

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 JanAmos 1:1-4:13..... Unseal the Indictment
- 8) 20 Jan..... Gen 1; Ex 1, Ps 139; Mk 10..... Value of Human Life
- 9) 27 JanAmos 5:1-6:14..... Court is in Session
- 10) 03 Feb.....Amos 7:1-17..... Can I Get a Witness
- 11) 10 FebAmos 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

- Amos shares his last 2 visions with us: 1) the basket of summer fruit (Vision #4) and 2) the Lord standing by the altar (Vision #5); and he ends on a very positive note with Israel being restored to an Edenic Promised Land. But first, the Exile must happen

Passage	Comments
Amos 8:1-14	<p>Vision of Basket of Summer Fruit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v2. The basket of ripe fruit conveyed the season was over, the time was up – “I will spare them no more” • vv3-5. Many will die for the immoral greed of the few • The poor seemed to be punished twice. The rich oppressed them, and when God punished the rich with foreign conquest, the poor were collateral damage • vv11-12. A new type of famine in the land – a hunger for God’s Word – but it was too late to repent & find it
9:1-6	<p>Vision of Horror – The Lord Standing by the Altar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v1. The Lord is standing by the Altar. Usually, it is a priest who stands by the altar prepared to sacrifice; Now, it is the Lord who is ready to sacrifice something; and that something is Israel • vv2-4a. Israel may try to hide in Heaven or Hell; at the bottom of the sea or top of a mountain; or even in the clutches of a captor, God will find them and slay them • v4b. “I will sit My eyes against them for evil and not for good” – God becomes Israel’s worst enemy • vv5-6. Almighty God is far above all and controls all
9:7-10	<p>Message of Judgment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v8. “I will destroy Israel – BUT I will not totally destroy them.” – Paradox: Two statements that are both true and yet appear contradictory. This situation is an impossibility with people and yet possible for God • The Jews suffered 2 major dispersions: 1) under the Babylonians, but they were partially restored during the time of Ezra and Nehemiah; and 2) under the Romans • The Philistines, Babylonians and Edomites would all eventually cease to exist as distinct people groups • By the time the Romans conquered Israel, Edomites were called Idumeans. Herod the Great was an Idumite • After the Roman destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. the Idumeans (Edomites) disappeared from history • v9. The Diaspora (exile) of the Jews was a judgment on them, and, yet, it was also a means for their survival
9:11-15	<p>Message of Hope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv11-12. Israel will be restored “in that day...” and they will possess Gentile nations – Probably the Millennial • v13. “Behold, days are coming...” – The land will become like the Garden of Eden – Probably the Millennial

Passage	Comments
Amos 9:12 and Acts 15:17	Amos 9:12 seems to be misquoted in Acts 15:17, but the quote was taken from the Greek LXX (Septuagint), which provided a dynamic (or conceptual) translation and not a literal (or word for word) translation from the Hebrew
Formal Translations (more literal, word for word)	Dynamic Translations (less literal, more conceptual)
Versions: KJV, NKJB, NASB	Versions: ESV, HCSB, NIV
e.g., It’s raining cats & dogs	e.g., It’s raining very hard
Literal from Hebrew Text: “ <i>That they <u>may possess</u> the remnant of <u>Edom</u> and <u>all the nations</u> who are called by My name</i> ”	Dynamic from LXX (Septuagint): “ <i>That the remnant of <u>men may seek</u> the Lord, and <u>all the Gentiles</u> who bear my name</i> ”
Through guidance of the Holy Spirit, Luke recorded James the Elder quoting Amos 9:12 from the Greek LXX (a dynamic rendering), which conveys that the Gospel is available to all Gentiles. The dynamic rendering, in this case, provides better clarity of the author’s intended meaning than a more literal translation does.	

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- God is not to be trifled with. His patience is long, but not endless
- Our modern world should compare their state of affairs with what is seen in Hosea and Amos – but they won’t, because there is a famine in the land – not a lack of food, but a lack of interest in God
- We can only expect our world to continue spiraling out of control until such time it culminates in the return of Christ
- We Christians have a long and hard task ahead of us, as our nation and our world morally spirals out of control, to stay true to God’s word and to continue proclaiming the Gospel to all Gentiles and Jews until such time we are removed or raptured away

NEXT WEEK: **Jonah 1-2.** We are presented with a story of a man swallowed by a sea creature who lived after surviving 3 days in its belly. What are the spiritual and historical merits of this story, and how do we convince skeptics of its truthfulness?



Sometimes we forget to spiritually think things through:
 ☆My kids won’t remember my bad temper or my bad words;
 ☆There’s nothing wrong with having some little sins in life;
 ☆Looking at a risqué picture or TV show won’t hurt me