

# DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

*Our Mission: Reaching Out to Leaders Who Can Change the World.*

June 2014

## *Amos*

### **Lesson #2: The Lion's Roar Against The Hebrews**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

What are some of the most grievous sins our nation is committing today? Rom 1:25

#### **OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION**

##### **Read Amos 2:4-5:27**

*Note: Amos delivers three sermons. Each one starts with, "Hear this word." Amos 3:1; 4:1; 5:1.*

1. If Amos is using the reasoning of cause and effect, what are they? 3:3-8. Who sent Amos?

*Note: The prophet speaks about the behavior of their judges: 'They sell the righteous for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals' (v. 6). Those who were rich behaved as they wanted to, without being questioned; silver passed hands and the corrupt judges convicted those who were innocent, 'the righteous'. It was totally different for the poor. The judges were willing to sell a poor man into slavery—even though his debt might have been as small as the cost of a cheap pair of sandals—because the creditor paid him part of the money he received from the sale.<sup>1</sup> The "girl" referenced in verse 7 was probably a Baal prostitute with the justification that fertility was necessary for the agrarian nation to be successful.*

2. Why are the Assyrians coming to destroy the nation? 3:9-15

3. What are some of the sins that Amos identifies? 4:1-5

*Note: These women in the days of Amos seemed to have no concern for the poor in their society. So Amos calls them 'cows of Bashan'. This sounds like a very rude way of speaking but the Lord was not stooping to indulge in name-calling. He was merely emphasizing the pampered, selfish, ungodly personality of these wealthy women, because Bashan was a very fertile plain the other side of the Jordan River. The very best breed of cattle was farmed there. The cows of Bashan were well-fed and fat. It seems that these Samaritan women had everything their hearts desired including beautiful, comfortable houses to live in—both in the winter and in the summer<sup>2</sup>*

4. What warnings did God use? 4:6-11

5. What was God's final warning? 4:12-13

6. What are the Hebrews' justifications for sexual sins? Vv 3:7-8 What are ours?

7. With every call to judgment comes a call to repentance. What was it? Vv 5:4-6

8. What happens to those that fail to repent today? 2 Pet 2:4-9

9. What does that repentance look like today? Isa 55:3; Matt 13:22; Ja 1:23

#### **APPLICATION**

Can you hear the Lions roar? For what do you need to repent today? 1 Pet 4:17

<sup>1 2</sup> Bentley, M. (2006). *Opening up Amos* (p. 29, 30). Leominster: Day One Publications.