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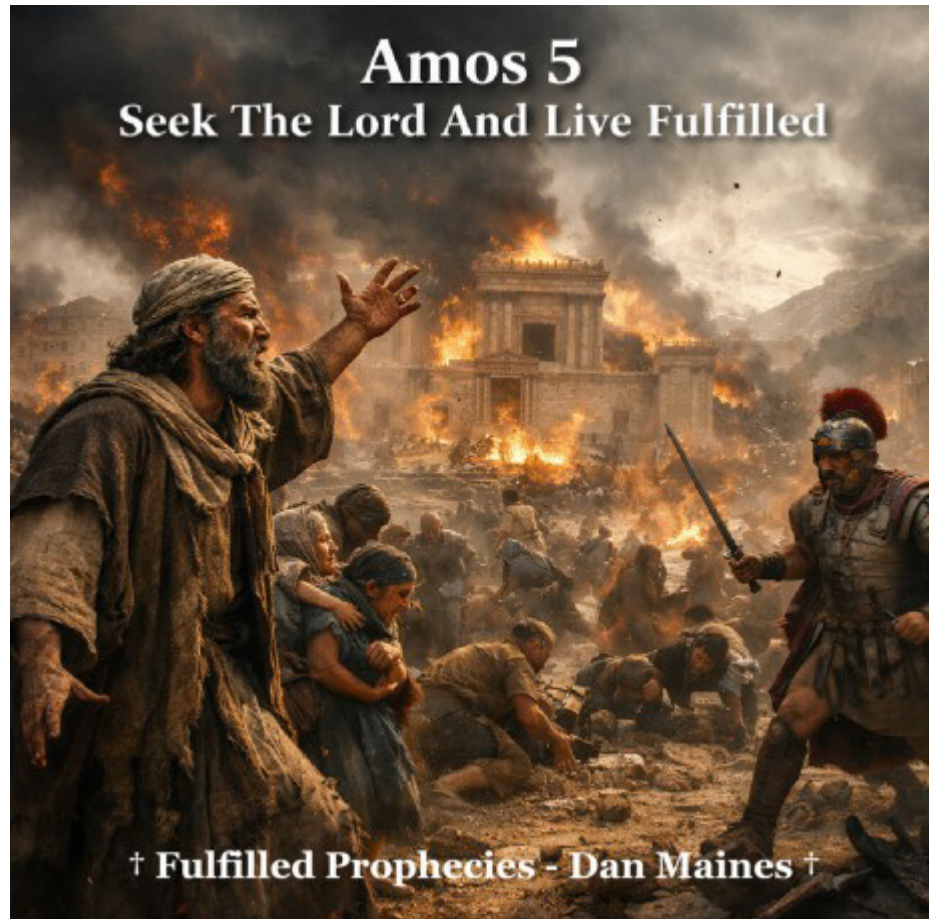
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## Amos 5 Seek The Lord And Live Fulfilled



By Dan Maines

## Amos 5 Seek The Lord And Live Fulfilled

### Introduction

† Amos 5 is a direct call to Israel to turn back before judgment falls, and it shows us that outward religion without righteousness was already condemned before AD 70.

† This chapter isn't about a distant future, it's about their generation, the same generation Jesus spoke to when He

warned of coming destruction.

† The call to seek the Lord wasn't empty, it was urgent, because judgment was near and already unfolding in their time.

### **Amos 5:1-3**

Hear this word which I am taking up for you as a song of mourning, house of Israel:

She has fallen, she will not rise again, The virgin Israel.  
She lies neglected on her land; There is no one to raise her up.  
For this is what the Lord God says: The city which goes out a thousand strong Will have a hundred left, And the one which goes out a hundred strong Will have ten left to the house of Israel.

† Israel is already spoken of as fallen, this isn't a warning of something thousands of years later, it's describing their imminent collapse (Luke 21:20-24).

† The language of a remnant shows massive destruction, exactly what happened in the Roman war leading to AD 70 (Josephus, Wars of the Jews, Book 6).

† Jesus echoes this same reality when He says not one stone will be left upon another (Matthew 24:2).

### **Amos 5:4-6**

For this is what the Lord says to the house of Israel: Seek Me so that you may live.

But do not resort to Bethel And do not come to Gilgal, Nor cross over to Beersheba; For Gilgal will certainly go into captivity And Bethel will come to trouble.

Seek the Lord so that you may live, Or He will break out like a fire, house of Joseph, And it will consume with no one to extinguish it for Bethel,

† The call to seek the Lord shows there was still time before judgment fully came, just like Jesus said flee when you see Jerusalem surrounded (Luke 21:21).

† Bethel and Gilgal represent corrupt religious systems, showing that false worship couldn't save them.

† The fire language is covenant judgment, not eternal punishment, the same kind of fire Jesus warned would come upon that generation (Matthew 23:36-38).

### **Amos 5:7-9**

For those who turn justice into wormwood And throw  
righteousness down to the earth,  
He who made the Pleiades and Orion And changes deep  
darkness into morning, Who also darkens day into night, Who  
calls for the waters of the sea And pours them out on the  
surface of the earth, The Lord is His name.  
It is He who flashes destruction on the strong, So that  
destruction comes upon the fortress.

