *"manmade laws"* that allow the *Unlawful* defiant worship of *false god's*.

This book of prophesy is divided into several sections that will describe how and why *Father God's Righteous Judgement* will be delivered.

The first section of this prophesy is the coming *Righteous Judgment* of the seven *Gentile Neighboring Nations* of Juda and Israel, a bloody Judgement of war and death to be delivered by "*The Lord of heavens Army*" --- Yahweh!

The next section of the book contains *Father God's* words of warning, a foretelling of the coming *Death Enslavement* and *Destruction* of the *Hebrew's* and their land, Juda and Israel will both know the pain of *Judgement*!

After this warning we will find *symbolic visions* that contain frightening details of the coming plagues that will be delivered to the *Unrepentant sinners* in Juda and Israel.

The visions of punishing plagues are followed by the "Good News" of Yahweh's Promise, the future "Revelation" (revealing) of --- "The Messiah!

The last chapter of the Book of Amos contains the "Messianic Perspective" The promised coming of The Lord, and Savior Jesus Christ "The Messiah" --- The Future King.

This "Messianic Perspective" is the True and Eternal Promise of Father God to His Chosen People The Children of Abraham!

Yahweh's Eternal Promise guarantees to His Chosen People a coming future Revival and Salvation with their "The Messiah"!

The Lord, Jesus Christ is the promised Messiah and through Him will come a future time of Redemption and Eternal Life for the Protected "Remnant" of Juda and Israel.

Chapter #1

The Righteous Judgement of The Seven Nations

Amos 1:1–2 (NLT)

This message was given to Amos, a shepherd from the town of Tekoa in Judah. He received this message in visions two years before the earthquake, when Uzziah was king of Judah and Jeroboam II, the son of Jehoash, was king of Israel.

² This is what he saw and heard:

"The LORD's voice will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem!

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The lush pastures of the shepherds will dry up; the grass on Mount Carmel will wither and die."

Note: The judgmental punishing earthquake mentioned in *Amos 1:1* was probably the earthquake noted in Hebrew traditional writing and *The Holy Bible (2 Chronicles 26:18-20 NLT)* which marked the *sinful crime* of King Uzziah, when he foolishly attempted to offer incense as a *false priest* in the --- "*Temple of God*".

2 Chronicles 26:18-20 (NLT)

The Sin of King Uzziah

¹⁸ They confronted King Uzziah and said, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the LORD. That is the work of the priests alone, the descendants of Aaron who are set apart for this work. Get out of the sanctuary, for you have sinned. The LORD God will not honor you for this!"

¹⁹ Uzziah, who was holding an incense burner, became furious. But as he was standing there raging at the priests before the incense altar in the LORD's Temple, leprosy suddenly broke out on his forehead. ²⁰ When Azariah the high priest and all the other priests saw the leprosy, they rushed him out. And the king himself was eager to get out because the LORD had struck him.

Amos 1:2 (NLT)

The Word of God

 ² This is what he saw and heard: "The LORD's voice will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem!
 The lush pastures of the shepherds will dry up; the grass on Mount Carmel will wither and die."

Comments on Amos 1:2

The Power of The Word of God

The frightening and powerful sound of *The Thunderous Voice* of *God* will roar from *The Holy Mountain of The Lord*!

This Earth-Shaking Roar is the Eternal Thunderous voice of the One and Only "The LORD God" ---- "Yahweh!

The limitless Awesome Power of The Word of Father God can wither and burn with the intense heat of its Blinding Power and Unlimited Strength!

This first warning in *Amos 1:1-2* is used to vividly demonstrate the *Unstoppable Power* of *Father God's Words* alone. *His Thunderous Words* bring the warning that soon *His Powerful Flaming Hand* will strike out to burn and consume all the *sinful gentiles* and most of *His sinful "Rebellious" Chosen People.*

Father God's Righteous Justice will be delivered equally to all the Unrepentant Sinful, Both Jew and Gentiles will fall from the Righteous Fire of --- Burning Judgement!

Judgement on the Seven Neighbors of Israel The Judgement of Aram Gaza and Philistia

Amos 1:3–8 (NLT)

God's Judgment on Israel's Neighbors

³ This is what the LORD says:

"The people of Damascus have sinned again and again, and I will not let them go unpunished!
They beat down my people in Gilead as grain is threshed with iron sledges.
⁴ So I will send down fire on King Hazael's palace, and the fortresses of King Ben-hadad will be destroyed.
⁵ I will break down the gates of Damascus and slaughter the people in the valley of Aven.
I will destroy the ruler in Beth-eden, and the people of Aram will go as captives to Kir," says the LORD.

⁶ This is what the LORD says:

"The people of Gaza have sinned again and again, and I will not let them go unpunished!
They sent whole villages into exile, selling them as slaves to Edom.
⁷ So I will send down fire on the walls of Gaza, and all its fortresses will be destroyed.
⁸ I will slaughter the people of Ashdod and destroy the king of Ashkelon.
Then I will turn to attack Ekron, and the few Philistines still left will be killed," says the Sovereign LORD.

Comments on Amos 1:3-8: Judgement on the Neighbors of Israel

Aram Gaza and the Philistines

Due to the undeniable fact that *The LORD God* is totally pure and without *sin, Yahweh* demands *moral order* and *natural respect* for all human life be the *Law of the Land* even in lands not occupied by *His Chosen People*.

All Unrepentant sin, murder and Disrespect for Father God's law will bring an equal measure of disastrous painful Judgement a Judgement that could include Death, it is --- "Yahweh's law"! The sinful detestable acts of war and hate filled violence must be answered in full by Father God's Righteous Judgement.

All the *sinful* nations that attack or strike a *hateful* deadly blow on *Father God's "Chosen People"* can expect at some point in time to be --- *Completely Destroyed!*

This is the inditement and Judgement of *Aram Gaza* and the *Philistines* who were Israel's *Pagan* neighbors.

The *Pagan* Gentiles have now filled their cup with *Unrepentant sin* to the point of overflowing by attacking and killing *Yahweh's Chosen People* in the most *brutal way* they could think of, then *enslaving* the survivors.

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Now the unstoppable *Terrifying Power* of *Father God's Righteous Judgement* will bring war and a painful *bloody fiery* end to *Aram Gaza* and the *Philistines*.

This frightening Judgement by *Yahweh* was the complete *slaughter* and *Total Destruction* of the *Philistines* as a people, they no longer *exist* as a people on the earth!

Amos 1:9–15 (NLT) The Judgement of Tyre Edom and Ammon ⁹ This is what the Lord says:

"The people of Tyre have sinned again and again, and I will not let them go unpunished!
They broke their treaty of brotherhood with Israel, selling whole villages as slaves to Edom.
¹⁰ So I will send down fire on the walls of Tyre, and all its fortresses will be destroyed."

¹¹ This is what the Lord says:

"The people of Edom have sinned again and again, and I will not let them go unpunished!
They chased down their relatives, the Israelites, with swords, showing them no mercy.
In their rage, they slashed them continually and were unrelenting in their anger.
¹² So I will send down fire on Teman, and the fortresses of Bozrah will be destroyed."

¹³ This is what the Lord says:

"The people of Ammon have sinned again and again, and I will not let them go unpunished!
When they attacked Gilead to extend their borders, they ripped open pregnant women with their swords.
¹⁴ So I will send down fire on the walls of Rabbah, and all its fortresses will be destroyed.
The battle will come upon them with shouts, like a whirlwind in a mighty storm.
¹⁵ And their king and his princes will go into exile together," says the LORD.

Comments on Amos 1:9-15: Judgement of Tyre Edom and Ammon! The charges and Judgement of Tyre Edom and Ammon are documented in Amos 1:9-15. The leaders of city of Tyre have broken their "treaty of brotherhood" with Israel and sold their brothers into slavery, this is just one of their numerous sins. The rulers and people of Tyre will pay for their sins and betrayal of Israel with destruction death and fire that will be delivered by Yahweh.

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The people of Edom have *sinned* by attacking and killing *Yahweh's Chosen People* who are their own relatives. The hateful anger and brutality of Edom will be answered by the *deadly power* of *Almighty God, His Righteous Anger* will burn to the ground Edom and its *sinful people*. The mindless animal like behavior of the *sinful* people of Ammon, who would cut open pregnant women with no remorse using their swords to expand their territory by forcibly taking land from Israel will have an exceedingly high cost.

The *demonic men* and their families who live in Ammon will know the terror and pain of the sword as they are cut down and swept away with the *razor-sharp anger* of Yahweh, death and destruction will reward their *sinful* behavior. If the Kings and princes are the survivors of *Yahweh's* punishing Judgement, they will be dragged away as *slaves* to live in misery for causing *Father God's Children* suffering and pain.

