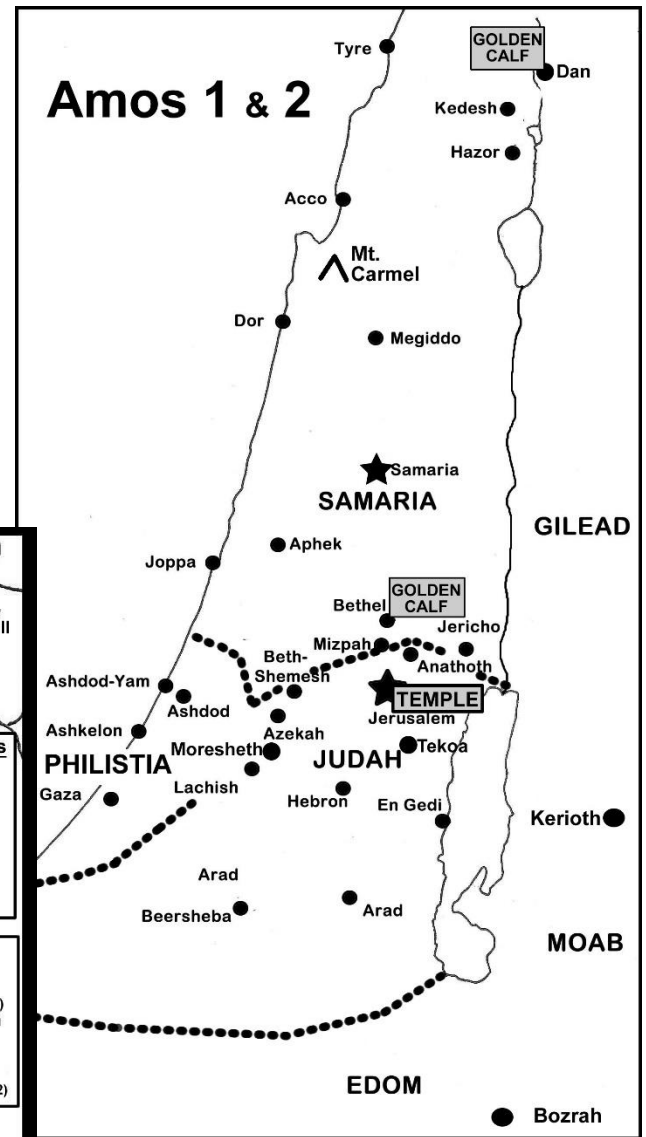
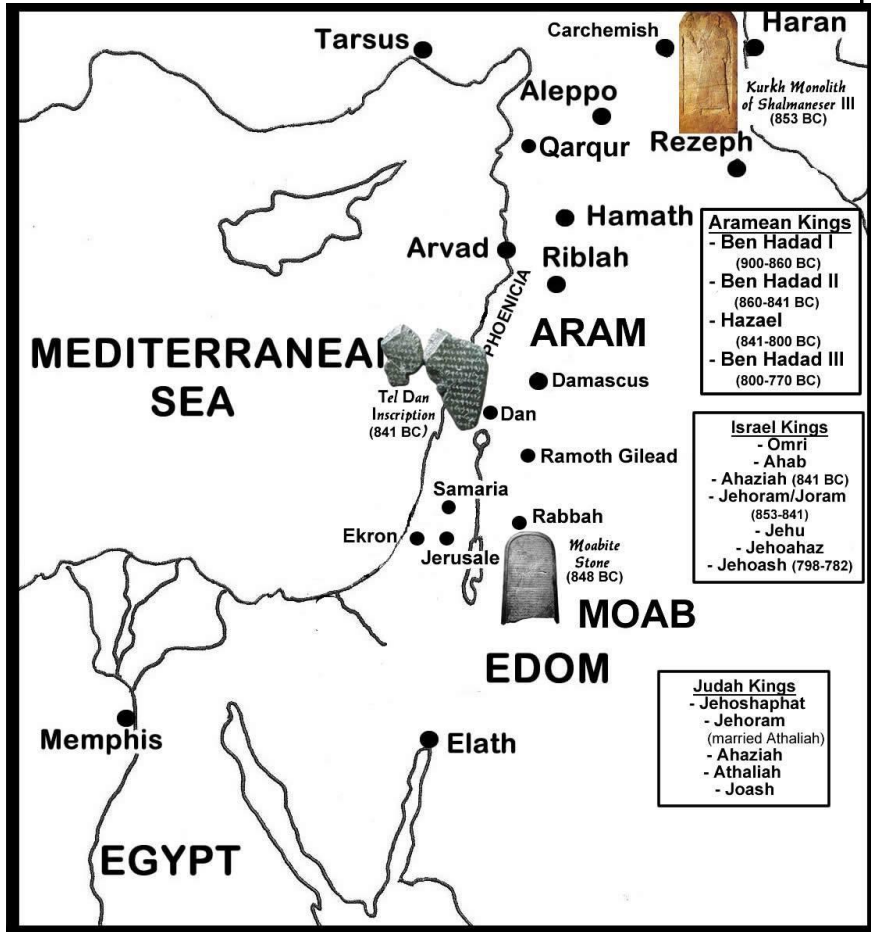
