

*Prophet Amos 1865 by
Gustave Doré 1832–1883*

9-4-22

Amos

1:2 He said:

**“The Lord roars from Zion
and thunders from Jerusalem;
the pastures of the shepherds dry up,
and the top of Carmel withers.”**

Amos 1-2 – Listen to God

Amos 3-4 – Turn to God

Amos 5-9:10 – Seek God

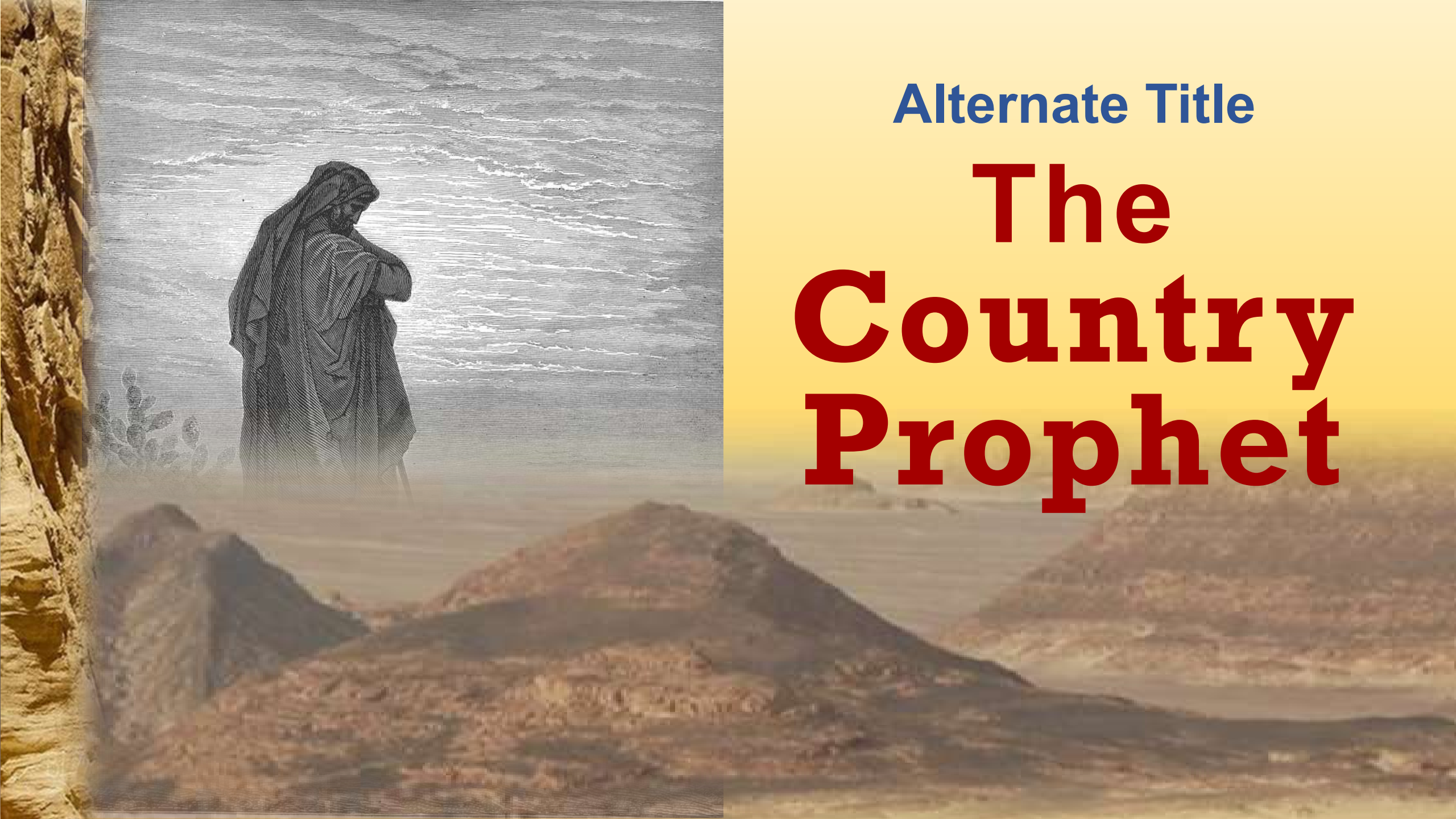
Amos 9:11-15 – Hope in God

FBC Woodville
Sunday School Class
Michael G. Maness
PreciousHeart.net/SS
... Click Here