Amos 2:1–3 (NLT) The Judgement of Moab

This is what the LORD says:

"The people of Moab have sinned again and again, and I will not let them go unpunished!
They desecrated the bones of Edom's king, burning them to ashes.
² So I will send down fire on the land of Moab, and all the fortresses in Kerioth will be destroyed.
The people will fall in the noise of battle, as the warriors shout and the ram's horn sounds.
³ And I will destroy their king and slaughter all their princes,"

Chapter #2: Amos 2:1-3 The judgement of Moab

Comments on Amos 2:1-3:

The shocking and powerful words of *Father God's Judgement by fire* are repeated to the people of Moab, by the prophet Amos.

The *sinful* evil hate-driven people of Moab dumped the body of Edom's King like worthless trash into a pit filled with lime where his body was dissolved *"burned"*!

This *sinful desecration* of a human body was to the "*Semite*" *Hebrew* religion an "abomination" the --- unforgivable sin!

This is just one of the *sins* that *Father God* noted when *He* stated that they *"had sinned again and again, and I will not let them go unpunished!"*

The King of Moab his family, warriors and the citizens of Moab will be slaughtered and burned along with the ruins of their destroyed city.

All *unrepentant* and *unforgiven sin* must have a cost, and *Yahweh* sometimes demands that price is --- *Death*!

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All the Unrepentant Sinners in this world will at some point of time face the Painful Righteous Judgment of Father God!

Amos 2:4–5 (NLT) God's Judgment on Judah and Israel ⁴ This is what the LORD says:

"The people of Judah have sinned again and again, and I will not let them go unpunished!
They have rejected the instruction of the LORD, refusing to obey his decrees.
They have been led astray by the same lies that deceived their ancestors.
⁵ So I will send down fire on Judah,

and all the fortresses of Jerusalem will be destroyed."

Amos 2:4-5 God's Righteous Judgement on Juda

Comments on Amos 2:4-5:

This section of the prophesy of *Father God's* coming Judgement includes enslavement, death and devastation that are directed to both Juda and Israel.

Amos 2:4-5 is Father God's listing of the unrepentant and unforgiven sins of "The Children of Abraham" that live in Juda.

Yahweh points out the repeated sinful acts of unfaithful idol worship, driven by self-serving willful Disobedience that demonstrates a total Disrespect for --- The Laws of Father God. Father God's Righteous Judgement must be delivered to His "Disobedient children", He has no other option.

God tells the people of Juda and Israel that they have been misled and deceived by the same old lies from "*Satan*", adding that they continue to practice the same *sinful* worshiping of *false gods* that included "*spiritually adulterous*" *sex acts,* drinking of alcohol and the Pagan *sinful act* of sacrificing their own children with fire to *false gods*.

This *sinful lifestyle* was a repeat reboot or replay of the *sinful acts* that in the past caused *The LORD, God* to punish their fathers with --- *Fire* and *Death*!

Amos 2:6–8 (NLT) God's Righteous Judgement on Israel

⁶ This is what the LORD says:

"The people of Israel have sinned again and again, and I will not let them go unpunished!
They sell honorable people for silver and poor people for a pair of sandals.
⁷ They trample helpless people in the dust and shove the oppressed out of the way.
Both father and son sleep with the same woman, corrupting my holy name. ⁸ At their religious festivals, they lounge in clothing their debtors put up as security. In the house of their gods, they drink wine bought with unjust fines.

Amos 2:6-8

Judgement on Israel

Comments on Amos 2:6-8:

This next section contains *Father God's* numerous and damning reasons for *His harsh* and *deadly punishment* of Israel and Juda, explaining why *He* has no other option after *Unforgiven sin* has piled up on mounds of repeated *Unforgiven sin*!

The *sinful people* of Israel have *enslaved* their own people abusing the poor, using unjust *manmade laws* and loans to extort and trap their brothers and sisters into *slavery*. The *Hebrews* have proven their *Disrespect* by *sinfully* using their wealth to unjustly overpower and use anyone they choose because they have great wealth and the power that money brings. They have *disregarded* the *Holy Bonds* of marriage and their *"Spiritual Marriage"* relationship with *Yahweh* by engaging in *sinful adulterous sexual relations*.

The *Hebrew* people have been the "Unfaithful wife" taking pleasure in adulterous sexual acts that are part of *Pegan false god worship*, totally outside the bonds of *God's* "Holy Sacrament" of marriage.

The people of Israel relax in splendor and comfort showing off their *ill-gotten* wealth in *Pegan temples*, where they get drunk on wine they obtained with stolen money. They worship in Bethel, a *Pagan temple* where the *sinful Children of Abraham* openly, and with *foolish egotistic pride* worship *false god's* not the ---"*True God"*!

Amos 2:9–16 (NLT) Yahweh The Provider

⁹ "But as my people watched, I destroyed the Amorites,
though they were as tall as cedars and as strong as oaks.
I destroyed the fruit on their branches and dug out their roots.
¹⁰ It was I who rescued you from Egypt and led you through the desert for forty years, so you could possess the land of the Amorites.
¹¹ I chose some of your sons to be prophets and others to be Nazirites.
Can you deny this, my people of Israel?" asks the LORD.
¹² "But you caused the Nazirites to sin by making them drink wine,

and you commanded the prophets, 'Shut up!'

¹³ "So I will make you groan like a wagon loaded down with sheaves of grain.
¹⁴ Your fastest runners will not get away. The strongest among you will become weak.
Even mighty warriors will be unable to save themselves.
¹⁵ The archers will not stand their ground.
The swiftest runners won't be fast enough to escape. Even those riding horses won't be able to save themselves.
¹⁶ On that day the most courageous of your fighting men will drop their weapons and run for their lives,"

says the Lord.

Amos 2:9-16

Remember and Respect God

Comments on Amos 2:9-16:

In this section *Father God* lists some of the *Blessings* and *Victories He* has delivered to *His Children* by defeating all the enemies of --- *His Chosen People*.

The enemy of the Hebrews the Amorites were uprooted destroyed just as a mighty tree has no chance of standing when subjected to the mighty wind of "*The Word of God*", Yahweh strikes a *Death Blow* on them.

The LORD God then reminds His Chosen People that He was the one who "Rescued" them from slavery in Egypt, watered fed and "Protected" them for forty years in the empty desert. Then at the end of their forty-year journey in the desert they were Abundantly Blessed by Father God, then at the end of that Journey given "The Land of Promise", the former land of the Amorites as their own --- Eternal Homeland!

Deuteronomy 6:13–17 (NLT) You Must Not Test The LORD!

¹³ You must fear the LORD your God and serve him. When you take an oath, you must use only his name.

¹⁴ "You must not worship any of the gods of neighboring nations, ¹⁵ for the LORD your God, who lives among you, is a jealous God. His anger will flare up against you, and he will wipe you from the face of the earth. ¹⁶ You must not test the LORD your God as you did when you complained at Massah. ¹⁷ You must diligently obey the commands of the LORD your God—all the laws and decrees he has given you.

Exodus 17:7 (NLT)

Where Is The LORD?

⁷ Moses named the place Massah (which means "test") and Meribah (which means "arguing") because the people of Israel argued with Moses and tested the LORD by saying, <u>"Is the LORD here</u> with us or not?"

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Father God reminds Juda and Israel how *He Blessed* some of their children by making them *Prophets* and *Nazirites*, who were *Blessed* with the words of wisdom from *Father God*. This gift of *Prophets* and *Nazirites* was the *Spiritual Method* of communication *Yahweh* used to protect guide and instruct *His Chosen People*.

We must remember that this was in the time of *The Old Testament* before the *"Day of Pentecost"* and the *Instructive* and *Informative Gift* of --- *The Holy Spirit. Father God* then adds --- *"Can you deny what I have done?"*

The arrogant sinful religious leaders and Rabbis in Juda and Israel would continue to deny and ignore all of Father God's Blessings and "warnings"!

The religious leaders and Rabbis *sinfully* used their power and influence causing the *Nazarites* to forget their *vows* and drink wine. The same men then used their *sinful self-serving* greed motivated methods to try and stop *The Prophets* from delivering the warning words of --- *The LORD, God* --- *Yahweh*!

Luke 12:48 (NLT) Entrusted with Much

⁴⁸ But someone who does not know, and then does something wrong, will be punished only lightly. When someone has been given much, much will be required in return; and when someone has been entrusted with much, even more will be required.

Ignorance about the *"Laws of Father God"* will not be a defense to protect anyone from the punishment of *Father God*, it will only *lessen the blow* that has to be delivered to the sinner. On the other hand, if the *sinner* has been given *"Much"* (*The Word of God and His Law*), and then chooses to go their own *sinful way* even if they are *Father God's Chosen People, God* must deliver a *full measurer* of *His Powerful Righteous Judgement*.

The last section of *Amos 2:13-16* warns that all who try to fight and protect Israel will be subjected to *death* or *capture* by their attacking *Pagan enemy*.

This near total destruction and enslavement of Israel is the cost Israel must pay; it is *The LORD'S Righteous Judgement*. This painful Judgement must come because of *Unforgiven and Unrepentant sin*, the King the rich and the poor must be punished --- *None Will Escape*!