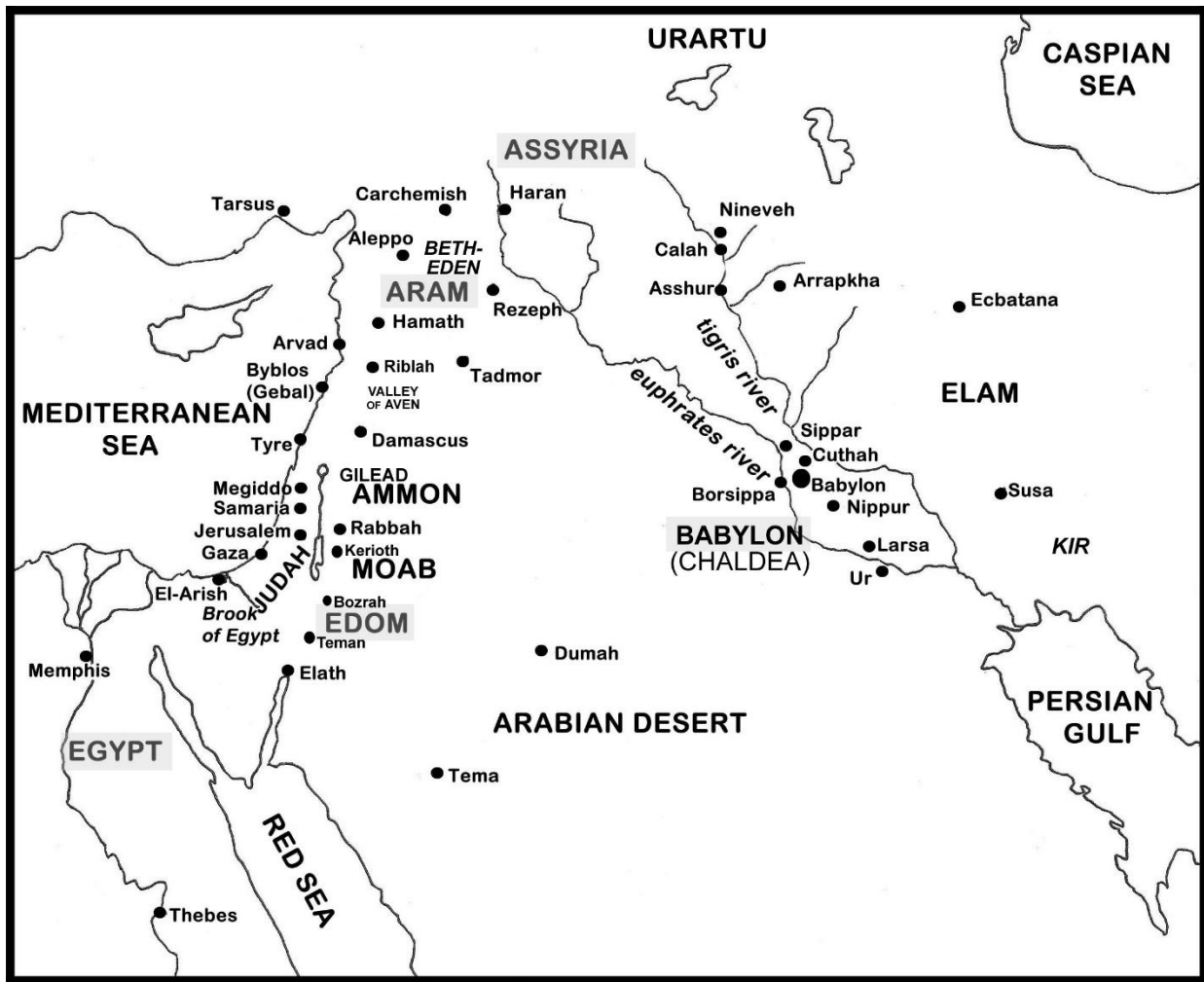


