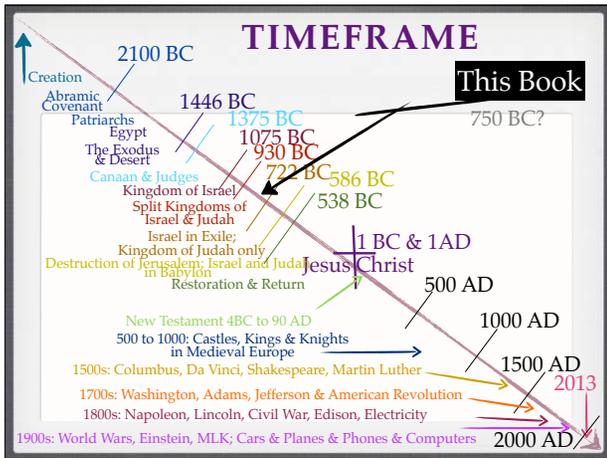
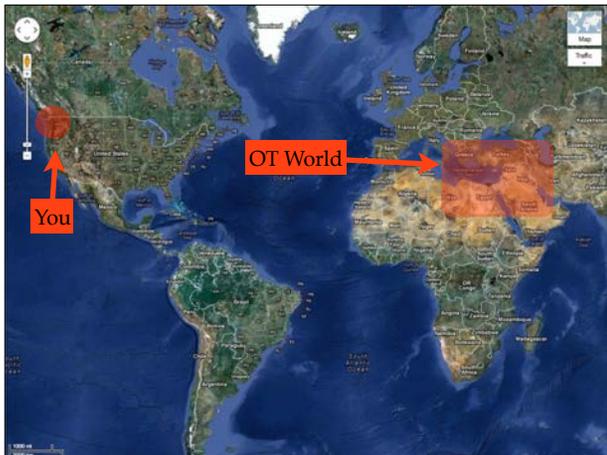


1



2



3



4

TYPE OF BOOK

- Moses' Torah / Pentateuch
- History
- Poetry & Wisdom
- Major (Long-book) Prophets
- Minor (Short-book) Prophets ✓

5

AUTHOR

- 1:1
- "The words of Amos, one of the shepherds of Tekoa-- what he saw concerning Israel two years before the earthquake..."

6

READERS & RECIPIENTS

7

- Amos goes to Samaria, the capital of Israel, to tell the people of God's coming judgment if they don't repent and change their ways.
- He says "The Day of the Lord" is coming.

STORYLINE

8

- Chapters 1 & 2: Look at the nations in the area
- Chapters 3 to 6: Israel's sins
- Chapters 7 through 9: The "Book of Visions" (wikipedia--"Book_of_Amos")
- God puts Israel in the same situation as 'pagan' nations: they are supposed to behave as well, or better than everyone else--they aren't going to evade judgment just by relying on the fact that God chose their forefathers to be his example nation.
- It's the same for you...Christ died for you and saved you from your sins permanently. But, that doesn't mean that you should choose to be sinful--you should be the example that God wants you to be, instead of relying on the fact that you're going to heaven. We love because he first loved us.

Major OT Themes found in this Book:

9

1. God is Love
2. God Creates
3. Israel (we) are supposed to be God's Obedient Servants
4. Israel (we) are Sinful
5. God is Angry with His People for Rejecting Him
6. God Forgives and Blesses those who Follow Him
7. Israel (we) are God's Chosen Examples
8. God Speaks through His Prophets
9. God is Always with His People
10. God is Just and Merciful
11. God Keeps His Promises
12. Israel (we) are Redeemed and Restored by the Blood of Christ
13. Israel (we) are JoGoFd
14. Israel (we) will Inherit the Kingdom of God

THEOLOGICAL CONTRIBUTION

- “Amos is known as the great ‘prophet of righteousness’ of the Old Testament. His book underlines the principle that religion demands righteous behavior. True religion is not a matter of observing feast days and offering burnt offerings but seeking God’s will, treating others with justice, and following God’s commands.” --CBH

10

SECULAR CONTRIBUTION



Amos

11

KEY VERSE

- 1:2
- Copy it.
- NIV: “He said: The Lord roars from Zion and thunders from Jerusalem; the pastures of the shepherds dry up, and the top of Carmel withers.”
- ESV: “And he said, ‘The Lord roars from Zion and utters his voice from Jerusalem; the pastures of the shepherds mourn, and the top of Carmel withers.’”

12

13

REQUIRED READING

- Chapter 1--Wrath
- Chapter 3--Accusations of the Guilt of Israel
- Chapter 9--Destruction, then Restoration

14

WHEN TO TURN HERE

- Why did God put this task in front of me?
- Why don't I get what I deserve?
- Why don't bad people get punished?
- Is God powerful?