Psalm 25:14 (NLT) The Blessing

¹⁴ The LORD is a friend to those who fear him. He teaches them his covenant.

Psalm 132:12 (NLT)

The promise

¹² If your descendants obey the terms of my covenant and the laws that I teach them, then your royal line will continue forever and ever." Amos 3:1–2 (NLT) A Higher Standard of Accountability

Listen to this message that the LORD has spoken against you, O people of Israel—against the entire family I rescued from Egypt:

 ² "From among all the families on the earth, I have been intimate with you alone.
 That is why I must punish you for all your sins."

Chapter#3 The Unfaithful Bride! Comments on Amos 3:1-2: Yahweh, explains why He must unmercifully punish His Chosen People, because they are "His Bride" "His Chosen People" who know "The Law"! The sinful Hebrews have behaved like an "Unfaithful wife" when they committed "Spiritual Adultery" by worshiping false gods at Pagan alters! Because the Hebrews were given "Father God's Law" as "His Chosen People" they must be held to a higher standard of Responsibility to Obey --- All His Law!

Exodus 19:5 (NLT) Obey Me!

⁵ Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me.

Micah 3:11 (NLT) He Is with You and He is watching ¹¹ You rulers make decisions based on bribes; you priests teach God's laws only for a price; you prophets won't prophesy unless you are paid. Yet all of you claim to depend on the LORD. "No harm can come to us," you say, <u>"for the LORD is here among us."</u> (No

(Note see page#9: Exodus 17:7)

Amos 3:3–9 (NLT) Witnesses against Guilty Israel

> ³ Can two people walk together without agreeing on the direction?
> ⁴ Does a lion ever roar in a thicket without first finding a victim?
> Does a young lion growl in its den

without first catching its prey? ⁵ Does a bird ever get caught in a trap that has no bait? Does a trap spring shut when there's nothing to catch? ⁶ When the ram's horn blows a warning, shouldn't the people be alarmed? Does disaster come to a city unless the LORD has planned it?

⁷ Indeed, the Sovereign LORD never does anything until he reveals his plans to his servants the prophets.

⁸ The lion has roared so who isn't frightened?
The Sovereign LORD has spoken so who can refuse to proclaim his message?
⁹ Announce this to the leaders of Philistia and to the great ones of Egypt:
"Take your seats now on the hills around Samaria, and witness the chaos and oppression in Israel."

Amos 3:3-9 Words and Woes for Israel

Comments on Amos 3:3-9:

In this section of the prophesy of Amos Yahweh reveals to all who will listen why He has used His Prophets and Nazirites who were "On Fire" with The Words of Father God, to tell only "The Truth" then deliver His warning of the coming painful disastrous Judgement of Juda and Israel. Father God wanted all the "Unsaved World" then and now to see Witness and Understand what can and will happen to anyone, "Chosen or not" who will not listen to "His Word" and then Willfully and Sinfully continue to Disobey --- Yahweh's Law!

Amos 3:10–15 (NLT) Failure to Repent Brings More Pain

> ¹⁰ "My people have forgotten how to do right," says the LORD.
> "Their fortresses are filled with wealth taken by theft and violence.
> ¹¹ Therefore," says the Sovereign LORD, "an enemy is coming!
> He will surround them and shatter their defenses. Then he will plunder all their fortresses."

¹² This is what the Lord says:

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- "A shepherd who tries to rescue a sheep from a lion's mouth will recover only two legs or a piece of an ear.
- So it will be for the Israelites in Samaria lying on luxurious beds, and for the people of Damascus reclining on couches.

¹³ "Now listen to this, and announce it throughout all Israel," says the Lord, the LORD God of Heaven's Armies.

¹⁴ "On the very day I punish Israel for its sins, I will destroy the pagan altars at Bethel.
The horns of the altar will be cut off and fall to the ground.
¹⁵ And I will destroy the beautiful homes of the wealthy their winter mansions and their summer houses, too all their palaces filled with ivory," says the LORD.

Amos 3:10-15

Failure to Repent Brings More Pain

Comments on Amos 3:10-15:

The massive wealth of gold silver ivory and lands the people of Israel have *stolen* and *extorted* from others will suddenly and forcefully be ripped away from the greed motivated *sinful citizens* of Israel by their hated *Pagan Gentile* enemies.

The *sinful* Hebrew people have failed to "*Repent*" and "*Return*" to *Father God* "*The True God*", so they will feel the burning pain of Yahweh's --- Righteous Judgement!

The *sinful cult worship center* of Bethel will also be plundered and destroyed, "The horns of the altar shall be broken and fall to the ground", this verse indicates that the false Satanic power of the Pagan altar of the false god's will be removed and destroyed.

All Bethel must be destroyed because of the false fleshly motivated worship that was offered to *pagan gods* at the worship center in Bethel by the *sinfully* mistaken and misguided people of Israel.

This Unfaithful insulting sinful false god worship angered Father God causing His "Burning Anger" to grow into the Blazing Painful Judgement of death and enslavement for Israel's "Unrepentant and Unforgiven sins".

Amos 4:1–5 (NLT) Israel's Failure to Learn

> ¹ Listen to me, you fat cows living in Samaria,
> you women who oppress the poor and crush the needy,
> and who are always calling to your husbands, "Bring us another drink!"
> ² The Sovereign LORD has sworn this by his holiness:

"The time will come when you will be led away with hooks in your noses.
Every last one of you will be dragged away like a fish on a hook!
³ You will be led out through the ruins of the wall; you will be thrown from your fortresses," says the LORD.

⁴ "Go ahead and offer sacrifices to the idols at Bethel. Keep on disobeying at Gilgal.
Offer sacrifices each morning, and bring your tithes every three days.
⁵ Present your bread made with yeast as an offering of thanksgiving.
Then give your extra voluntary offerings so you can brag about it everywhere!
This is the kind of thing you Israelites love to do," says the Sovereign LORD.

Chapter#4

Destruction and Captivity

Comments on Amos 4:1-5:

This prophetic warning of the coming Judgement of *Yahweh* that will bring *humiliating* pain and capture is directed at the *"Cows of Bashan"* the *indolent (lazy lethargic)* women of Samaria who get fat as grain-fed cows on *ill-gotten* wine and plundered food.

They will soon know the pain and humiliation of being led into captivity with a hook (or ring like a cow) in their nose, "this was a common method the Babylonians and Assyrians used to control their slaves and captives."

Father God lists the numerous *pagan offerings* the *sinful Jews* offered at Bethel on *pagan alters* to *false gods*.

The *false gods* the *Unfaithful Children of Abraham* worshiped were also numerous, including Repham the *star god (The false religion of astrology)* and the evil *Satanic false god* Moleck. Moleck was worshiped by the *sacrificing* of living infants on the red-hot arms of a bronze statue of Molech, *living children* were offered as a *burnt offering* to Molech.

It is not hard to see, or a stretch of *reasonable logic* that the *Satanic murderous burnt offering sacrifice of infants* to Molech is a *"screen-shot copy"* of the self-serving *manmade laws* that allow the *sinful act* of --- *Modern-Day Abortion*!

Jeremiah 32:35 (NLT) An Incredible Evil!

³⁵ They have built pagan shrines to Baal in the valley of Ben-Hinnom, and there they sacrifice their sons and daughters to Molech. I have never commanded such a horrible deed; it never

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even crossed my mind to command such a thing. What an incredible evil, causing Judah to sin so greatly

In verse 4:5 Father God then points out that all the offerings His "Unfaithful bride" (The Jews) offered to pagan false gods are filled with "Leaven" the Biblical term for --- sin!

His Hebrew children in Israel and Juda should know the *"Law and Covenant"* that was given to Moses at Mount Sinai, *"The Ten Commandments"*.

This Written Law requires all offerings to Yahweh must be sinless and that "Leaven" is never offered to The Sinless LORD, --- Father God.

Amos 4:6–13 (NLT) *Return to The Lord!* Israel Has Not Returned To The Lord ⁶ "I brought hunger to every city and famine to every town. But still you would not return to me," says the Lord. ⁷ "I kept the rain from falling when your crops needed it the most. I sent rain on one town but withheld it from another. Rain fell on one field, while another field withered away. ⁸ People staggered from town to town looking for water, but there was never enough. But still you would not return to me," says the Lord. ⁹ "I struck your farms and vineyards with blight and mildew. Locusts devoured all your fig and olive trees. But still you would not return to me," says the Lord. ¹⁰ "I sent plagues on you like the plaques I sent on Egypt long ago. I killed your young men in war and led all your horses away. The stench of death filled the air! But still you would not return to me," says the Lord. ¹¹ "I destroyed some of your cities,

¹¹ "I destroyed some of your cities, as I destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. Those of you who survived were like charred sticks pulled from a fire.

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But still you would not return to me," says the LORD.

¹² "Therefore, I will bring upon you all the disasters I have announced. Prepare to meet your God in judgment, you people of Israel!"