# Amos 1:3-15

1. The general format of each oracle:
  - a. The messenger introduction – “This is what Yahweh said”...
  - b. The certainty of a well-earned punishment
  - c. Presentation of evidence of specific crimes committed against humanity.
  - d. The announcement of the curse/punishment
  - e. The concluding formula which is basically “Yahweh has said” or “oracle of Yahweh.”  
(but, this is not used in Phoenicia, Edom or Judah)





Philistia:

**Amos 1:6 – “Thus says the Lord:  
 “For three transgressions of Gaza,  
 and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,  
 because they carried into exile a whole people  
 to deliver them up to Edom.**

1. Gaza was the leading city of Philistia just like Damascus was the leading city of Aram. In both lands (Aram and Philistia) there were several kings ruling in their own city/states. Gaza and Damascus were the heads of those city/states.
  - a. Philistines were the sea people from the Aegean Islands who attempted to invade Egypt, but upon defeat they settled on the coast of Canaan around 1200 BC.
2. “whole people” is “shelema” in Hebrew. It means “people at peace” meaning there were peaceful relations between the Philistines and the people they captured and deported into slavery. It refers to an entire local population.
3. It would appear the people the Philistines turned against were Israel or Judah.
4. The captives were sold to Edom.
5. The issue here, as in all the judgments against the Pagan nations, is the mistreatment of human dignity regardless of their national origin. The sale of people as commodities brings the judgment of God.
6. Broken treaties (as well as broken promises and covenants) are not tolerated by the Lord.

7. Verses:

- a. Joel 3:4-8 – “What are you to me, O Tyre and Sidon, and all the regions of Philistia? Are you paying me back for something? If you are paying me back, I will return your payment on your own head swiftly and speedily. For you have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried my rich treasures into your temples. You have sold the people of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks in order to remove them far from their own border. Behold, I will stir them up from the place to which you have sold them, and I will return your payment on your own head. I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the people of Judah, and they will sell them to the Sabeans, to a nation far away, for the Lord has spoken.”
  - i. “Sabeans” living in the southern Arabian Peninsula.
- b. 2 Chron. 21:16-17 – Between 852-841 during the reign of Ahab’s son King Jehoram of Israel the Philistines along with the Arabs had invaded Judah because the Lord was punishing King Jehoram son of Jehosaphat king of Judah (who had married Ahab’s daughter Athaliah) for all the evil he had done including the building of more high places ..... – “And the Lord stirred up against Jehoram the anger of the Philistines and of the Arabians who are near the Ethiopians. And they came up against Judah and invaded it and carried away all the possessions they found that belonged to the king’s house, and also his sons and his wives, so that no son was left to him except Jehoahaz, his youngest son.”

**Amos 1:7 – So I will send a fire upon the wall of Gaza,  
and it shall devour her strongholds.**

1. “Fire” could refer the fire of judgment the Lord is sending from Zion that will manifest in the physical world as invasion or some other form of judgment.
2. “fire” was used by armies to burn city walls and gates in order to weaken them to create a breaking point.

**Amos 1:8 - I will cut off the inhabitants from Ashdod,  
and him who holds the scepter from Ashkelon;**

**I will turn my hand against Ekron,  
and the remnant of the Philistines shall perish,”  
says the Lord God.”**

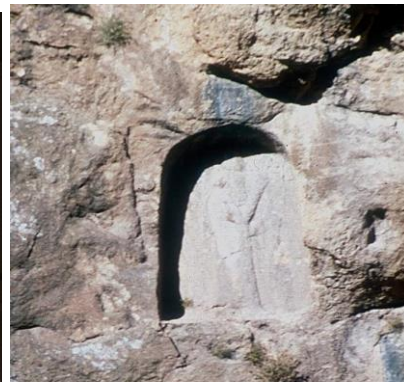
1. There are typically five major Philistine cities always mentioned in scripture:
  - a. Gaza
  - b. Ashdod
  - c. Ashkelon
  - d. Ekron
  - e. Gath
2. Gath is not mentioned in this 760 BC prophecy possibly because Gath had already fallen to Judah in
  - a. 853-841 BC - 2 Kings 12:17 – “At that time **Hazael king of Syria** went up and **fought against Gath** and took it. But when Hazael set his face to go up against Jerusalem, Jehoash king of Judah took all the sacred gifts that Jehoshaphat and Jehoram and

Ahaziah his fathers, the kings of Judah, had dedicated, and his own sacred gifts, and all the gold that was found in the treasuries of the house of the Lord and of the king's house, and sent these to Hazael king of Syria. Then Hazael went away from Jerusalem.”

