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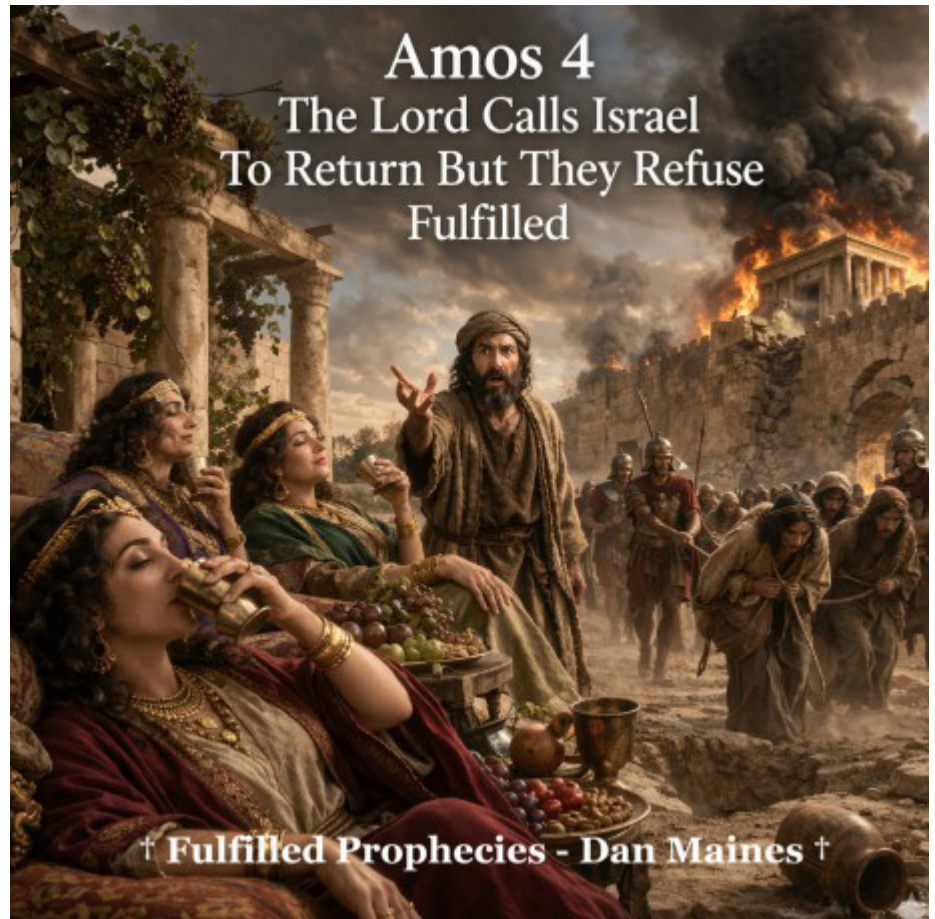
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Amos 4 The Lord Calls Israel To Return But They Refuse Fulfilled



By Dan Maines

Amos 4 The Lord Calls Israel To Return But They Refuse Fulfilled

Introduction

† Amos 4 exposes the stubbornness of Israel, even after repeated warnings and discipline from God (Amos 4:6-11)

† This chapter shows that judgment wasn't sudden or unfair, it came after mercy, patience, and repeated calls to repent (Romans 2:4)

† From the fulfilled perspective, this points directly to the first-

century generation who also refused to return, even when Christ stood before them (Matthew 23:37-38)

Amos 4:1

Hear this word, you cows of Bashan who are on the mountain of Samaria, who oppress the poor, who crush the needy, who say to your husbands, Bring now, that we may drink!

† These women represent the wealthy and corrupt leaders living in luxury while oppressing others (Amos 2:6-7)

† Their indulgence reflects a system built on injustice, just like the leaders in Jesus' day who devoured widows' houses (Matthew 23:14)

† The phrase shows moral decay, they demand pleasure while ignoring righteousness, revealing a heart far from God (Isaiah 1:23)

Amos 4:2-3

The Lord GOD has sworn by His holiness, For behold, the days are coming upon you when they will take you away with meat hooks, And the last of you with fish hooks. You will go out through breaches in the walls, Each one straight before her, And you will be hurled to Harmon, declares the LORD.

† This is a picture of captivity, the people will be dragged away like fish, helpless and humiliated (2 Kings 17:6)

† The imagery reflects Assyrian practices, fulfilled historically, but also foreshadows the total destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70 (Luke 21:24)

† The breaches show their defenses failing, just as the temple and city walls fell under Roman siege (Josephus, Wars 6.4)

Amos 4:4-5

Enter Bethel and do wrong, In Gilgal multiply wrongdoing! Bring your sacrifices every morning, Your tithes every three days. Offer a thanksgiving offering also from that which is leavened, And proclaim voluntary offerings, make them known. For so you

love to do, you sons of Israel, Declares the Lord GOD.