¹³ For the LORD is the one who shaped the mountains, stirs up the winds, and reveals his thoughts to mankind.
He turns the light of dawn into darkness and treads on the heights of the earth. The LORD God of Heaven's Armies is his name!

Amos 4:6-13

Israel Did Not Accept Correction

Comments on Amos 4:6-13:

Father God will deliver to *sinful Israel* a full *"Egyptian Style"* dose of punishing plagues; drought crop blight mildew locust loss of livestock starvation and hunger dry wells and empty streams and rivers with no water to quench their thirst. All this pain will be followed by the *death* of their young men, they will be lost to *useless wars!*

The *Plagues* from *Yahweh* will continue until the *overpowering smell* of death and rotting flesh fills the air of their towns and camps.

God burned and destroyed some of the Israeli camps with "*fire and brimstone*" as *He* did Sodom and Gomorrah, even after all this they would not "*Repent*" and "*Return*" to *The One True God* ---*Yahweh*!

At the end of Father God's warning whose name is "The LORD, God of Hosts", "The LORD, God of Heaven's Armies "and The Eternal God --- He Delivers This Warning!

The LORD God then tells the *Unrepentant Unfaithful* people of Israel --- "*Prepare to Meet Your God!*"

But sadly, for most of *Yahweh's sinful* Hebrew children this meeting will not be one of *Love* and *Reconciliation* between *Father* and child. This meeting will be a *Painful Righteous Judgement* that will take place at the foot of *Father God's* throne.

This meeting of *Father* and child will take place after *Father God* delivers *Righteous painful physical Justice* to *His Chosen People* of Israel, the Judgement of --- *Death and Destruction*!

Amos 5:1–17 (NLT)

A Call to Repentance Listen, you people of Israel! Listen to this funeral song I am singing:

² "The virgin Israel has fallen, never to rise again!
She lies abandoned on the ground, with no one to help her up."

³ The Sovereign Lord says:

"When a city sends a thousand men to battle, only a hundred will return. When a town sends a hundred, only ten will come back alive."

⁴ Now this is what the LORD says to the family of Israel:

"Come back to me and live! ⁵ Don't worship at the pagan altars at Bethel; don't go to the shrines at Gilgal or Beersheba. For the people of Gilgal will be dragged off into exile, and the people of Bethel will be reduced to nothing." ⁶ Come back to the LORD and live! Otherwise, he will roar through Israel like a fire, devouring you completely. Your gods in Bethel won't be able to quench the flames. ⁷ You twist justice, making it a bitter pill for the oppressed. You treat the righteous like dirt. ⁸ It is the LORD who created the stars, the Pleiades and Orion. He turns darkness into morning and day into night. He draws up water from the oceans and pours it down as rain on the land. The LORD is his name! ⁹ With blinding speed and power he destroys the strong, crushing all their defenses. ¹⁰ How you hate honest judges! How you despise people who tell the truth! ¹¹ You trample the poor, stealing their grain through taxes and unfair rent. Therefore, though you build beautiful stone houses, you will never live in them. Though you plant lush vineyards, you will never drink wine from them. ¹² For I know the vast number of your sins and the depth of your rebellions. You oppress good people by taking bribes and deprive the poor of justice in the courts. ¹³ So those who are smart keep their mouths shut, for it is an evil time.

¹⁴ Do what is good and run from evil

so that you may live! Then the LORD God of Heaven's Armies will be your helper, just as you have claimed. ¹⁵ Hate evil and love what is good; turn your courts into true halls of justice. Perhaps even yet the LORD God of Heaven's Armies will have mercy on the remnant of his people.

¹⁶ Therefore, this is what the Lord, the LORD God of Heaven's Armies, says:

"There will be crying in all the public squares and mourning in every street.
Call for the farmers to weep with you, and summon professional mourners to wail.
¹⁷ There will be wailing in every vineyard, for I will destroy them all," says the LORD.

Chapter #5

A Lament and Call to Repentance

Comments on Amos 5:1-17:

At the start of this chapter we read *The LORD God's testimony* that contains more and more condemning charges of Israel's numerous --- "Unfaithful Unrepentant Sins".

This chapter contains Yahweh's words that are a "lamentation" (This is a funeral song or eulogy to mourn the loss of a loved one), this sad funeral song underlines and documents the unnecessary and painful loss of The LORD God's --- Chosen people!

In this *funeral lament* Israel is exposed as a *sinful Disobedient Faithless bride* who can be *Divorced* for her *"Infidelity"* and loss of *virginity*!

It is only because of Yahweh's "Eternal Covenant with Abraham" and His Fatherly Love for the Hebrew people that He will not Divorce --- His Chosen People.

His Righteous Judgement will not be a *Divorce*, it will be a *"Painful" tear-filled separation* for a *long* and *dark* trouble filled period of time.

Because the Jews are *His Chosen People, Father God* will "Protect" a small *Remnant* of the Jews to prove --- *The Total Faithfulness of His Word*!

In the *"Sacred Scrolls"* the recorded past history of the Jews, *The LORD God* gave *His Eternal Word* to *"Protect"* and then *"Completely Restore" Israel* and *His Chosen People* in --- *"The Last days"*!

Acts 3:19–21 (NLT) Repent of Your Sins!

¹⁹ Now repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away. ²⁰ Then times of refreshment will come from the presence of the Lord, and he will again send you Jesus, your appointed Messiah.

²¹ For he must remain in heaven until the time for <u>the final restoration of all things, as God</u> promised long ago through his holy prophets.

Israel did not accept correction so Father God warns all who will listen that pain and death will be the fate for most of the men who will try to defend Israel from the pagan's attack. The only corrective action that can save Israel from Father God's Judgmental death and destruction will be if His "Unfaithful children" Repent and Return to --- "The One True God"! The True God, Yahweh is "The All-Consuming Fire" that will burn with Holy Fire and destroy all that is "Unrepentant" and sinful!

The powerless pagan *false gods* cannot protect the *"Disobedient" sinful* Hebrew people of Israel from *The Righteous Judgement* of *The Eternal Father God*!

Father God Is the Vine Dresser!

The prophet Amos delivers the words of *Father God* to expose how the *sinful* King, rulers and religious leaders of Israel made up and used *"man-made" unjust sinful laws* to punish *"Honest Judges"* (*The Holy Prophets of God*), who can only tell --- *"The Truth"*!

The *powerful "Truth"* of the prophesy *God's "Holy Prophets"* will reveal and *shine brightly* on all the *sinful lost* who want to live in *sin* protected by the *darkness*.

The Lost and Unrepentant Sinners who follow sinful "man-made" laws, laws that are not part of The Covent of Moses or Father God's Law want to hide their sin and shame.

The *Unfaithful* Hebrews do not want their *evil Unrepentant sins* to be exposed by the *brilliant light* of --- "*The Truth*"!

Those *sinful* Hebrew men and women who unjustly take the provision of *Father God* from others to improve their own *worldly life* will never drink the *sweet wine* of their stolen vineyards or enjoy plundered material wealth in this world, nor will they dine at *Father God's Heavenly Eternal* banquet table.

The all-knowing *Father God* witnesses and records the total *Arrogant Disregard* of "*His Laws*" by the *Unrepentant Sinful* people of Israel.

Foolishly the *sinful* Jews in Juda and Israel attempt to cover up their "Unrepentant" sin as they did In *The Temple of God* with burnt offerings and *Animal Blood Sacrifices*.

The *sinful Unrepentant* Hebrews only succeeded in covering their *sin* with more *sin* --- "*The unfaithful sinful worship of false gods*".

It is useful for all *Believers* in "The Gospel of Jesus Christ" to understand the act of "Atonement", how using the Abrahamic Covenant method of Animal Blood sacrifices could only cover up not remove the stain of sin.

Sinful man could not have direct contact with *Yahweh* to ask for *Forgiveness* of their *sins* in the times of the *Old Testament*.

As New Testament Christian Believers, we can now depend on the Sinless Blood Sacrifice of Jesus Christ and personally ask Father God for "Total Forgiveness" of sins.

This *"Total Forgiveness"* can only be done because of the *Sacrificial Blessing* provided by our *Lord*, and *Savior Jesus Christ --- The Sinless Lamb of God!*

I have attached a commentary by *Pastor Chuck Smith* from the NKJV – The Word For Today Bible – page #135 and *Leviticus 1:4*

Leviticus 1:4 (NKJV)

A Covering For Sin

Then he shall put his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it will be accepted on his behalf to make atonement for him.

Comment by Chuck Smith page #135; "Atonement in the Old Testament comes from the Hebrew word kaphar, meaning "to cover". It is used over fifty times in this book. It was impossible that the blood of bulls or goats could put away their sin, but it did make a covering for sin, so that the guilt of the person was covered up. But it wasn't completely put away."