Alternate Title

The Country Prophet



Alternate Title #2

Silence

like a



Cancer

Grows

**What makes up a
Good Prophet's
Heart?**



Amos ... Four Divisions

1:2 – 2:16 **Prophecies x Nations**

3:1 – 6:14 **Sermons for God's People**

7:1 – 9:10 **Israel's Condition Symbolized**

9:11–15 **Promised Restoration**

9 small chapters ... yet nearly
two dozen messages ...

WITH some other items tossed in
NOT one message ... but SEVERAL



MESSAGES
from an
Unconquerable
Prophet

Messages in DARK TIMES

Invictus

by William Ernest Henley 1849–1903

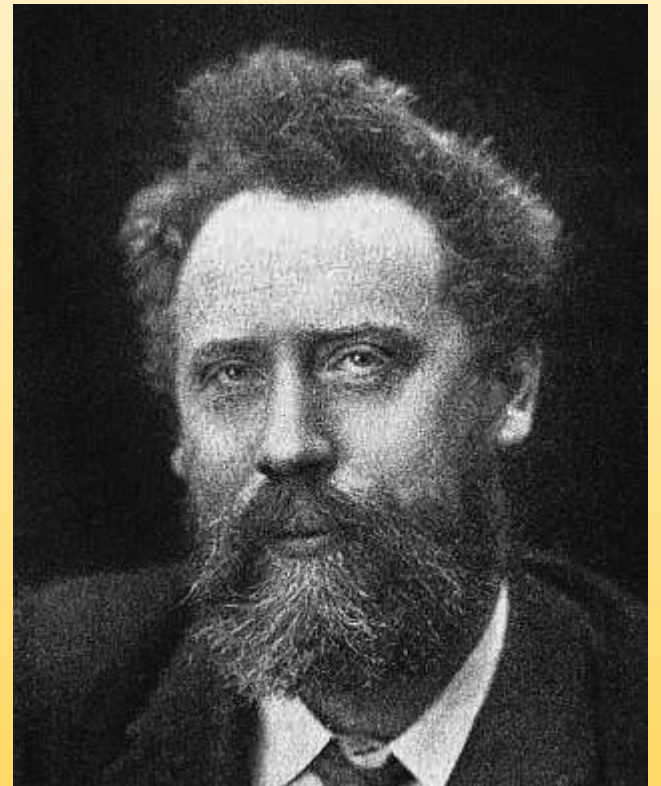
When Henley was teen, his father died,
a struggling bookseller.

At 12, Henley was diagnosed with
tubercular arthritis – one leg amputated

Other foot saved thru radical surgery

In his early years, Henley had periods of
extreme pain due to the draining of his
tuberculosis abscesses.

While healing in a hospital, began to write
poems, including his famous “*Invictus*”



Invictus, Latin
unconquerable
undefeated

Robert Louis Stevenson was a close friend,
who reportedly based his character in his
famous novel, *Treasure Island*,