- i. The line of Judah kings: **Jehoshaphat** (872-848) – **Jehoram** (853-841) – **Ahaziah** (841) – Athaliah (841-835) – **Joash, or Jehoash** (835-796) – Amaziah (796-767) – **Uzziah** (792-740)
  - b. 792-2 Chron. 26:6 – “**He (Uzziah or Azariah, reign 792-740) went out and made war against the Philistines and broke through the wall of Gath** and the wall of Jabneh and the wall of Ashdod, and he built cities in the territory of Ashdod and elsewhere among the Philistines.”
3. This was fulfilled:
- a. By Hezekiah in 2 Kings 18:8 between 715-686 BC – “He struck down the Philistines as far as Gaza and its territory, from watchtower to fortified city.”
  - b. Assyrian Kings:
    - i. **Tiglath-pileser III** invaded this land and took the city of Gaza from Philistine king Hanunu and left Hanunu as the head of Gaza which became a Assyrian trading center and put Assyrian presence on the border of the Egyptians.
    - ii. In 721 BC (after Tiglath-pileser and **Shalmaneser V**) Hanunu joined an anti-Assyrian coalition against the new Assyrian King **Sargon II** (721-705 BC). Hanunu is defeated and deported to Assyria.



Hanunu of Gaza is on his knees in front of Tiglath-pileser III formally submitting to the king of Assyria.



This relief of Sargon II includes the inscription detailing the extradition of Yamani the rebel king of Ashdod.

- iii. **Sennacherib** (705-681 BC captured Ekron and killed its officials because of their rebellion.
  - c. Nebuchadnezzar crushed the Philistines
  - d. Finally, during the Maccabean period (169-134 BC) when the Philistines ceased to exist.
4. “Lord GOD” is literally *Adon YHWH* or “Sovereign Yahweh”, but in English it would be translated into our modern translations as “Lord LORD”, so it is translated as “Lord GOD”.
- a. This title for the Lord is used 19x in Amos, but only 5x in the rest of the Minor Prophets.
  - b. The name stresses:
    - i. God’s Lordship
    - ii. His covenant relationship with ALL nations, not only Israel.

Phoenicia:

**Amos 1:9 – “Thus says the Lord:**

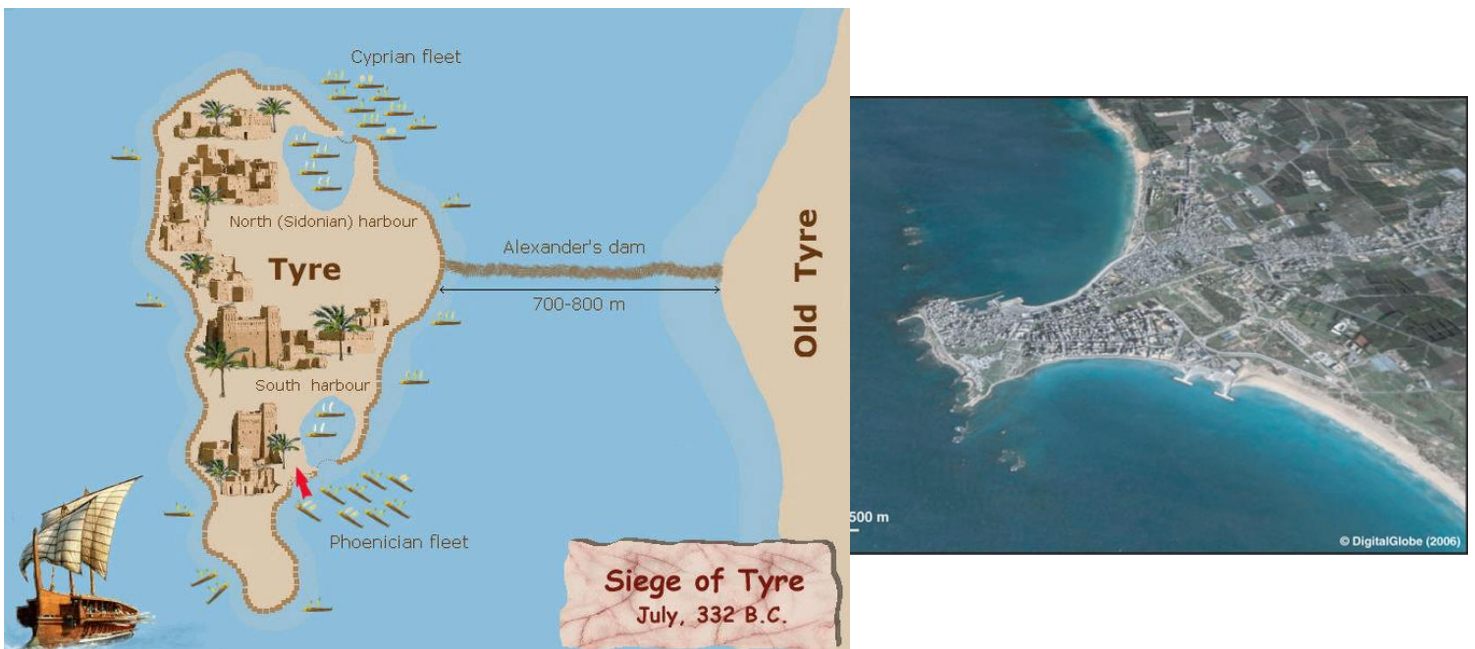
**“For three transgressions of Tyre,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,**