The *sinful Unfaithful* Hebrew people who do not *"Know God"* or *"His Law"* do not understand their *Unrepentant Unforgiven sin* could not be completely put away or forgiven. Now it has become a terribly sad and *dark time* for *God's "Chosen People"* in Juda and Israel. With the *Protective Love* of a devoted *Father, The LORD God* warns *His Chosen People "Repent", Father God* does not enjoy punishing --- *"His Unrepentant Children"*.

Repent and Live!

Again, Amos uses the corrective words of *Father God* to call on Israel to *"Repent"*, to hate evil and love what is good. *Father God* wants to show *His "Grace"* and *Mercy* to all the people of Israel and Juda not just the survivors.

The survivors who after *His* coming *Painful Judgement* will only be a *damaged* and *broken Remnant* of --- *His Chosen People*.

This warning of coming sudden destruction and death from *Father God* is the same powerful warning *God* sends to the "Unrepentant Unforgiven Sinful Modern World" we now live in. All the men and women living on this earth today need to look back in time to learn from the foolish *sinful* mistakes "*The Chosen people of God*" made over two thousand years ago. The times have changed, but the *Timeless Righteousness* and *Authority of Father God* to deliver *His Powerful Judgement* on all *Unrepentant Sinners* is always the same.

The passing of time even if it is thousands of years will not change --- Father God's Law. Father God is the "Vine Dresser" (The one who tends and cultivates grape vines), He must remove and burn all the unproductive dead wood from --- His vineyard!

The True Vine "His Chosen People" the grafted in branches "The Modern Christian Church" the Wild Vines "Those who have not accepted Jesus Christ as LORD, and Savior"; all will be Judged with the same Eternal Refining Fire of Father God's Word --- His Law!

Only the "Truly Repentant" men and women with the "Pure Gold" of True Intense "Belief" in the Law of Father God and Jesus Christ as LORD, and Savior will withstand "His Holy Fire" --- and not be destroyed!

Amos 5:18-25 (NLT)

Warning of Coming Judgment

¹⁸ What sorrow awaits you who say, *"If only the day of the LORD were here!"*You have no idea what you are wishing for.
That day will bring darkness, not light.
¹⁹ In that day you will be like a man who runs from a lion—

only to meet a bear. Escaping from the bear, he leans his hand against a wall in his house and he's bitten by a snake. ²⁰ Yes, the day of the LORD will be dark and hopeless,

without a ray of joy or hope. ²¹ "I hate all your show and pretense—

the hypocrisy of your religious festivals and solemn assemblies.

²² I will not accept your burnt offerings and grain offerings.I won't even notice all your choice peace offerings.

²³ Away with your noisy hymns of praise!

I will not listen to the music of your harps.

²⁴ Instead, I want to see a mighty flood of justice, an endless river of righteous living.

²⁵ "Was it to me you were bringing sacrifices and offerings during the forty years in the wilderness, Israel?

Comments on Amos 5:18-25

The Day of The LORD!

The lost confused and *unrepentant sinful people* of Israel cry out in *false reverence "If only it was --- The Day of The LORD"*!

The Chosen People of God "The Jews" have no idea of the depth of regret pain and suffering that "future frightening day" will bring for all the Unrepentant Sinners in the world, Jews, and Gentiles!

This *Day of The LORD* is the day of *Yahweh's Righteous Judgement*, a time of *unimageable* death and destruction.

This day will be a frightening "Earth-Shattering Event" ordained and conducted by a Sovereign, All-knowing --- LORD God!

This *Righteous Judgement* by *The LORD God* will take place at two points of time. The first point in time will be when *Yahweh* Judges Juda and Israel for *Unfaithful* and *Unrepentant sin* in the time of the Old Testament.

The second point in time of *Father God's Righteous Judgement* will be at some unknown future time when *Father God* brings to the *sinful* earth *bone-crushing* unbelievable regret pain and suffering.

This Earth-Shattering event will be --- "The End Times"!

It will be *The Last Days* of the *Sinful Earth* starting with "*The Revelation of Jesus Christ*", when the entire earth is Judged for --- Unfaithful and Unrepentant Sin!

Joel 2:10–11 (NLT) The Great Day of The LORD

> ¹⁰ The earth quakes as they advance, and the heavens tremble. The sun and moon grow dark,

and the stars no longer shine.

¹¹ The LORD is at the head of the column. He leads them with a shout.
This is his mighty army, and they follow his orders.
The day of the LORD is an awesome, terrible thing. Who can possibly survive?

"The Sinful Jewish Children Act Just Like Their Foolish Dead Fathers"

The Unrepentant and Unfaithful Sinful people of Israel offer-up as their fathers did, the same hypocritical false Leaven (sin) contaminated offerings to --- Father God. The Hebrew people of Israel were acting just like their sinful fathers at Mount Sinai who sacrificed offerings and worshiped a false god "the golden calf", now "The Children of Abraham" again offered pagan sinful offerings to false god's.

Exodus 32:6–10 (NLT)

The Sin of The Fathers!

⁶ The people got up early the next morning to sacrifice burnt offerings and peace offerings. After this, they celebrated with feasting and drinking, and they indulged in pagan revelry.

⁷ The LORD told Moses, "Quick! Go down the mountain! Your people whom you brought from the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves. ⁸ How quickly they have turned away from the way I commanded them to live! They have melted down gold and made a calf, and they have bowed down and sacrificed to it. They are saying, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.'"

⁹ Then the LORD said, "I have seen how stubborn and rebellious these people are. ¹⁰ Now leave me alone so my fierce anger can blaze against them, and I will destroy them. Then I will make you, Moses, into a great nation."

The "Unpleasant Smell" of sinful "burnt offerings" offends The LORD God, the sound of their worship music and prayers is only an annoying noise that intensifies Yahweh's --- Pain and Anger!

At this point in time the only offering that Father God wants to receive from the people of Juda and Israel is *True* and *Genuine --- Repentance!*

Father God wants to see an "Endless" mighty rushing river of Justice, with the waters of the river filled with His Chosen People continuously "Obeying" --- His Holy Law!

Amos 6:1–7 (NLT) Woe to The Complacent

 ¹ What sorrow awaits you who lounge in luxury in Jerusalem, and you who feel secure in Samaria!
 You are famous and popular in Israel, and people go to you for help.
 ² But go over to Calneh

and see what happened there. Then go to the great city of Hamath and down to the Philistine city of Gath. You are no better than they were, and look at how they were destroyed. ³ You push away every thought of coming disaster, but your actions only bring the day of judgment closer. ⁴ How terrible for you who sprawl on ivory beds and lounge on your couches, eating the meat of tender lambs from the flock and of choice calves fattened in the stall. ⁵ You sing trivial songs to the sound of the harp and fancy yourselves to be great musicians like David. ⁶ You drink wine by the bowlful and perfume yourselves with fragrant lotions. You care nothing about the ruin of your nation. ⁷ Therefore, you will be the first to be led away as captives. Suddenly, all your parties will end.

Chapter #6

Comments on Amos 6:1-7

Woe to the Complacent

Chapter #6 starts out with a new warning for the *"hung-over" sinners* in Israel, *Yahweh* warns the arrogant fat proud rich and famous Hebrews to --- *Wake Up and Smell the Coffee!* The quickest and surest way to be subjected to *"The Wrath"* of *Father God* is to think you are *Blessed* securely attached in your prosperous society *to vital* to be removed from your comfort zone.

The common thought among the *wealthy Hebrews* and others was, that if you were *extraordinarily rich* and *prosperous* you were being *Blessed* by *Yahweh* for your --- *exceptionally good behavior*.

Israel is called the *"Chief Nation"* the *seat of power and wealth* where the weak and poor go to seek *"True Justice"*. Regretfully the poor and weak find only *unfair* and *unjust* treatment from their rich and *sinful* Hebrew brothers and sisters.

The Holy Prophets of God are exposed to physical attack and ridicule they are subjected to harsh words of scorn and disbelief by the so-called teachers of the Oral Traditions (man-made laws) "Religious Men" who make up their "own law". Sinful men who refuse to "Repent" and "Return" to the --- One True God!

Jeremiah 5:12–13 (NLT) The False Profits

> ¹² "They have lied about the LORD and said, 'He won't bother us! No disasters will come upon us.

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There will be no war or famine. ¹³ God's prophets are all windbags who don't really speak for him. Let their predictions of disaster fall on themselves!' "

The *sinfully* arrogant wealthy people of Israel feel protected *insulated* from hunger and disaster because of the vast wealth and power they have gathered for themselves with *greed* and *theft*. A famous quote exposes the *Arrogance* and *Contempt* the rich and powerful have for the poor underclass who live under their --- *Thoughtless Sinful Persecution*.

"Let Them Eat Cake", this is the statement spoken out of stupidity and ignorance that the French *Queen Marie Antoinette* delivered to her starving people.

This turned out to be her *last public statement*, her Judgement was to be delivered by a mob of starving people, the cost would be her --- *head*!