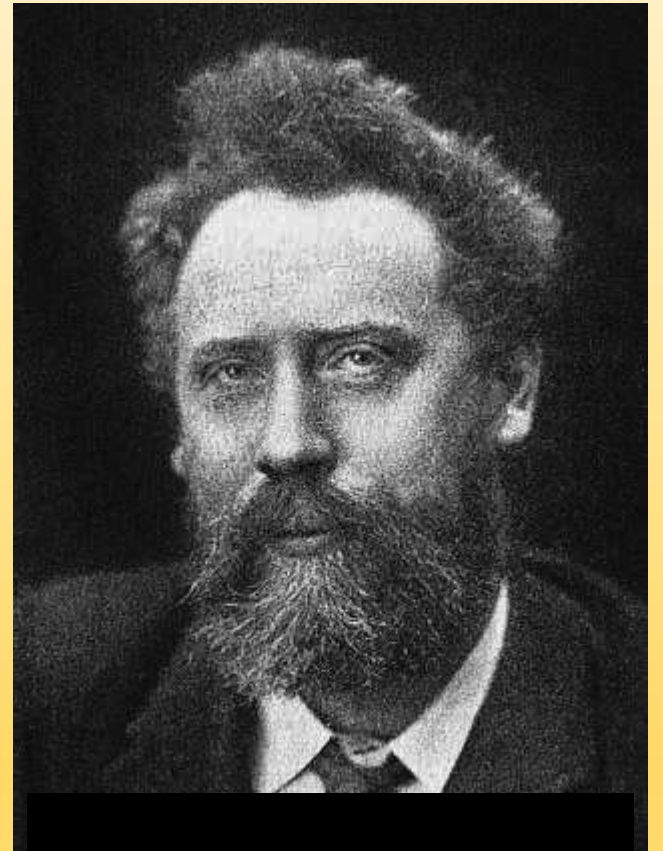
Long John Silver

After his one-legged friend William Henley.

Invictus

by William Ernest Henley 1849–1903

**Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul.**



***Invictus*, Latin
unconquerable
undefeated**

In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced nor cried aloud.
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody, but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the Horror of the shade,
And yet the menace of the years
Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishments the scroll,

I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my Soul.



Invictus, Latin
unconquerable
undefeated

Amos is shepherd from Tekoa

6 miles from Bethlehem

11 from Jerusalem

Amos 1 opens w his *writing*

2 Years before the earthquake

Amos 7:14 also informs us,

“I was neither a prophet nor the son of a prophet, but I was a shepherd, and I also took care of sycamore-fig trees.”

Most of Amos 1-9 are judgments
Very LITTLE history or narrative



Amos—Shepherd & Fig Tenderer

NOT the son of a prophet ...

**He was OUTSIDE of the
religio-political alliances ...**

Like New Testament Peter

Rough-hewn ... Country *Tough*

Amos appears fearless ...

Amos placed his *ERA* in reigns of

Judah's King Uzziah 779-740 BC

Israel's King Jeroboam II 783-743 BC



**Uzziah & Jeroboam
reigned about 40 yrs
of prosperity**

**Some think most of
Amos' work was
760-750 BC**

Amos—Shepherd & Fig Tenderer

**These were very PROSPEROUS
times for Israel & Judah ...**

Filled with idolatry – even GOOD

**King Uzziah exalted himself
Lot of affluence ... lazy leisure time**

Very DARK times for Prophets

Hard on Prophets with

***VISIONS* of Judgment**

Reminds me of an old song



How the **Heart, Soul, & Spirit**
comingle ...

Will, I believe, remain
somewhat a mystery ...

This side of heaven

Yet I do believe **MUSIC** is
the glue ... or seal ...

Between **Heart & Soul**
an ol' classic seems ...



What makes up a
Good Prophet's
Heart?

Verses that have gotten ...
836,308,835 views so far ...



Description



Disturbed - The Sound Of Silence [Official Music Video]



Disturbed

5M
Likes

836,308,845
Views

2015
Dec 8



What makes up a
Good Prophet's
Heart?

Sound of Silence rendition by Disturbed

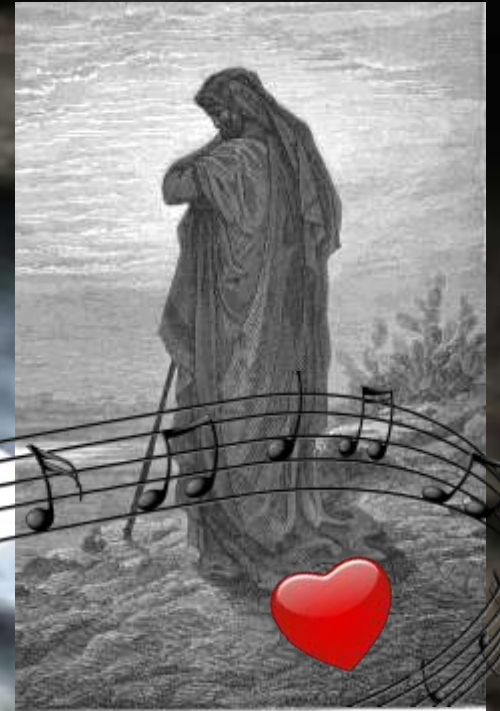
Hello darkness, my old friend
I've come to talk with you again

