

# FAMISHED



Prophetic Word of Amos

January - March 2010

This Book Belongs to \_\_\_\_\_



# *From A Country Bumpkin to the City Slickers*

Amos 1:1-2; 8:11-14, 7:10-17

## **Introduction**

Growing up in West Texas and Eastern New Mexico, I grew accustomed to strong, Texas accents and sayings. “Like mud on a pig,” was one of my personal favorites. “Fixin’ to,” was another generalization that was very useful. “Fixin’ to,” is translated, “I am about to...,” and has nothing to do with anything broken or in need of repair. “Ya’ll,” of course, is the most known Texan phrase. “All ya’ll,” is just a more emphatic way of saying you want absolutely everyone.

If you live in the South or West Texas, it’s part of your life. However, having lived on the West Coast for more than 20 years, I’m aware of how people in the metropolitan areas interpret, “such talk.” They view it as dumb or ignorant. They hear people who pronounce nuclear, “nucular,” as unworthy and -- well -- just plain stupid. It’s the way many city slickers interpret country bumpkins.

Amos was a country bumpkin sent to prophecy to the city slickers. He talked with a different twang. His expressions came with a different style, but his message was straight from God.

## Sermon Notes

- People from the \_\_\_\_\_ tend to regard people from the \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Amos was a country boy with a message for the \_\_\_\_\_.
- His message wasn't \_\_\_\_\_.
  - God's \_\_\_\_\_ through Amos warned of a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_ hearts without any source for \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - Key verse: "Don't prophesy anymore at Bethel, because this is the king's \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the kingdom."
  - Amos' response: "Therefore this is what the \_\_\_\_\_ says."
  - It's Christ-like to love the \_\_\_\_\_ but important to be aware of her \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - Lesson learned: Those of us who have \_\_\_\_\_ should \_\_\_\_\_ .

## Kid's Word Search

*find the words from the fill-in-the-blanks*

S	T	E	M	P	L	A	C	G	E	N	I	M	A	F
A	E	E	L	P	M	E	T	F	W	A	I	N	E	H
N	M	D	R	O	U	H	K	L	O	F	Y	T	I	C
C	P	F	D	Y	G	E	O	I	R	Q	C	I	R	Y
T	L	R	R	U	G	H	T	S	D	I	Y	E	R	U
U	N	S	O	P	H	I	S	T	I	C	A	T	E	D
A	M	R	L	A	N	R	R	E	G	G	N	A	L	A
R	D	L	O	G	E	U	B	N	B	U	G	L	E	N
Y	T	I	C	G	T	X	C	Y	O	U	R	O	V	G
Z	R	S	N	H	Y	F	I	C	I	T	I	S	A	E
I	E	A	R	S	D	E	T	A	C	U	D	E	N	U
C	D	H	I	S	S	Y	Y	T	I	C	Y	D	T	R

## Word of Thought

Sometimes we learn our greatest lessons from some very simple people. Share with your group a time when you learned something profound from a very unexpected person or experience.

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## Word of Study

Amos 1:1-2 begins with the roar of God, the drying up of pastures and the withering of Mount Carmel. Why is the withering of Carmel a sobering event for Israel?

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Amos 8:11-14 predicts a famine in the land. What kind of famine is coming? What will be the effects of this drought?

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Based on Amos 7:10-17, who was Amos and why was he rejected by the religious powers in Jerusalem?

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## Word of Discussion

1) If you had a chance to hear the preached message on Sunday, share with your group what personally challenged your faith to grow. What from the sermon peaked your spiritual interest?

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2) During times of prosperity, people often tend to forget God. They often don't see the social injustices in the world because they are blinded by their wealth. In forgetting God, they can have the appearance of faithfulness while ignoring the things that matter to God most: justice and mercy. Since we live in the most prosperous nation in history, do you think our wealth has blinded us in similar ways? If so, how? (Be specific).

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3) Most of the churches attracting 18-28 year olds in America feature really long sermons that are very straight forward, somewhat dry and often very conservative. Do you think this could be a reaction to a drought of God's Word in our time? Why or why not? And, what can we learn from this trend?

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4) The city is a wonderful place. It can also be a deceptive place. In what ways do you notice that our city and its personality diminish the importance of God in our lives?

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### **Word of Action**

Jesus wept and prayed over the city of Jerusalem. It's appropriate that we move beyond talking about our city and talk *to God* about our city. Spend time, as you close your group, praying over the city of Shoreline and the greater metropolitan area.

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