This mindless quote of *Queen Marie Antoinette* mirrors the *corrupt sinful greed* of the wealthy *Unrepentant* ruling class and *"Outlaw"* religious leaders in Israel.

This *sinful* fallen condition of *total Disregard* for the poor will result in capture and *painful slavery* or it will be *"Life-Ending"* for most of the *deluded sinful* citizens of Israel.

The Unrepentant Unfaithful Sinful drunken people of Israel play music and sing songs to Father God.

This *so-called* music to *Father God* is just *noise*, *He* will not have to listen to this *noise* much longer, for they will soon be singing --- *Songs of Death and Mourning*!

The LORD God will now Righteously Judge with "Babylonian Fire and Death" all the Unrepentant sinful fat pompous ruling class of Israel for them --- "The Party Is Over"!

Revelation 18:9–10 (NLT)

The LORD God's Judgement!

⁹ And the kings of the world who committed adultery with her and enjoyed her great luxury will mourn for her as they see the smoke rising from her charred remains. ¹⁰ They will stand at a distance, terrified by her great torment. They will cry out,

"How terrible, how terrible for you, O Babylon, you great city! In a single moment God's judgment came on you."

Revelation 18:14 (NLT) Gone Forever! ¹⁴ "The fancy things you loved so much are gone," they cry. "All your luxuries and splendor are gone forever, never to be yours again." Amos 6:8–14 (NLT) "The Great I Am" God Cannot Show His Love to the Unrepentant Sinners

⁸ The Sovereign Lord has sworn by his own name, and this is what he, the Lord God of Heaven's Armies, says:

"I despise the arrogance of Israel, and I hate their fortresses. I will give this city and everything in it to their enemies."

⁹ (If there are ten men left in one house, they will all die. ¹⁰ And when a relative who is responsible to dispose of the dead goes into the house to carry out the bodies, he will ask the last survivor, "Is anyone else with you?" When the person begins to swear, "No, by …," he will interrupt and say, "Stop! Don't even mention the name of the LORD.")

¹¹ When the LORD gives the command, homes both great and small will be smashed to pieces.

¹² Can horses gallop over boulders? Can oxen be used to plow them?
But that's how foolish you are when you turn justice into poison and the sweet fruit of righteousness into bitterness.
¹³ And you brag about your conquest of Lo-debar. You boast, "Didn't we take Karnaim by our own strength?"

¹⁴ "O people of Israel, I am about to bring an enemy nation against you," says the LORD God of Heaven's Armies.
"They will oppress you throughout your land—from Lebo-hamath in the north to the Arabah Valley in the south."

Comments on Amos 6:8-14:

Now that Father God has sworn by His own Name, "The Great I Am" He makes this oath of coming "Judgement" the highest oath possible, His word is the final word the Verdict is --- Final! Israel has reached the tipping-point level of Unrepentant Sin where the Love of Father God must be tempered with His Righteous Judgement, a Judgement that will include painful destruction and death!

In *Amos 6:9* we are told that the devastating amount of *death* in every house, both great and small brings a level of *fear* so *chilling* that the survivors will be afraid to even mention the name of *Yahweh*.

The survivors of the enemy attacks are afraid that mentioning *Yahweh's* name might somehow attract *God's Attention* and --- *His Wrath*!

The horse galloping on boulders and the ox plowing boulders is used as an example of how *foolish* the Hebrew people of Israel were to think that *Yahweh* would not see the total *Arrogant Disrespect* and *Flagrant Disregard* for *True Justice* or *Yahweh's* --- *Holy Law*!

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The foolish Unrepentant Sinners in Israel brag and take credit for wars and battels they have not won, claiming to have power that is not theirs. The prideful Hebrews fail to remember that the Eternal Protector and Defender of The Children of Abraham is and always was --- Father God. Today we should see the connection and understand that now just like it was then, it is a very Unwise Dangerous act to personally take credit for the Provision and Blessings from --- Father God!

This total lack of a correct humble recognition and *thanksgiving* for their *wealth* and the *Protection* from their enemies that was a *Loving Gift* from *Yahweh*, will cost a great number of the Hebrew people in Israel everything including their *freedom* or their *lives*!

Amos 7:1–3 (NLT)

A Vision of Locusts

The Sovereign LORD showed me a vision. I saw him preparing to send a vast swarm of locusts over the land. This was after the king's share had been harvested from the fields and as the main crop was coming up. ² In my vision the locusts ate every green plant in sight. Then I said, "O Sovereign LORD, please forgive us or we will not survive, for Israel is so small."

³ So the LORD relented from this plan. "I will not do it," he said.

Comments on Amos 7:1-3: The Plague of Locusts

The visions of the *"Total" insect Devastation* of Israel's food crops and all living plants were placed in the mind of Amos by *Father God*.

This vision of millions of destructive hungry flying insects must have been *very frightening* for the prophet Amos who was by profession a *shepherd* and *farmer*.

The total destruction and loss of a country's food crops is a "*worst-case*" scenario for anyone who works on the land and depends on food from the land they live on!

The *apocalyptic vision* of a land *stripped* of all green plant life prompts the prophet Amos to use the most *powerful* tool he has.

Amos uses the power of *Intensive Prayer* to ask *God* for *Forgiveness* and *Mercy* for *His Chosen People "The Jews"* with whom *Father God* made an --- *Eternal Protective Covenant*.

It is a fact that we as humans cannot *pray* and change the mind of *Father God*, *He* can however lead us to *pray* for *His Mercy*, that is what *God* wants *His Children* to do.

The LORD God's reason for the frightening visions of *ravenous insects* was to prompt the Prophet Amos to *pray* for --- *God's Mercy*.

The *heart-felt "Genuine"* concerned delivery of the *prayer* that Amos spoke allowed *Yahweh* to soften *His heart*, knowing that Amos would *pray* this prayer *God* relented, He said --- *"This Will Not Happen"*!

It is a "*True Blessing*" and an incredibly good thing in times of trouble to have a *Holy Prophet* of *God* who will *pray* for you to receive *Father God's Mercy*!

The *total loss* of all food plants in Israel was avoided, but the crops will be *plundered* by the Babylonians only a *remnant* of the food crop will be protected.

The *sinful "Children of Abraham"* living in Israel are still not *forgiven*, and *Father God's Judgement* must be delivered to Israel.

Amos 7:4–6 (NLT)

A Vision of Fire

⁴ Then the Sovereign LORD showed me another vision. I saw him preparing to punish his people with a great fire. The fire had burned up the depths of the sea and was devouring the entire land. ⁵ Then I said, "O Sovereign LORD, please stop or we will not survive, for Israel is so small." ⁶ Then the LORD relented from this plan, too. "I will not do that either," said the Sovereign LORD.

Comments on Amos 7:4-6: The Judgement by Fire

Amos was given the next frightening vision of The LORD God's coming Righteous Judgement. The prophet was terrified, he watched as all the waters around Israel great and small were dried up by an "Unquenchable Fire", the land was reduced to --- Dust and Cinders! The Blazing Vision caused the prophet Amos to cry out --- "please stop or we will not survive"! Amos again used the Power of Prayer to ask Father God to have pity on His Chosen People and to protect a "Remnant" of the Jews.

The LORD God relented from His plan of total devastation by fire. A Remnant of The Chosen People would be protected, but with the destructive fires of the "Babylonian Attack" Yahweh's Judgement would be delivered to Israel.

The "Unrepentant" Sinful Children of Abraham were still not forgiven by Father God.

Amos 7:7–9 (NLT)

A Vision of a Plumb Line

⁷ Then he showed me another vision. I saw the Lord standing beside a wall that had been built using a plumb line. He was using a plumb line to see if it was still straight. ⁸ And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?"

I answered, "A plumb line."

And the Lord replied, "I will test my people with this plumb line. I will no longer ignore all their sins. ⁹ The pagan shrines of your ancestors will be ruined, and the temples of Israel will be destroyed; I will bring the dynasty of King Jeroboam to a sudden end."

Comments on Amos 7:7-9:

The Wall and The Plumb Bob Line

This symbolic vision is hard to understand if you do not know what a plumb bob is and how it is used in construction.

(The plumb bob is a construction tool, consisting of a weight hung on a string to determine vertical alignment of an object, the weight at the end of the sting will allays cause the string to hang straight up and down)

The prophet Amos was a man who worked with his hands as most ranches and farmers do it is just part of the occupation. He would have understood that the plumb bob was a construction tool used to check if a wall was leaning over, and in danger of collapsing.

Yahweh asked Amos if he understood why he was given the vision of a plumb bob line and a wall, he answered "A plumb line."

This indicated to *Yahweh* that Amos did understand the importance of a wall being vertical and not leaning over which could cause the wall to collapse.

Father God then went on to say that He would use the plumb line to test His Chosen People, to

see how much they were "Out of Plumb or leaning over" or in other words how greatly they had returned to sinful "pagan worship", a sin that condemned and doomed their fathers to fall under Yahweh's "Burning Anger" and Judgement in the past.