Because a **VISION** softly was creeping
Left its seeds while I was sleeping

And the **VISION** that was planted
in my brain

Still remains

Within the Sound of Silence



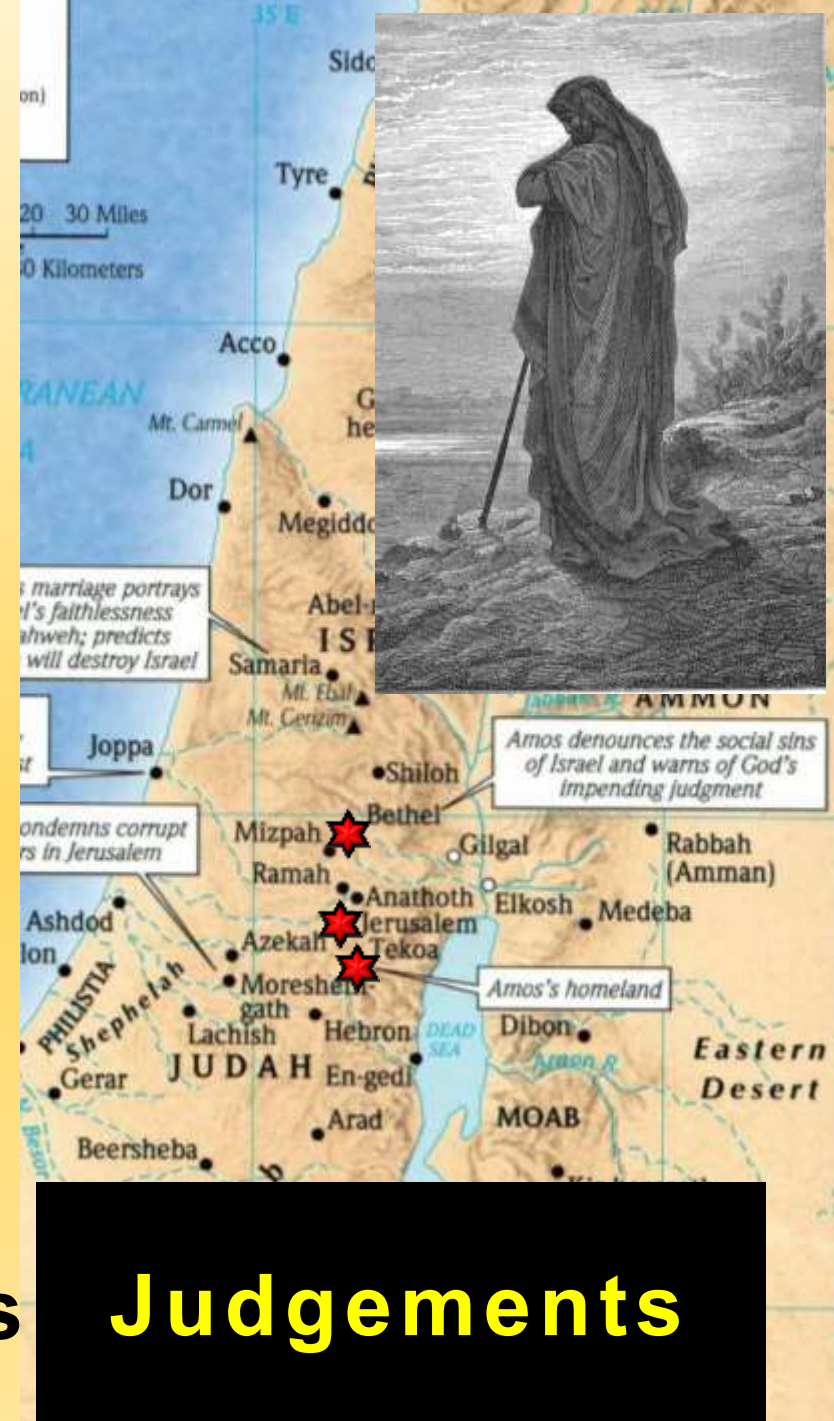
Amos is generally viewed as the
First to WRITE his Prophecies

Chap 7, Amos is kicked out of town

¹² Amaziah told Amos, “Get out,
you seer! Go back to the land
of Judah. Earn your bread there....

¹³ Don't prophesy anymore at Bethel,
because this is the king's sanctuary
and the temple of the kingdom.”

