

Amos 3:1-15 **Israel punished for her sins – An Example to the Nations**

Israel – God's Chosen People –An Example to the World

1 Hear this word that Yahweh (the Lord) has spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying:

2 "You only have I known of all the families of the earth; Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities."

3 Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?

4 Will a lion roar in the forest, when he has no prey? Will a young lion cry out of his den, if he has caught nothing?

5 Will a bird fall into a snare on the earth, where there is no trap for it? Will a snare spring up from the earth, if it has caught nothing at all?

6 If a trumpet is blown in a city, will not the people be afraid? If there is calamity in a city, will not Yahweh (the Lord) have done it?

7 Surely Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God) does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.

8 A lion has roared! Who will not fear? Adoney Yahweh (The Lord God) has spoken! Who can but prophesy?

Punishment of Israel's Sins

9 "Proclaim in the palaces at Ashdod, And in the palaces in the land of Egypt, and say: 'Assemble on the mountains of Samaria; See great tumults in her midst, And the oppressed within her.

10 For they do not know to do right,' Says Yahweh (the Lord), 'Who store up violence and robbery in their palaces.'"

11 Therefore thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God):

"An adversary shall be all around the land; He shall sap your strength from you, And your palaces shall be plundered."

12 Thus says Yahweh (the Lord):

"As a shepherd takes from the mouth of a lion Two legs or a piece of an ear, So shall the children of Israel be taken out Who dwell in Samaria — In the corner of a bed and on the edge of a couch!

13 Hear and testify against the house of Jacob," Says Adoney Yahweh Elohey ha-Tsebaovt (the Lord God, the God of hosts),

14 "That in the day I punish Israel for their transgressions, I will also visit destruction on the altars of Bethel; And the horns of the altar shall be cut off And fall to the ground.

15 I will destroy the winter house along with the summer house; The houses of ivory shall perish, And the great houses shall have an end," Says Yahweh (the Lord).

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Israel – God's Chosen People –An Example to the World

✧ Hear this word that Yahweh (the Lord) has spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying:

"You only have I known of all the families of the earth; Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities." [Amos 2:1-2]

- ✧ All the wonders Yahweh did through the history of Israel was done so that the Gentile world watching would know that Yahweh certainly is God Most High over all creation.
- ✧ Because of their special relationship with Yahweh in the sight of all the nations and as an example to all, Yahweh must punish Israel for all their sins and iniquities.
- ✧ Thus the world will know that Yahweh is a God of His Word Who does everything He says He will do, both in blessing Israel for obedience and punishing Israel for their disobedience.
- ✧ Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?
Will a lion roar in the forest, when he has no prey? Will a young lion cry out of his den, if he has caught nothing?
Will a bird fall into a snare on the earth, where there is no trap for it? Will a snare spring up from the earth, if it has caught nothing at all?
If a trumpet is blown in a city, will not the people be afraid? If there is calamity in a city, will not Yahweh (the Lord) have done it? [Amos 3:3-6]
- ✧ These rhetorical questions indicate that it is only common sense to realize that there is a consequential effect for our choice of actions when it comes to our response to the revelations of God Most High.
- ✧ Our sins stand between us and the blessings of God Most High. [Isaiah 59:1-3]
- ✧ Surely Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God) does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.
A lion has roared! Who will not fear? Adoney Yahweh (The Lord God) has spoken! Who can but prophesy? [Amos 3:7-8]
- ✧ Yahweh demonstrates His faithfulness by revealing his intentions to the prophets who warn the people before He takes action.
- ✧ The warning has gone out, the prophets have warned the people, who will not fear?

Punishment of Israel's Sins – A sign to the nations

- ✧ "Proclaim in the palaces at Ashdod, And in the palaces in the land of Egypt, and say: 'Assemble on the mountains of Samaria; See great tumults in her midst, And the oppressed within her.
For they do not know to do right,' Says Yahweh (the Lord), 'Who store up violence and robbery in their palaces.'" [Amos 3:9-10]
- ✧ The proclamation is sent to surrounding nations and people to witness the judgment against Israel and to see their ignorance of right, along with their iniquity and its consequence.
- ✧ Therefore thus says Adoney Yahweh (the Lord God):
"An adversary shall be all around the land; He shall sap your strength from you, And your palaces shall be plundered." [Amos 3:11]
- ✧ When the enemy has surrounded the land of Israel, Yahweh will take away the strength of Israel and deliver them into the hand of the enemy who will plunder their palaces.
- ✧ Thus says Yahweh (the Lord):
"As a shepherd takes from the mouth of a lion Two legs or a piece of an ear, So shall the children of Israel be taken out Who dwell in Samaria — In the corner of a bed and on the edge of a couch! [Amos 3:12]
- ✧ Only a small remnant of Israel will be saved.
- ✧ Hear and testify against the house of Jacob," Says Adoney Yahweh Elohey ha-Tsebaovt (the Lord God, the God of hosts),
'That in the day I punish Israel for their transgressions, I will also visit destruction on the

altars of Bethel; And the horns of the altar shall be cut off And fall to the ground.

I will destroy the winter house along with the summer house; The houses of ivory shall perish, And the great houses shall have an end," Says Yahweh (the Lord). [\[Amos 3:13-15\]](#)

✧ When Yahweh punishes Israel He will also destroy their idolatry just as He did in Egypt. [\[Exodus 12:12\]](#)

✧ The altars of Bethel is a reference to the Golden Calf and its altar placed there by Jeroboam son of Nebat to prevent the people of Israel from going to Jerusalem to worship Yahweh. [\[2 Kings 12:1-33\]](#)

✧ The people of Israel never departed from the sins of Jeroboam until they were carried away by the Assyrians. [\[2 Kings 17:22\]](#)