

Amos 3:1-10

Amos 3:1-2 is a short oracle of its own. These two verses introduce the longer announcements of judgment coming in chapters 3-6.

Amos 3:1 - Hear this word that the Lord has spoken against you, O people of Israel, against the whole family that I brought up out of the land of Egypt:

**Amos 3:2 - “You only have I known
of all the families of the earth;
therefore I will punish you
for all your iniquities.**

- “Hear this word” is a call to listen to an important prophecy or announcement from the Lord. What follows will be the revealing of some truth, principle or teaching that the people are to pay attention to.
- Amos is speaking to all 12 tribes (Israel and Judah). This is the family that came out of Egypt.
- 3:2 is making the point that the Lord is going to bring the punishment.
- This section is NOT about WHY Israel is going to be punished, but about WHO is going to punish Israel.
- The point: Israel has entered into a covenant with the Lord. The results were simple and obvious:
 - Israel was to obey.....the Lord would bless
 - Israel disobeyed.....the Lord was going to punish
- The Lord was obligated to punish Israel. That’s it. So be it.
- One of the themes and purposes of Amos’ ministry was to communicate the fact that the Lord not only took care of his people, but he would also punish them.
- Israel had developed a theology (based on Pagan standards) that their god would only do good to his people.

What follows is a list of natural associations of cause and effect.

- The main focus is on association.
- The lesson is leading to these points:
 - disaster comes from God and God will reveal it to his prophet.
 - If God reveals it to his prophet, the prophet is going to say something.
- So, Amos’ ministry is the only logical outcome of Israel’s behavior and the Lords covenant response.

Amos 3:3 - “Do two walk together,
unless they have agreed to meet?

Amos 3:4 - “Does a lion roar in the forest,
when he has no prey?

Does a young lion cry out from his den,
if he has taken nothing?

Amos 3:5 - “Does a bird fall in a snare on the earth,
when there is no trap for it?

Does a snare spring up from the ground,

when it has taken nothing?
Amos 3:6 - "Is a trumpet blown in a city,
and the people are not afraid?
Does disaster come to a city,
unless the Lord has done it?"

Amos 3:7 - "For the Lord God does nothing
without revealing his secret
to his servants the prophets.

Amos 3:8 - "The lion has roared;
who will not fear?"

The Lord God has spoken;
who can but prophesy?"

Amos 3:9 - "Proclaim to the strongholds in Ashdod
and to the strongholds in the land of Egypt,
and say, "Assemble yourselves on the mountains of Samaria,
and see the great tumults within her,
and the oppressed in her midst."

Amos 3:10 - " "They do not know how to do right," declares the Lord,
"those who store up violence and robbery in their strongholds."