

Amos 1:3 - 15

This is what the LORD says... (verses 3, 6, 9, 11, 13).

In whose name does Amos say that he is speaking? Where do his words come from?

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“For three sins... even for four, I will not relent” (verses 3, 6, 9, 11, 13).

Why is the LORD angry with the nations?

What rouses God to anger?

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“I will send fire... that will consume...” (verses 4, 7, 10, 12, 14).

What will the punishment that God sends on the nations look like?

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“For three sins of Damascus (verse 3)... **Gaza** (verse 6)... **Tyre** (verse 9)... **Edom** (verse 11)... **Ammon** (verse 13)...”

In today’s reading, which nations does God say he will punish?

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Damascus was (and is) the capital of Syria; Gaza was a Philistine city; Tyre was a Phoenician city; Teman and Bozrah (verse 12) were the military and economic powerhouses of Edom; Rabbah (verse 14) was the capital of the Ammonites, and today is called Amman – the capital of modern Jordan. All the ancient inhabitants of these lands were longstanding enemies of Israel.

How might Amos’s Israelite audience in Samaria have felt when they heard of God’s coming judgment on their foes?

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