

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 02 Dec 2012.....Hosea 1:1-3:5..... Exposing a Broken Relationship
- 2) 09 DecHosea 4:1-7:16..... Rebuking Destructive Behavior
- 3) 16 DecHosea 8:1-10:15..... Deciding on Discipline
- 4) 23 DecMatthew 1:18-2:18..... Seeking the Savior
- 5) 30 DecHosea 11:1-12:14..... Remembering Compassion
- 6) 06 Jan 2013.....Hosea 13:1-14:9..... Restoring the Repentant
- 7) 13 Jan.....Amos 1:1-4:13.....Unseal the Indictment**
- 8) 20 Jan.....Gen 1; Ex 1, Ps 139; Mk 10.....Value of Human Life
- 9) 27 Jan.....Amos 5:1-6:14..... Court is in Session
- 10) 03 Feb.....Amos 7:1-17..... Can I Get a Witness
- 11) 10 Feb.....Amos 8:1-9:15..... Let the Verdict be Read
- 12) 17 Feb.....Jonah 1:1-2:10.....Pursuing Those Called to Tell
- 13) 24 Feb.....Jonah 3:1-4:11.....Pursuing Those Who Need to Hear

INTRODUCTION

- War is inevitable in a fallen world; Cities can be leveled, innocent civilians often die, and war orphans face a bleak future
- However, God warns nations about endorsing war atrocities such as cruelty and brutality to captives, rampant injustice and immorality, national slavery, and destruction of family structure
- America paid a hefty price in its Civil War for sanctioning and profiting from slavery in its early years of existence. Repercussions are still being felt generations later
- Yet, America reaped prosperity for several post WW-II generations following its noble efforts to fight tyranny on a global scale
- In this lesson Amos shows that war atrocities invoke God-inflicted consequences on a national scale, which are still applicable today
- Amos was from the southern kingdom of Judah, but he prophesied to the northern kingdom of Israel just prior to Hosea’s ministry

Passage	Comments
Amos 1:1-15	<p>War Atrocities of Surrounding Nations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v2. Amos prophesied 2 yrs before a major earthquake <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Archeologists have found evidence of a major earthquake dated to 760 B.C., which lines up with Amos • vv3-5. Damascus War Atrocities – They were brutal to the people of Gilead <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Their punishment: Destruction by another army • vv.6-8. Gaza War Atrocities – They deported an entire population to another country <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Their punishment: They will cease to exist • vv9-10. Tyre War Atrocities - They sold an entire population to another country <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Their punishment: Fire will destroy their defenses • vv11-12. Edom War Atrocities – They were unmerciful, uncompassionate and unrelenting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Their punishment: Fire will destroy their major cities • vv13-15. Ammon War Atrocities – They ripped open pregnant women <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Their punishment: They will be conquered and exiled
	<p>War Atrocities by Others and by God’s People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-3. Moab War Atrocities – They desecrated a foreign leader (similar to dragging a soldier’s body through the street, or spitting/urinating on the dead) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Their punishment: They will be ravished by war and have all their leaders slain • vv4-5. Judah’s War Crimes. They rejected God’s laws (“...their lies have led them astray”) HOW? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Their punishment: They lost their defenses (same as Tyre for selling a nation into slavery) WHY? • vv6-16. Israel’s (Northern Kingdom) War Crimes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ They perverted justice & promoted immorality .. vv6-8 ♦ Their penalty: A stronger nation will conquer them
2:1-16	

Passage	Comments
2:9-12	<p>Israel Failed to Acknowledge God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v9. It was God who went before them to conquer the Promised Land • v10. It was God who got them out of bondage in Egypt • v11. It was God who gave them good spiritual leaders • v12. But Israel failed to follow, but instead forced their evil ways onto the righteous (much like how military chaplains are being forced to perform gay marriages)
3:1-15	<p>Charges Against God’s Wayward People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v2. Reminder – Israel was specifically chosen by God • vv3-6a. Cause & Effect statements to make a point that God cannot lead them if they do not chose to follow • v6b. “If a calamity occurs in a city has not the Lord done it?” From tornados to school shootings, Scripture is clear that God allows such events to fulfill His will, but such events are not His intent see Jer 7:31 • v10. “[The wicked] do not know how to do what is right” • vv11-15. “THEREFORE...” be prepared for disaster to affect the economy, even worship, and the innocent
4:1-13	<p>Prepare to Meet Thy God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv6-12. God brought national catastrophes to entice His people to repent from their sins and return to Him <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Empty store shelves in the cities v6 ♦ Drought conditions in certain parts of the country .. v7 ♦ Rain/Flooding in other parts of the country v7-8 ♦ Heat waves and crop devastations by insects v9 ♦ Pandemics, pollution and wars..... v10 • v13. But God is still on His Throne

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- America’s military, with rare exceptions, have been exemplary when it comes to showing mercy on the battlefield and in post-war rebuilding efforts for war-torn nations from Panama to Vietnam
- May God bless America, Israel and other nations who take steps to prevent war atrocities, with future peace and prosperity
- Yet, may we as a nation consider the floods, fires, earthquakes, heat waves, crop failures, wars, and, yes, 40+ school shootings in the past 20 years as God’s way to wake us up from our slide into immorality and materialism, and repent before things get worse
- **Note:** The only things we have not endured yet in our generation are a major pandemic and a major invasion and conquest

NEXT WEEK: **Genesis 1; Exodus 1; Psalms 139; Mark 10.** Throughout history only Jewish and Christian believers have consistently and zealously fought to rescue the weak from destruction while others have callously sought their demise for profit or convenience. What more can we do to save the unborn, the handicapped, the elderly and those caught up in human trafficking from an early death?