† God is exposing empty religion, they continue rituals while living in rebellion (Isaiah 29:13)

† Their worship isn't obedience, it's hypocrisy, just like the Pharisees who honored God with their lips but not their hearts (Matthew 15:8)

† This shows that religious activity without righteousness only increases guilt, not favor (Micah 6:6-8)

Amos 4:6

But I gave you also cleanness of teeth in all your cities And lack of bread in all your places, Yet you have not returned to Me, declares the LORD.

† Cleanness of teeth means famine, no food to eat, yet they still refused to return (Deuteronomy 28:48)

† God used discipline to awaken repentance, but their hearts remained hard (Hebrews 12:6)

† This pattern repeats in the first century, despite signs and warnings, they still rejected Christ (John 12:37)

Amos 4:7-8

Furthermore, I withheld the rain from you While there were still three months until harvest. Then I would send rain on one city And on another city I would not send rain; One part would be rained on, While the part not rained on would dry up. So two or three cities would stagger to another city to drink water, But would not be satisfied; Yet you have not returned to Me, declares the LORD.

† God controlled the rain to show His authority and call them back (1 Kings 17:1)

† Even selective blessing and judgment didn't move them to repentance (Jeremiah 5:3)

† Their wandering for water shows desperation without

transformation, they wanted relief, not repentance (Isaiah 55:2)

Amos 4:9

I struck you with scorching wind and mildew; The caterpillar was devouring Your many gardens and vineyards, fig trees and olive trees; Yet you have not returned to Me, declares the LORD.

† Agricultural judgment struck their economy and livelihood (Haggai 1:11)

† The destruction of crops parallels covenant curses for disobedience (Deuteronomy 28:38-40)

† Even loss of provision didn't bring them back, showing how deep their rebellion was (Jeremiah 8:7)

Amos 4:10

I sent a plague among you as in Egypt; I killed your young men with the sword along with your captured horses, And I made the stench of your camp rise up in your nostrils; Yet you have not returned to Me, declares the LORD.

† This recalls the plagues of Egypt, showing God was treating them like enemies, not covenant keepers (Exodus 9:3)

† War, death, and disease were all warnings meant to bring repentance (Leviticus 26:25)

† The same pattern appears before AD 70, with wars, famine, and pestilence leading up to Jerusalem's fall (Luke 21:11)

Amos 4:11

I overthrew you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, And you were like a firebrand rescued from a blaze; Yet you have not returned to Me, declares the LORD.

† God spared a remnant, a brand pulled from fire, yet even that mercy didn't lead to repentance (Zechariah 3:2)

† This directly parallels the first-century remnant who escaped judgment by following Christ (Matthew 24:16)

† The rest hardened themselves and were destroyed, fulfilling

covenant judgment (Luke 19:44)

Amos 4:12

Therefore so I will do to you, Israel; Because I will do this to you, Prepare to meet your God, Israel.

† This is a warning of imminent judgment, not a future distant event (Luke 21:22)

† To meet God here is to face Him in judgment, not comfort (Isaiah 13:6)

† This was fulfilled when Jerusalem faced the Lord's judgment through the Roman armies (Matthew 22:7)

Amos 4:13

For behold, He who forms mountains and creates the wind, And declares to a person what are His thoughts, He who makes dawn into darkness And treads on the high places of the earth, The LORD God of armies is His name.

† This closing verse reminds them who they're dealing with, the Creator, not a powerless idol (Psalm 104:3-4)

† The One who controls creation also controls judgment, and His word cannot fail (Isaiah 46:10)

† This emphasizes that what was coming upon them was certain and unstoppable (Luke 21:33)

Historical References

† Josephus records famine, internal violence, and destruction in Jerusalem leading up to AD 70, matching the warnings of repeated judgment

† Tacitus confirms widespread devastation, war, and suffering in Judea during the Roman siege

† Eusebius records that believers fled Jerusalem before its destruction, showing the remnant preserved just as Amos described

How It Applies To Us Today

† God is patient, but repeated rejection of truth leads to judgment, not because He fails, but because people refuse to return

† Religious activity without obedience still means nothing, it's the same warning then and now

† We've already seen the fulfillment of covenant judgment, so we now live in the reality of a completed transition, not waiting for it

† The call isn't future, it's always present, return to God while He reveals Himself, not after judgment falls

Q & A Appendix

Q What does prepare to meet your God mean in Amos 4:12

A It means facing God in judgment, not a future end-of-world event, but the coming destruction of Israel, fulfilled in AD 70 (Luke 21:22)

Q Why did God send famine and drought

A These were covenant curses meant to bring repentance, but Israel refused to return (Deuteronomy 28:23-24)

Q Who are the cows of Bashan

A They represent the wealthy, corrupt leaders of Israel who lived in luxury while oppressing others (Amos 2:6-7)

Q Was this fulfilled historically

A Yes, it was fulfilled in stages, first through Assyrian judgment, and ultimately in the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70 (Luke 19:44)

Q What is the main message of Amos 4

A God repeatedly called His people to return, but they refused, showing that judgment comes after persistent rejection

(Romans 2:5)

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Amos 4

† Josephus, Wars of the Jews; Tacitus, Histories; Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History

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