**because they delivered up a whole people to Edom,  
and did not remember the covenant of brotherhood.**

1. Tyre was the leading city of Phoenicia
2. Phoenician’s sin was the same:
  - a. Sold whole communities to the Edomites
  - b. Broke a covenant of brotherhood.
3. Homer mentions Tyre’s slave trade in *Odyssey* 4:288 and 15:473

**Amos 1:10 - So I will send a fire upon the wall of Tyre,  
and it shall devour her strongholds.”**

1. Fulfilled by Alexander the Great in 332 BC prophesied in Ezekiel 26-28
2. Alexander spent seven months building a road (causeway) out of the rubble of the city on the mainland and laying siege to Tyre. He killed 6,000, impaled 2,000 and sold 30,000 into slavery.
3. Details here:
  - a. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siege\\_of\\_Tyre\\_\(332\\_BC\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Siege_of_Tyre_(332_BC))
  - b. <https://www.alexander-the-great.org/alexanders-campaign/siege-of-tyre.php>



Edom:

**Amos 1:11 – “Thus says the Lord:  
“For three transgressions of Edom,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,**

**because he pursued his brother with the sword  
and cast off all pity,**

**and his anger tore perpetually,  
and he kept his wrath forever.**

**Amos 1:12 - So I will send a fire upon Teman,  
and it shall devour the strongholds of Bozrah.”**

Ammon:

**Amos 1:13 – “Thus says the Lord:  
“For three transgressions of the Ammonites,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,**

**because they have ripped open pregnant women in Gilead,  
that they might enlarge their border.**

**Amos 1:14 - So I will kindle a fire in the wall of Rabbah,  
and it shall devour her strongholds,  
with shouting on the day of battle,  
with a tempest in the day of the whirlwind;**

**Amos 1:15 - and their king shall go into exile,  
he and his princes together,”  
says the Lord.”**

Moab:

**Amos 2:1 – “Thus says the Lord:  
“For three transgressions of Moab,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,**

**because he burned to lime the bones of the king of Edom.**

**Amos 2:2 - So I will send fire upon Moab,  
and it shall devour the strongholds of Kerioth,  
And Moab shall die amid uproar,  
amid shouting and the sound of the trumpet;**

**Amos 1:15 – I will cut off the ruler from its midst,  
And will kill all its princes with him,”  
says the Lord.”**

Judah:

**Amos 2:4 – “Thus says the Lord:  
“For three transgressions of Judah,  
and for four, I will not revoke the punishment,**

**because they have rejected the law of the LORD,  
and have not kept his statutes,  
but their lies have led them astray,  
those after which their fathers walked.**

1. “lies” indicates false gods
- 2.

**Amos 2:5 - So I will send a fire upon Judah,  
And it shall devour the strongholds of Jerusalem.”;**