What? So, like St. Paul, Amos is
working WHILE he is delivering God's



Amos 1 proceeds with several
Judgments for **Three**
even **Four Sins** for each
Damascus, Gaza, Tyre, & the
Territories of Edom & Ammon
Amos gave ONE *peculiar* SIN
SO MUCH left out ...
Amos is 9 chapters ... yet ... look
There may be a
DOZEN messages



Prominent SIN of each follows:

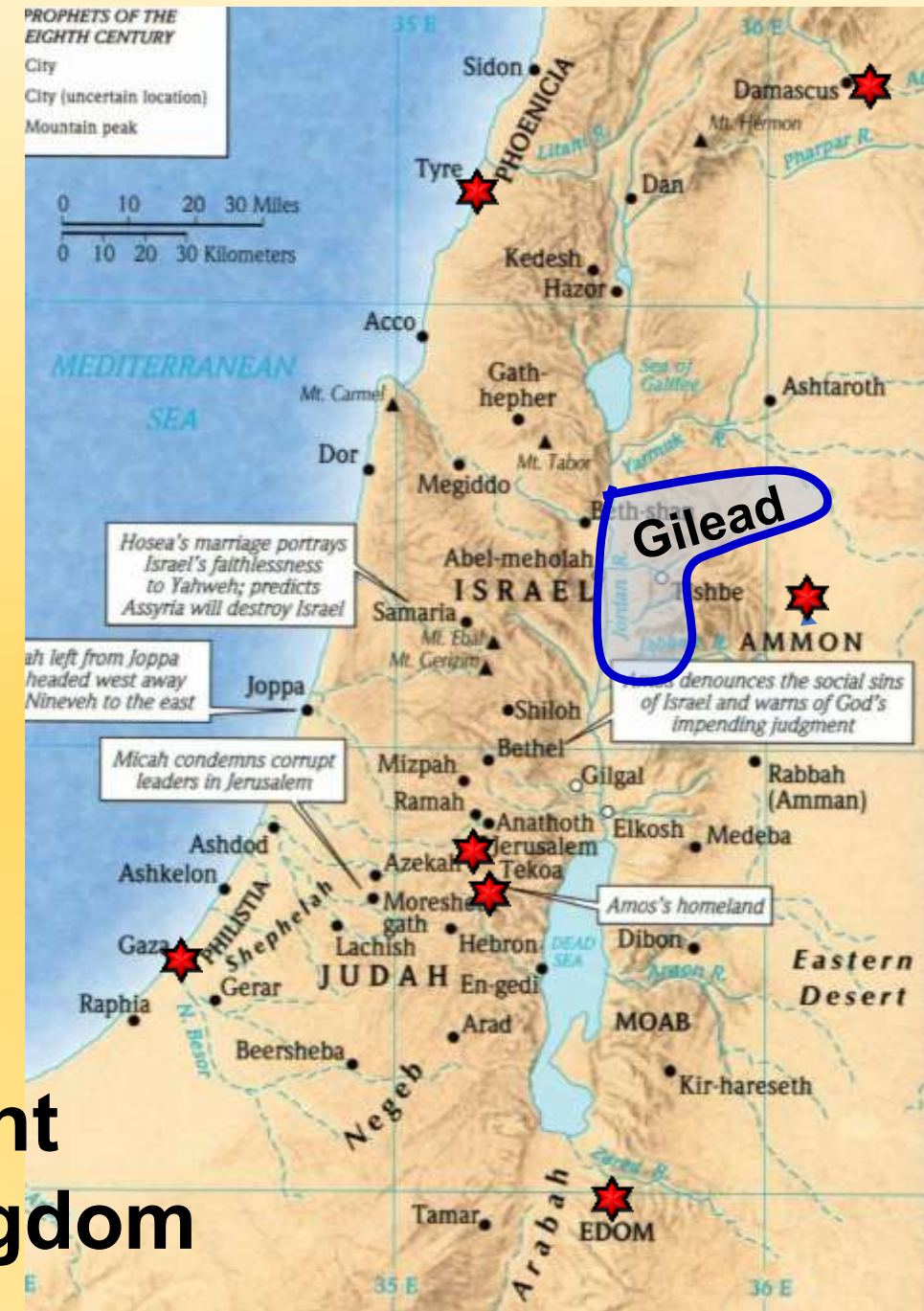
Damascus – Threshed Gilead
with sledges having iron teeth

Gaza – took captive whole towns
and sold them to Edom

Tyre – took captive whole towns,
and sold them to Edom

Edom – pursued brother w sword
and slaughtered women

Ammon– ripped open the pregnant
women of Gilead to expand kingdom



Amos 2 continues

Judgments for **Three**, even
Four Sins each to territories of
Moab, Judah, then to
Israel

Sins?