After testing *His children* with the plumb bob of *Father God's "Holy Law*" they were found to be "*Totally out of Plumb*" and beyond repair, now they must be knocked down --- *Demolished!* As promised by *The LORD God* some of the "*undamaged good bricks*" (*The Remnants*) will be set aside for the future construction of --- "The House of David".

God tells Amos that Israel will be demolished, and the *sinful dynasty* of King Jeroboam will come to a sudden and deadly end.

The LORD God's Chosen People have now gone too far they were *Totally Corrupt*, they must be Judged for all their *Unfaithfulness* and --- *Unforgiven sin!*

Amos 7:10–17 (NLT) Amos and Amaziah

¹⁰ Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent a message to Jeroboam, king of Israel: "Amos is hatching a plot against you right here on your very doorstep! What he is saying is intolerable. ¹¹ He is saying, 'Jeroboam will soon be killed, and the people of Israel will be sent away into exile.'"

¹² Then Amaziah sent orders to Amos: "Get out of here, you prophet! Go on back to the land of Judah, and earn your living by prophesying there! ¹³ Don't bother us with your prophecies here in Bethel. This is the king's sanctuary and the national place of worship!"

¹⁴ But Amos replied, "I'm not a professional prophet, and I was never trained to be one. I'm just a shepherd, and I take care of sycamore-fig trees. ¹⁵ But the LORD called me away from my flock and told me, 'Go and prophesy to my people in Israel.' ¹⁶ Now then, listen to this message from the LORD:

"You say,

'Don't prophesy against Israel. Stop preaching against my people.' ¹⁷ But this is what the LORD says: 'Your wife will become a prostitute in this city, and your sons and daughters will be killed. Your land will be divided up, and you yourself will die in a foreign land. And the people of Israel will certainly become captives in exile, far from their homeland.' "

Comments on Amos 7:10-17: Amos and The Chief Priest Amaziah

The one certain thing about delivering *bad news* announcing the coming of *Father God's Righteous Judgement* to *sinful* people who do not want to be corrected; When you deliver this prophesy you will not be treated as a *Holy Prophet of God* Hebrew brother, or friend. You will be called a *Traitor* a *Judas*, but worse than all the *False Accusations* landed on you they will not *"Listen"* to your *warning words*, the words of *The LORD God's Prophet* and --- *Repent*!

Commentary on the Minor Prophets

The "Unrepentant" Sinful Hebrew people to whom you deliver the warning of coming Judgement will accuse you of being a *law breaker*, lying and plotting to destroy the normal *God-Fearing* peaceful lifestyle they live.

The Unrepentant Sinners will tell you that you have no place in their "Holy Sanctuary" or place of worship, then you will be told to --- Shut-Up and Go Home!

Amos explains to the high priest Amaziah that he is just a farmer and shepherd not a *professional prophet*. However, when he was called by *The LORD God "Yahweh*" to go to Israel and deliver *Father God's* warning of the soon coming *Righteous Judgement* he acted as a *Faithful Servant*, he obeyed the call of *Almighty God*!

The prophet Amos had some final parting *words of warning* from *The LORD God* for the high priest Amaziah before he returned to his home in Juda.

"Amaziah you tell me to stop preaching to your people, but the words I deliver are from *The* LORD God --- Yahweh!

Your wife will become a *prostitute*, your sons and daughters will be killed, all your lands and property will be taken away." "You will *die* in a foreign land and the people of Israel will become "*slaves*" in far distant lands"!

Amos 8:1–6 (NLT) A Vision of Ripe Fruit

Then the Sovereign LORD showed me another vision. In it I saw a basket filled with ripe fruit. ² "What do you see, Amos?" he asked.

I replied, "A basket full of ripe fruit."

Then the LORD said, "Like this fruit, Israel is ripe for punishment! I will not delay their punishment again.³ In that day the singing in the temple will turn to wailing. Dead bodies will be scattered everywhere. They will be carried out of the city in silence. I, the Sovereign LORD, have spoken!"

⁴ Listen to this, you who rob the poor and trample down the needy!
⁵ You can't wait for the Sabbath day to be over and the religious festivals to end so you can get back to cheating the helpless.
You measure out grain with dishonest measures and cheat the buyer with dishonest scales.
⁶ And you mix the grain you sell with chaff swept from the floor.
Then you enslave poor people for one piece of silver or a pair of sandals.

Comments on Amos 8:1-6: The Vision of Ripe Fruit Father God uses the vision of the ripe fruit knowing that Amos is a man who works on the land as a farmer who has cultivated and harvested from fruit trees in his own orchard. The LORD informs the prophet Amos that His Chosen People are "Ripe" for Punishment, they are now like fruit that is ripe and ready for --- Harvest! The coming harvest for Father God's "Sinful" Children will start with His Painful Righteous Judgement and punishment of enslavement hunger pain, and death at the hands of their Pagan Babylonian enemies.

Yahweh tells the prophet Amos that He will not delay any longer, sinful Israel must pay a high price because they will not "Repent" and "turn away" from a --- life of sin!

The *sinful* men and women living in *Father God's Promised Land* will soon be singing a *new song*, not of joy but a song of --- *Sorrow* and *Mourning*!

The bodies of the dead will be so numerous that they will be buried without prayer because they *fear* using the *"Name"* of *The LORD God* and attracting *His* attention and --- *Wrath!* Robbing the poor using *"Manmade laws" laws* not founded on *Father God's Law*, then depriving the poor of *"True Justice"*, *Spiritual Unfaithfulness* by practicing *pagan worship* of *false gods*, *Disrespect* for the *Sabbath*, and making *slaves* of the poor are just the tip of the knife the *Unrepentant Sinners* of Israel use to *attack* and *cut up* --- *"The Holy Law of The LORD"*!

Amos 8:7–8 (NLT) God's Oath ⁷ Now the LORD has sworn this oath by his own name, the Pride of Israel: "I will never forget the wicked things you have done! ⁸ The earth will tremble for your deeds, and everyone will mourn. The ground will rise like the Nile River at floodtime; it will heave up, then sink again.

Comments on Amos 8:7-8:

God's Oath

The LORD God "Yahweh" has sworn His Highest Oath by "His Name"! Almighty God will not forget all the sinful acts of Unfaithfulness, idol worship and Disrespect for "His Law" that the Children of Abraham "The Jews" have committed.

Now the earth and rocks under the *Hebrew* people's feet will *Tremble* and *Quake* in *"Fear"* of *Yahweh*, sobbing *painfully mourning* for the *sinful "Unrepentant Arrogance"* of Israel.

Amos 8:9-10 (NLT)

Darkness and Mourning

⁹ "In that day," says the Sovereign LORD,
"I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth while it is still day.
¹⁰ I will turn your celebrations into times of mourning and your singing into weeping.
You will wear funeral clothes and shave your heads to show your sorrow—
as if your only son had died. How very bitter that day will be!

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Comments on Amos 8:9-10: Darkness and Mourning

Father God who is Totally Honest and Eternally Truthful never uses His Unlimited Power to punish mankind without first delivering a "Warning" before He demonstrates His "Anger" with action.

The LORD God warns His Children with the words of His Holy Prophets. It is a wake-up call for all the Unrepentant Sinners in Israel that His coming Judgement will be a time of --- Darkness and Death!

This Old Testament, B.C. (before Jesus Christ) event was a painful frightening time of Righteous Judgement in Israel, and it is a "preview" and warning of a coming "End Times" Event --- The Day of The LORD!

All the "*True*" historical events recorded in *The Holy Bible* were placed in *The Holy Word of God* for our education. This *God given* gift of *Biblical Wisdom* is an instructive warning to "*Protect*" all mankind from the lies of the *evil one* --- *Satan*!

The prophesy and teachings recorded in the *Book of Amos* are *Father God's* warning to all mankind that *He Alone* will be the "*Final*" *Judge* of *mankind*.

Only *The Eternal Father God* with *His Powers* of *Creation* and *Destruction* can and will bring an end to "*The Time of Man*" and all "*The Earth*"!

Amos 8:11–13 (NLT) They Will Hunger for The Word of God

¹¹ "The time is surely coming," says the Sovereign LORD, "when I will send a famine on the land not a famine of bread or water but of hearing the words of the LORD.
¹² People will stagger from sea to sea and wander from border to border searching for the word of the LORD, but they will not find it.
¹³ Beautiful girls and strong young men will grow faint in that day, thirsting for the LORD's word.

Comments on Amos 8:11-13: They Will Hunger For The Word of God The Prophet Amos tells the Unrepentant Sinful people living in Israel that a time of Spiritual Famine will come to The Children of Abraham "His Chosen People" causing the Hebrews to ----"Thirst for The LORD's Word"

This time of *Spiritual Famine* will be a famine where no man or woman can find *peace, comfort* or *direction* from "*The Bread of Life*" --- *The Holy Word of God*!

This dark silent *famine* of *isolation* will hang like a cold wet blanket over the Jews in their captivity.

