

Amos 3-6 Discussion Questions

Amos 3:

Israel's Responsibility & Judgment

1. **Covenant Relationship & Responsibility** (Amos 3:1-2): Amos emphasizes that God chose Israel "out of all the families of the earth," yet this privilege brings accountability.
 - *How does this reflect the weight of the Covenant at Sinai?*
 - *For believers in Yeshua, how might this connect to the idea of us as a "chosen people" (1 Peter 2:9)?*
2. **Prophetic Authority** (Amos 3:7-8): God reveals His plans to His prophets, and Amos declares, "The lion has roared; who will not fear?"
 - *How does this affirm the role of prophets?*
 - *How might this point to Yeshua as the ultimate prophet or the "Word of God" (John 1:1)?*
3. **Cause & Effect of Sin** (Amos 3:9-15): The chapter describes Israel's sin leading to judgment.
 - *How does this align with the concept of tochechah (rebuke) in Torah (e.g., Leviticus 26)?*
 - *How does this foreshadow the need for atonement through Yeshua's sacrifice?*

Amos 4:

Israel's Failure to Repent

4. **Sarcasm and Social Critique** (Amos 4:1-5): Amos mocks the "cows of Bashan" (wealthy women) and Israel's empty rituals.
 - *How does this critique of insincere worship relate to the prophetic call for teshuvah (repentance)?*
 - *How might this parallel Yeshua's warnings against hypocrisy (e.g., Matthew 23)?*
5. **God's Discipline** (Amos 4:6-11): God sent famines, droughts, and plagues, yet Israel did not return to Him.
 - *How does this reflect the understanding of suffering as a call to repentance (e.g., Deuteronomy 30)?*
 - *How might this connect to the idea of God's discipline for believers (Hebrews 12:5-11)?*
6. **Prepare to Meet Your God** (Amos 4:12-13): This ominous warning follows Israel's refusal to repent.
 - *How does this evoke the Day of the Lord (Yom HaDin)?*
 - *How might this point to the return of Yeshua and the final judgment?*

Amos 5:
A Call to Seek God

7. **Seek God and Live** (Amos 5:4–6): Amos urges Israel to seek God rather than false worship sites like Bethel.
 - *What does it mean to “seek God” through Torah and mitzvot?*
 - *How might this relate to seeking Yeshua as the “way, truth, and life” (John 14:6)?*
8. **Justice and Righteousness** (Amos 5:7, 24): Amos condemns Israel for perverting justice and calls for righteousness to “roll like a river.”
 - *How does this align with ethical teachings in the Torah and Prophets (e.g., Micah 6:8)?*
 - *How does Yeshua’s life and teachings embody this call for justice?*
9. **Lament for Israel** (Amos 5:16–27): The chapter describes mourning and exile for Israel’s sins.
 - *How does this connect to historical exiles (e.g., Babylonian captivity)?*
 - *How might this foreshadow the spiritual restoration through Yeshua’s redemptive work?*

Amos 6:
Complacency & Pride

10. **Woe to the Complacent** (Amos 6:1–7): Amos condemns the wealthy for their luxury and indifference to Israel’s spiritual state.
 - *How does this reflect the dangers of forgetting God’s covenant (e.g., Deuteronomy 8:11–20)?*
 - *How might this warn against spiritual complacency in our congregations today?*
11. **Pride and False Security** (Amos 6:8–14): Israel’s pride in its military and economic strength is condemned.
 - *How does this resonate with teachings on humility before God (e.g., Psalm 51)?*
 - *How might this parallel the warnings about relying on worldly strength rather than faith in Yeshua (e.g., John 15:5)?*
12. **God’s Sovereignty** (Amos 6:14): The chapter ends with God’s promise to bring judgment through a foreign nation.
 - *How does this reflect God’s control over history (e.g., Isaiah 45:1–7)?*
 - *How might this point to God’s ultimate plan of redemption through Yeshua, despite human failure?*

Themes & Application

13. **Call to Repentance:** Across Amos 3–6, the prophet repeatedly calls Israel to turn back to God.
 - *How does this align with the concept of teshuvah during the High Holy Days?*
 - *How does this connect to the call to repentance and faith in Yeshua (e.g., Acts 3:19)?*
14. **Care for Others:** Amos strongly condemns oppression of the poor and corrupt leadership.
 - *How does this reflect the prophetic tradition's emphasis on communal responsibility (e.g., Isaiah 1:17)?*
 - *How might this inspire believers to live out Yeshua's teachings on caring for the "least of these" (e.g., Matthew 25:31–46)?*
15. **Relevance Today:**
 - *How do the warnings and promises in Amos 3–6 speak to modern congregations?*
 - *What parallels can be drawn between Israel's sins (idolatry, complacency, injustice) and challenges in contemporary society or faith communities?*