† Justice being turned bitter shows their corruption, this is why judgment was deserved.

† God being Creator shows He has authority to judge His covenant people.

† Fortress destruction points directly to Jerusalem falling despite its defenses (Luke 19:43-44).

### **Amos 5:10-13**

They hate one who rebukes in the gate, And they despise one  
who speaks with integrity.

Therefore because you impose heavy rent on the poor And  
collect a tribute of grain from them, Though you have built  
houses of cut stone, Yet you will not live in them; You have  
planted desirable vineyards, yet you will not drink their wine.

For I know your offenses are many and your sins are great, You who are hostile to the righteous and accept bribes, And turn away the poor from justice at the gate.

Therefore at such a time the one who is prudent keeps silent, for it is an evil time.

† They rejected correction, just like they rejected Christ and the apostles (Acts 7:51-52).

† Their wealth and buildings wouldn't save them, exactly what happened when Rome destroyed everything.

† The evil time refers to the period leading up to judgment, the same days of vengeance Jesus spoke of (Luke 21:22).

### **Amos 5:14-15**

Seek good and not evil, so that you may live; And so may the Lord God of armies be with you, Just as you have said! Hate evil, love good, And establish justice in the gate! Perhaps the Lord God of armies May be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

† Again the call is immediate, not delayed for thousands of years.

† The remnant theme shows that only some would escape, fulfilled when believers fled Jerusalem.

† This matches the elect being saved out of that generation (Matthew 24:22).

### **Amos 5:16-17**

Therefore this is what the Lord God of armies, the Lord, says: There is mourning in all the public squares, And in all the streets they say, Alas! Alas! They also call the farmer to mourning And professional mourners to mourning rites.

And in all the vineyards there is mourning, Because I will pass

through the midst of you, says the Lord.

† This is widespread destruction, not symbolic of the end of the world.

† God passing through recalls judgment like in Egypt, showing covenant judgment on His own people.

† Historical records confirm massive mourning during the siege of Jerusalem (Josephus, Wars of the Jews).

### **Amos 5:18-20**

Woe to you who are longing for the day of the Lord, For what purpose will the day of the Lord be to you? It will be darkness and not light;

As when a person flees from a lion And a bear meets him, Or goes home, leans his hand against the wall And a snake bites him.

Will the day of the Lord not be darkness instead of light, Even gloom with no brightness in it?

† They expected salvation, but the Day of the Lord was judgment on them.

† This directly matches Jesus saying their house is left desolate (Matthew 23:38).

† The Day of the Lord here is fulfilled in their generation, not a future global event.

### **Amos 5:21-24**

I hate, I reject your festivals, Nor do I delight in your assemblies. Even though you offer Me burnt offerings and your grain offerings, I will not accept them; And I will not even look at the peace offerings of your fattened cattle.

Take away from Me the noise of your songs; I will not even listen to the sound of your harps.

But let justice roll out like waters, And righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

† God rejects their worship because their hearts were corrupt.

† This proves temple rituals couldn't save them, which is why the temple was destroyed.

† Jesus said they honored God with lips but not hearts (Matthew 15:8).

### **Amos 5:25-27**

Did you present Me with sacrifices and grain offerings in the wilderness for forty years, house of Israel?

You also carried along Sikkuth your king and Kiyun, your images, The star of your gods which you made for yourselves. Therefore I will make you go into exile beyond Damascus, says the Lord, whose name is the God of armies.

† Their idolatry never stopped, even from the wilderness onward.

† Exile language points to judgment again, fulfilled in dispersion after AD 70.

† Stephen quotes this to show their continual rebellion (Acts 7:42-43).

### **Historical References**

† Josephus records the destruction of Jerusalem, massive death, famine, and the temple burned, confirming Amos' warnings came to pass.

† Tacitus describes the same war and devastation, showing it wasn't symbolic but historical reality.

† Eusebius records that believers fled Jerusalem before its destruction, fulfilling the remnant promise.

## **How It Applies To Us Today**

† We can't trust outward religion, God always looks at the heart.

† Judgment already came on that system, proving Christ's words were true.

† We now live in the fulfilled kingdom, not waiting for these things to happen again.

† Seeking the Lord today means walking in truth, not returning to old covenant shadows.

† Righteousness matters, not rituals, that truth hasn't changed.

## **Q & A Appendix**

**Q** Was Amos 5 about the end of the world?

**A** No, it was about judgment on Israel, fulfilled in AD 70 (Luke 21:22)

**Q** What is the Day of the Lord in this chapter?

**A** It is covenant judgment on Israel, not a future global destruction (Matthew 23:36)

**Q** Why did God reject their worship?

**A** Because their hearts were corrupt and unjust (Matthew 15:8)

**Q** Did this judgment really happen?

**A** Yes, it was fulfilled in the Roman destruction of Jerusalem (Josephus, Wars of the Jews)

**Q** What does seek the Lord mean for us now?

**A** It means living in righteousness and truth under Christ's

fulfilled kingdom (John 4:23-24)

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

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## Source Index

† Amos 5

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

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