This disturbingly empty and cold time of *Spiritual Darkness* and *isolation* will like a *death shroud* hang over all the world and *The Promised Land*.

Men and women will *stumble* as the blind do, struggling like the lost frightened traveler who is wandering in the *cold darkness* of night.

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This period of *Silent Darkness* will last until the *"Promised" Brilliant Light* of *"Truth"* is provided by the birth in Bethlehem of *"The Messiah" Jesus Christ* who is --- *"The Light"* and *The Living Word of God!*

Amos 8:14 (NLT) All the Glory to God Alone ¹⁴ And those who swear by the shameful idols of Samaria who take oaths in the name of the god of Dan and make vows in the name of the god of Beersheba they will all fall down, never to rise again."

Comments on Amos 8:14: All The Glory to God Alone

At this point *Father God* delivers *His Righteous Judgement* on all the *sinful* Hebrews who are *"Foolish"* enough to *"Blatantly"* break *"The Law"* of *Father God* and take part in the *Unfaithful* worship of --- *false pagan gods*.

The LORD God demands that all mankind Worship Him <u>Only</u>; "All The Glory to God Alone" this is Father God's first and Most Important Law for all mankind to remember.

All the *physical material* things in this world and everything in the *Spiritual realm* are *Father God's Creation* they are all *Eternally* under *His "Total" Sovern Management*.

The *sinful lost* who *worship false pagan gods* made of stone wood cast metal, the *sinners* who *worship* a person thing or possession with *Love* or *Trust* other than *Father God* will fall extremely hard under the *Righteous Judgment* of an "Angry" Eternal Lord, God!

Amos 9:1–10 (NLT) A Vision of God at the Altar

Then I saw a vision of the Lord standing beside the altar. He said,

"Strike the tops of the Temple columns, so that the foundation will shake. Bring down the roof on the heads of the people below. I will kill with the sword those who survive. No one will escape!

² "Even if they dig down to the place of the dead, I will reach down and pull them up.
Even if they climb up into the heavens, I will bring them down.
³ Even if they hide at the very top of Mount Carmel, I will search them out and capture them.
Even if they hide at the bottom of the ocean, I will send the sea serpent after them to bite them.
⁴ Even if their enemies drive them into exile, I will command the sword to kill them there.
I am determined to bring disaster upon them and not to help them."

⁵ The Lord, the LORD of Heaven's Armies, touches the land and it melts, and all its people mourn. The ground rises like the Nile River at floodtime, and then it sinks again. ⁶ The Lord's home reaches up to the heavens, while its foundation is on the earth. He draws up water from the oceans and pours it down as rain on the land. The LORD is his name! ⁷ "Are you Israelites more important to me than the Ethiopians?" asks the LORD. "I brought Israel out of Egypt, but I also brought the Philistines from Crete and led the Arameans out of Kir. ⁸ "I, the Sovereign LORD, am watching this sinful nation of Israel. I will destroy it from the face of the earth. But I will never completely destroy the family of Israel," says the Lord. ⁹ "For I will give the command and will shake Israel along with the other nations as grain is shaken in a sieve, yet not one true kernel will be lost. ¹⁰ But all the sinners will die by the sword all those who say, 'Nothing bad will happen to us.'

Comments on Amos 9:1-10: The Fall of The Sanctuary

Yahweh is ready to "Bring Down the House" on His Disobedient Unfaithful children, this Righteous Judgement will be painfully sad for Israel this time it will be --- Death! If the destruction and collapse of their "Adulterous" worship center and temple buildings in Bethel does not kill them the sword of their enemy the Pagan Babylonians will take their life, none will escape --- Death or Capture!

If some of the survivors of Yahweh's Anger try to run and hide from the "Wrath of God", it will not work. The LORD God will drag them back for capture or death remember He is --- "The LORD, of Heavens Army".

No *man-made* physical barrier wall or object will block or stop the *Mighty Wind* of *God's* "Burning Whirlwind of Fire" --- The Wrath of God!

The bloody violence of war, fire and earthquakes will be *God's* tools to deliver *Destruction* and *Death* to all the *Unrepentant Unfaithful Sinners* in Israel.

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This frightening and deadly *Righteous Judgement* of Israel in the *Old Testament* Bible record is a *Powerful Warning* and just a *warm-up* for the *"Total" Destruction* that will be *unleashed* on *"The Day of The LORD"* --- *The Revelation of Jesus Christ!*

The LORD God tells the sinful people of Israel that they have no special protection from His Judgement by Fire and Death due to the Unrepentant Unforgiven Sin the Hebrew people Foolishly attempted to hide from Yahweh.

Father God knows all things, He sees all the "Adulterous" sinful deeds and the true depth of the Arrogance and Pride that is flooding the homes and streets of Israel.

The LORD, God will Destroy and Kill His "Disobedient" sinful children using the sinful Pagan and bloodthirsty Babylonians spears and swords just as it is written in His "Holy Word", the cost of sin is --- Death!

True to *God's Eternal Promise* to always keep a *"Remnant"* of the *Chosen People* that will grow with great *Fruitfulness* and fill the earth in the *"Millennial Age"* and *"The New Jerusalem"*.

Father God will set aside a "Seed Crop" of sifted and chosen Children of Abraham to "Replant" and then grow the "House of David".

The LORD God will sift very finely *His Chosen People, "Not one kernel will be lost" Yahweh* will choose the ones *He* will *"Protect"*.

Comment on Amos 9:10:

Then a *hope crushing* warning goes out to the last of the *Unrepentant Sinners* in Israel who think they will be *protected* by their *wealth* or their own *personal strength*.

The once *mighty* and *prideful Hebrews* will soon become *helpless victims* of --- "*The Sword of God*"!

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Amos 9:11–15 (NLT)
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A Promise of Restoration

¹¹ "In that day I will restore the fallen house of David.

I will repair its damaged walls.

From the ruins I will rebuild it

and restore its former glory.

¹² And Israel will possess what is left of Edom

and all the nations I have called to be mine."

The Lord has spoken,

and he will do these things.

 ¹³ "The time will come," says the LORD,
 "when the grain and grapes will grow faster than they can be harvested.

Then the terraced vineyards on the hills of Israel will drip with sweet wine!

¹⁴ I will bring my exiled people of Israel back from distant lands,

and they will rebuild their ruined cities and live in them again.

They will plant vineyards and gardens; they will eat their crops and drink their wine. ¹⁵ I will firmly plant them there in their own land.
They will never again be uprooted from the land I have given them," says the LORD your God.

Comments on Amos 9:11-15: A promise of Restoration The LORD God proclaims that "The House of David" will be Rebuilt and Restored completely to its former --- Place of Glory!

The Children of Abraham will live in "The Promised Land" and never be removed or taken into slavery by an enemy, "The Chosen People" of Yahweh have come home to stay! At a Glorious time in the future the promised King, Jesus Christ the "Messianic Savior" will sit as "King" in "The Eternal City of Jerusalem" where Jesus Christ will rule over all the old enemies of Israel and Juda.

The Promised Land will once again overflow with milk and honey it will be Yahweh's Chosen People's Eternal Home, this will be the "Finished Work" of --- The LORD God!

Isaiah 65:21–25 (NLT) What a Glorious Day!

> ²¹ In those days people will live in the houses they build and eat the fruit of their own vineyards. ²² Unlike the past, invaders will not take their houses and confiscate their vineyards. For my people will live as long as trees, and my chosen ones will have time to enjoy their hard-won gains. ²³ They will not work in vain, and their children will not be doomed to misfortune. For they are people blessed by the LORD, and their children, too, will be blessed. ²⁴ I will answer them before they even call to me. While they are still talking about their needs, I will go ahead and answer their prayers! ²⁵ The wolf and the lamb will feed together. The lion will eat hay like a cow. But the snakes will eat dust. In those days no one will be hurt or destroyed on my holy mountain. I, the LORD, have spoken!"

Proverbs 2:1–15 (NLT) The Benefits of Wisdom!

> ¹ My child, listen to what I say, and treasure my commands.

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² Tune your ears to wisdom, and concentrate on understanding. ³ Cry out for insight, and ask for understanding. ⁴ Search for them as you would for silver; seek them like hidden treasures. ⁵ Then you will understand what it means to fear the LORD, and you will gain knowledge of God. ⁶ For the LORD grants wisdom! From his mouth come knowledge and understanding. ⁷ He grants a treasure of common sense to the honest. He is a shield to those who walk with integrity. ⁸ He quards the paths of the just and protects those who are faithful to him. ⁹ Then you will understand what is right, just, and fair, and you will find the right way to go. ¹⁰ For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will fill you with joy.

¹¹ Wise choices will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe.

 ¹² Wisdom will save you from evil people, from those whose words are twisted.

- ¹³ These men turn from the right way to walk down dark paths.
- ¹⁴ They take pleasure in doing wrong, and they enjoy the twisted ways of evil.
- ¹⁵ Their actions are crooked, and their ways are wrong.