Moab – burned to ashes
the bones of Edom's king

Judah – rejected law of the Lord

Israel – *the list is long ...*



For each – a severe judgment
How do *judgements* relate today?
So many ... so fast ... so far away
so long ago

Despaired ... Worried ... Wondered
Of course ... LISTEN to God ...

What did Amos DO?

So LITTLE is given ... yet ... yet
Amos gave us such a BROAD geo-scope
Amos HEARD or Witnessed these **SINS**



**What makes a
Good Prophet's**

**Heart
Beat?**



Amos = ***Bearer*** or ***Burden***

Certainly, he became a

Large Burden

Like N.T. John the Baptist

CARRIED a Large Burden

He was the Country Prophet
Apparently ... surely ...

Going to all these places



Amos – what do we know of
the prophets so far?

Huldah – *knew* **HOW** King
Josiah humbled himself

Elijah/Elisha did many **Miracles**

Elisha *knew* what the others &
The King was **GOING to Do**

Prophets always **TOLD** the Parties
if not the King, the King's Men



**Tekoa – 2 Sam 14:2-21 David's
General Joab found a
"wise woman"**

**Joab asked her to lie to King David
Feigns a story of HER own life—
she causes David to feel guilty ...**

David allows son Absalom to return

**Tekoa is "city for defense" by
Rehoboam 2 Chron 11:6**

Tekoa was a remote, exposed area ...



From Tekoa looking at the **Herodian**
Herod built a fortress with
a lavish palace inside



Tekoa – remote and exposed
Root derives from “Alarm Sounding”
Jeremiah 6:1 “Blow the trumpet in
Tekoa, and set up a sign of fire in
Beth-haccerem”

Root also used for “setting up a tent”
St. Jerome (342-420):
no village beyond Tekoa

From high ground, one sees bare undulating
hills, one of the bleakest areas of Palestine
“the waste howling wilderness”



Sycamore-figs grew in the Shephelah

There was a Galilean Tekoa

**Earthquake in Amos 1 is also
mentioned in Zech 14:5**

After being called from the FIELD

Like most of the prophets ...

BEFORE Amos wrote all these ...

We can assume Amos VISITED

ALL of these areas

Era with no synagogue, no churches



Amos came to **KNOW** the land
Jewish Encyclopedia notes:

Amos has been admired for the
purity of his language, his beauty
of diction, and his poetic art....

He is Isaiah's spiritual progenitor.

... no need for astonishment
that a rustic should have been
capable of such diction.

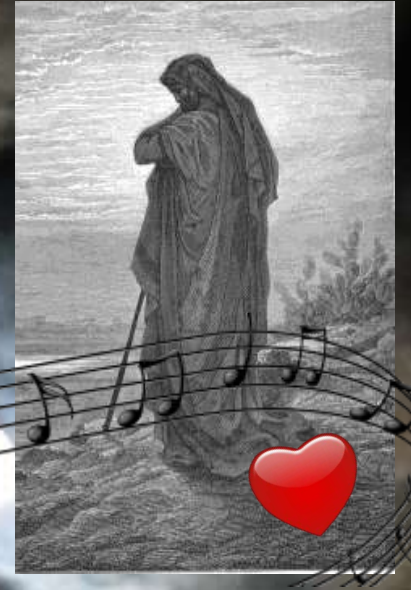
Amos writes **AFTER** visiting these **DARK places**



Sound of Silence by Disturbed

In restless dreams, I walked **ALONE**
Narrow streets of cobblestone
'Neath the halo of a **STREET LIGHT**
I turned my collar to the cold & damp
When my eyes were stabbed
by the flash of a neon **LIGHT**

**That split the Night
and touched the
Sound of Silence**



BEFORE Amos writes ... visits

Damascus – Threshed Gilead
with sledges having iron teeth
Fire to consume House of Hazael

Damascus on south bank of the
Barada River

Except for the Nazarites ...
EVERYONE Drank Wine ...