15



Luther says:

- "...He [Amos] is violent, too, and denounces the people of Israel throughout almost the entire book until the end of the last chapter, where he prophesies of Christ and his kingdom and closes his book with that..."
--LW 35:320

MR. MARTIN SAYS:

- One of the most fun OT books to read.
- Fast-paced, breathtaking destruction.
- My favorite OT author.
- Not bad for a shepherd.

16

ALSO:

- 1:4; 1:7; 1:10, 1:12, 1:14, 2:2, 2:5, (2:13)
- I will set/send fire
- “Amos declared that God was going to judge his unfaithful, disobedient, covenant-breaking people. Despite his special choice of Israel and his kindness to her...his people paganized.” CSSB1351
- “Amos was a vigorous spokesman for God’s justice and righteousness, whereas Hosea emphasized God’s love, grace , mercy and forgiveness.” CSSB1351

17

■ D. Inspiration and the Writers of Biblical Literature

Nothing in the Holy Scriptures indicates that when God chose human beings to be His instruments through whom He spoke and wrote His Word to men, He used them in such a way that they were deprived of their individuality and identity. The Holy Spirit took men as they had been shaped by all their circumstances, cultural influences, educational opportunities, and natural capacities and placed them into His service to speak “from God.” (2 Peter 1:21)

When inspiring the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit did not work through men as though they were lifeless machines (e. g., a tape recorder), but He employed them in such a way as to leave room for the real influence of each writer’s own temperament, endowments, interests, purposes, perspective and even limitations...By inspiration holy men spoke from God in a human language, made up of human words, subject to human principles of grammar and syntax, employing human literary devices or else their speech and writing would have been unintelligible.

The Holy Spirit did not give the Biblical writers a heavenly vocabulary, a celestial grammar, or divine attributes, such as omniscience. Through men of human capacities the Holy Spirit spoke divine truth in human idiom.

18

19

Amos:

What a great book, right? This style of writing makes this one of my favorite books of the OT. The Lord speaks so powerfully here--it's an exciting book of God threatening destruction. Which Old Testament book is your favorite and why?

- Amos was a shepherd--he probably couldn't have been well-educated, yet he speaks with a power, authority, and charisma that still shine through to us today. How is that possible?
- We know that God wrote the Bible through his chosen writers.
- Who wrote this book, God or Amos? Which one is more clearly the writer of this book? How can you tell it was written by God? How can you tell it was written by Amos?

20

LIFE LESSONS FROM AMOS B

- Amos was a shepherd--he probably couldn't have been well-educated, yet he speaks with a power, authority, and charisma that still shine through to us today. How is that possible?
- We know that God wrote the Bible through his chosen writers.
- Who wrote this book, God or Amos? Which one is more clearly the writer of this book? How can you tell it was written by God? How can you tell it was written by Amos?

21

ACTIVITIES

Name: _____

Date: _____

The Short-Book Prophets:

The last twelve books of the Old Testament are often referred to as the "Minor Prophets". However, "minor" is a bit of misnomer, since "minor" refers to the fact that the books are short, and not that the books are, as is the contemporary meaning, "lesser".

These books as a whole mainly discuss the theme, which will become clear as you read them. They clearly emphasize God's plan for humankind, as laid out in Genesis 12: 1-3. He was God dealing very clearly with his people--there are clear consequences for their actions. Also, several of these books point toward the coming Messiah through the foreshadowing of the temple in Jerusalem. This will be the same temple that Jesus visits in John 2:14, and the ruins of which lie torn at Jesus' death in Matthew 27:11. These bold prophets speak directly with God and often have to tell the people of his terrible judgments against them. Sometimes, they have the honor of telling of God's blessings.

The following are some key verses for each of the twelve short-booked prophets. Read the verses and try to determine the major theme of the book. Feel free to read more verses from the book if you need more help. Please use at least two complete sentences for each. Since there is not enough space below, please answer these using your own lined paper.

- Hosea: 4:1-14
- Joel: 2:1-2; 3:1-8
- Amos: 2:1; 9:8-10
- Obadiah: 1:1, 15
- Jonah: 2:1-2; 3:1-10
- Micah: 2:1, 12
- Nahum: 1:2-6
- Habakkuk: 1:1-2
- Zephaniah: 1:1-4; 2:1-15-17
- Haggai: 1:1, 1:13-25
- Zechariah: 8:1-23; 9:1-14
- Malachi: 1:1; 4:1-6
