

# The Prophet From Tekoa

**Amos 1:1-2, Amos 7:10-17**



# Amos

- Amos is mentioned nowhere else in Scripture.
- The village of Tekoa was probably his birthplace and where he lived when God called him.
- Tekoa was a little village in the southern Judean hill country about 5 miles southeast of Bethlehem and about 10 miles south of Jerusalem.
- The citizens of Tekoa were exposed to far-ranging news and information.
- Amos identified himself as “*among the shepherds*” which could also mean “sheep breeder.”
- Amos wanted it to be clear that he was a non-professional prophet.

# The Recipients of His Prophecy

- Amos began his book by saying, *“The words of Amos.”*
- Amos was called by God to speak for God.
- Amos’ prophecy was primarily “concerning Israel.”
- At the time that God called Amos to speak for Him, Amos was living in the southern kingdom of Judah.
- Both kingdoms enjoyed relatively peaceful relations with each other, so it was easy for a southerner to preach to northerners.

# The Date

- We have three pieces of evidence to help us establish an approximate date:
  - Amos said that he preached “in the days of Uzziah king of Judah.”
  - Amos said that he preached “in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash, king of Israel.”
  - Amos said he preached “two years before the earthquake.”
- Most modern historians prefer to date Amos 1:1 on the basis of the earthquake that struck Hazor between 765–760.
- God called Amos to go and preach a message to the northern kingdom of Israel around 760 BC.

# The Message

- Amos sought to attract the attention of the people of Israel by comparing God's message to that of a roaring lion.
- Amos prophesied in Israel, but he wanted the people to know that the proper place of worship of God was Jerusalem.
- God called Amos to take a message of judgment to the people of Israel.
- Amos told them that King Jeroboam would die by the sword and that the people of Israel would be taken into exile, away from their homeland.
- Amos' preaching was rejected by the chief priest as well as the people of Israel.

# Conclusion

- God often uses insignificant people to accomplish his purposes.
- God's message is directed to His people.
- God's message of judgment must always be seen in view of his promise of salvation.
- God will always discipline His people who do not obey Him.
- God's promise of forgiveness and salvation is always greater than that of judgment.