

GOD'S MASTERWORK, VOLUME FOUR
AN INVITATION TO RETURN—A SURVEY OF HOSEA–MALACHI
AMOS: FROM FIG-PICKER TO PROPHET-PREACHER
A SURVEY OF AMOS



The Heart of the Matter

Israel, the northern kingdom, was steeped in religiosity, immorality, compromise, and complacency. The same evils plague much of our world today. As is true today, a strong voice was needed—a determined, disciplined, courageous man of God to proclaim the truth and denounce the sins of Israel. Amos was just the man! Born of humble means, raised to work with his hands, rugged and unflappable, Amos became one of the most colorful personalities among the prophets. God's severe predictions of judgment had to be delivered by a man who modeled that message. Like Elijah and John the Baptizer, Amos fearlessly stormed the king's palace. With relentless zeal, he stayed at the task, refusing to be intimidated by insults and threats. Sin always brings judgment. There was no way that Amos was going to let that message be muffled or changed.



Discovering the Way

1. Amos, the Man

Amos was from the backcountry of Judah, a shepherd and farmer by trade until God called him to preach.

2. Amos, the Book

The overall theme is found in Amos 4:9–12. The general outline of the book is divided into oracles (1:3–2:16), sermons (3–6), visions (7:1–9:10), and promises (9:11–15).

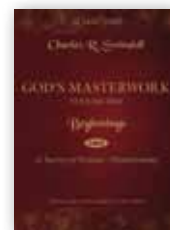


Starting Your Journey

Two broad applications come from the book of Amos. First, if you're like Amos, speak. Second, if you're like Israel, repent.



Tools for Digging Deeper



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Beginnings—A Survey
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by Charles R. Swindoll
CD series



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AMOS

	<p>Introduction</p> <p>A sheepherder's vision</p> <p><i>CHAPTER</i> 1:1–2</p>	<p>Oracles against the Nations</p> <p><u>Damascus</u> <u>Gaza</u> <u>Tyre</u> <u>Edom</u> <u>Ammon</u> <u>Moab</u> <u>Judah</u> <u>Israel</u></p> <p><i>CHAPTERS</i> 1:3–2:16</p>	<p>Sermons against Nation of Israel</p> <p>Hear this word . . . sons of Israel (3:1) . . . you cows of Bashan (4:1) . . . house of Israel (5:1)</p> <p><i>CHAPTERS</i> 3–6</p>	<p>Visions of Judgment</p> <p><u>Locusts</u> <u>Fire</u> <u>Plumb line</u> <u>Ripe fruit</u> The LORD by the altar</p> <p><i>CHAPTERS</i> 7:1–9:10</p>	<p>Promises of Hope</p> <p>“In that day I will raise up the fallen booth of David. . . . I will also plant them on their land.” (9:11,15)</p> <p><i>CHAPTER</i> 9:11–15</p>
Theme	Israel's coming judgment for treating others with injustice				
Key Verses	3:1–2; 4:12; 5:15, 24				
Christ in Amos	Jesus Christ, who has all authority to judge, is also the One who restores His people.				

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