Picture Amos at Café or *Pub*?

After his wine ... stands up ...

gives his message



Sound of Silence by Disturbed

And in the naked light, **I SAW**
Ten thousand people, maybe more

People talking without speaking
People hearing **without listening**

People writing songs
that voices never shared

and NO ONE DARED

Disturb the Sound of Silence



Amos proceeds ... to **CURSE**

Gaza – took captive whole towns
and sold them to Edom

Tyre – took captive whole towns,
and sold them to Edom

Edom – pursued brother w sword
and slaughtered women

Ammon– ripped open the pregnant
women of Gilead to expand kingdom

Moab –burned to ashes
the bones of Edom's king

Judah – rejected law of the Lord



"**Fools**" said I, "You do not know
Silence like a **cancer** grows

Hear my words that I might **Teach YOU**
Take my arms that I might **Reach YOU**

But my words,
like **Silent Raindrops FELL**
and echoed in the **WELLS of Silence**

And the people bowed and ***prayed***
To the **neon god *they made***



Amos lets loose on Israel ...

Perhaps FIRST in Bethel or Samaria

6 This is what the LORD says:
“For three sins of Israel,
even for four, I will not relent.

THEN the LIST of Atrocities!

- ✓ **Sell innocent ... pair of sandals**
- ✓ **Trample heads of the poor as dust**
- ✓ **Father & son use same girl**

Amos recalls deliverance from Egypt, etc.



Amos chap 2 lets loose on Israel ...

**¹⁰ I brought you up out of Egypt &
led you 40 yrs in the wilderness
to give you the land of the Amorites.**

**¹¹ “I also raised up prophets from
among your children and
Nazirites from among your youths.**

**Is this not true, people of Israel?”
declares the LORD.**

Amos holds nothing back ...



Amos chap 2 lets loose on Israel ...

**12 “But you made the Nazirites
drink wine & commanded the
prophets not to prophesy.**

Amos waxes poetic in destruction

**13 “Now, I will crush you as a CART
crushes when loaded with grain.**

**14 The swift will not escape, the
strong will not muster their strength,
and the warrior will not save his life.**



Amos chap 2 lets loose on Israel ...

**15 The archer will not stand his ground,
fleet-footed soldier will not get away,
the horseman will not save his life.**

**16 Even the bravest warriors
will flee naked on that day,”
declares the LORD.**

BEFORE Amos penned chapters 1-9 ...

For 10-20 years he delivered the Lord's messages

Who LISTENED? Who listens TODAY? Silence!

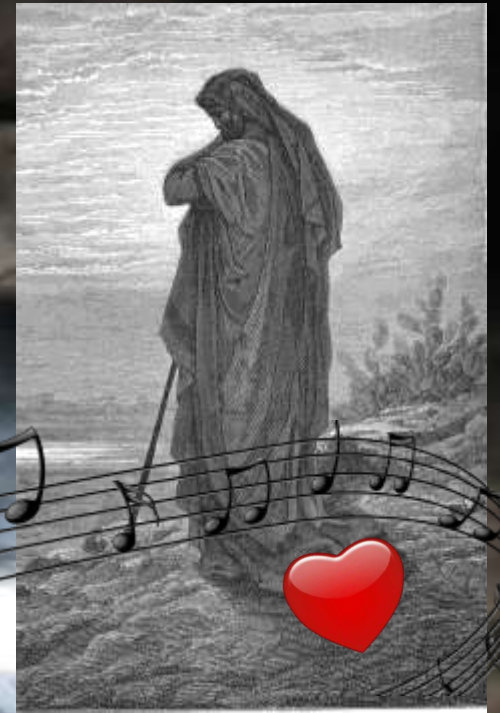


And the people *bowed* and *prayed*
To the neon *god they made*

And the **SIGN FLASHED** out its **WARNING**
In the words that it was forming

Then the **SIGN** said,
“The words of the **PROPHETS**
are written on the subway walls
in tenement halls”

and whispered in the Sound
of Silence





What do you suppose Amos
would say **TODAY?**

Would that we had an Amos
What an unconquerable
Heart

However ...
we do have ...

YOU