

# Amos 7-9 Discussion Questions

## Divine Justice & Mercy

In Amos 7–9, God’s justice is evident in the visions of judgment (e.g., plumb line, summer fruit), yet mercy appears when God relents after Amos’s intercession (7:3, 7:6) and in the promise of restoration (9:11-15).

- *How do the visions in chapters 7–8 balance God’s justice with opportunities for mercy? What does this suggest about God’s character in Amos’s message?*
- *In Romans 2:4, Paul speaks of God’s kindness leading to repentance. How does this connect to Amos’s portrayal of God relenting in 7:3 and 7:6, and what does it imply about divine patience?*

## Prophetic Authority

Amos’s confrontation with Amaziah (7:10-17) highlights the prophet’s divine calling, as he boldly declares, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son, but the Lord took me” (7:14-15), asserting God’s authority over human opposition.

- *How does Amos’s response to Amaziah demonstrate the source and courage of his prophetic role? Why might this challenge religious or political authorities?*
- *In John 15:16, Yeshua says, “You did not choose me, but I chose you.” How does this echo Amos’s call in 7:15, and what does it reveal about divine commissioning in both the Hebrew and Greek scriptures?*

## Social Responsibility

Amos condemns the wealthy for exploiting the poor (8:4-6), such as “selling the needy for a pair of sandals,” emphasizing Israel’s failure to uphold justice as God’s covenant people.

- *What specific injustices does Amos highlight in 8:4-6, and how do they reflect a betrayal of Israel’s covenant responsibilities?*
- *James 2:15-16 critiques neglecting the poor, urging active care. How does this align with Amos’s condemnation in 8:4-6, and what practical steps does it suggest for believers today?*

## Hope Amid Judgment

The restoration in 9:11-15, promising a renewed Davidic kingdom and abundant harvests, offers hope after severe judgment, showing God’s redemptive purpose beyond punishment.

- *Why does Amos end with a vision of restoration (9:11-15) after such dire warnings? How does this shape the book’s overall message?*
- *Acts 15:16-18 cites Amos 9:11-12 to affirm God’s inclusion of Gentiles in the Kingdom. How does this reinterpret Amos’s restoration, and what does it suggest about God’s universal plan?*

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## God's Sovereignty

Amos 9:2-6 uses cosmic imagery (e.g., “though they climb to heaven, from there I will bring them down”) and a hymn to affirm God’s control over creation and history, grounding both judgment and restoration.

- *How does the imagery in 9:2-4 and the hymn in 9:5-6 emphasize God’s sovereignty? Why is this central to Amos’s message?*
- *In Colossians 1:16-17, Messiah is described as creator and sustainer of all things. How does this parallel the depiction of God’s cosmic power in Amos 9:5-6, and what does it imply for faith in God’s authority?*