

# JESUS *of the* PROPHETS







# Amos 8:4-7

Hear this, you who trample the needy and do away with the poor of the land, <sup>5</sup> saying, “When will the New Moon be over that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath be ended that we may market wheat?” — skimping on the measure, boosting the price and cheating with dishonest scales,

# Amos 8:4-7

<sup>6</sup> buying the poor with silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, selling even the sweepings with the wheat.

# Amos 8:4-7

<sup>6</sup> buying the poor with silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, selling even the sweepings with the wheat.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord has sworn by himself, the Pride of Jacob: "I will never forget anything they have done.



# 1. What are Amos' accusations?

-Their greed outweighed their **concern for the needy.**

*"you who trample the needy and do away with the poor" -vs. 4*

Giving to the needy is not only a sacred duty to God, but it also is the defining point for any claim to have kept the law... Only when Israel responds to needy by enabling everyone in the community to eat and be satisfied can they affirm they have done *everything* that God commanded."



Christopher J.H. Wright, *New International Commentary on Deuteronomy* pg.271

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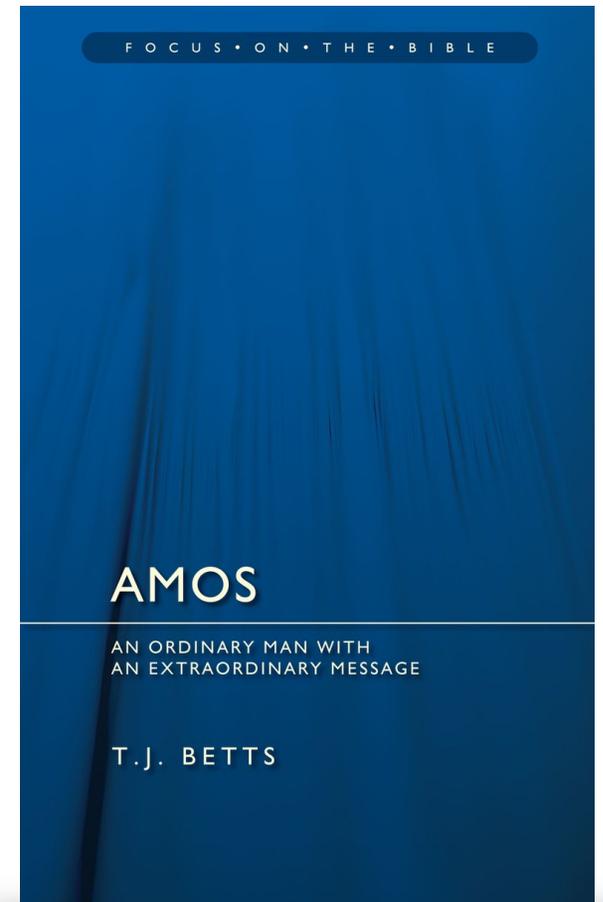
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*"you who trample the needy and do away with the poor" -vs. 4*

-Their greed outweighed their **devotion.**

*"When will the New Moon be over that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath be ended that we may market wheat?" -vs 5*

“People were thinking about making money more than worshiping the Lord, but the problem Amos confronted was far deeper. The problem was that they were focused on themselves more than they are on worshiping the Lord. They were *self-serving in their thought and actions*.



Amos by T.J. Betts pg.161

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-Their greed outweighed their **financial integrity.**

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-Their greed outweighed their **gratitude.**

*"buying the poor with silver and the needy for a pair of sandals"-vs. 6*

THE  
PARTY'S  
OVER!





## 2. Why is this passage relevant to us?

*At its core, economic injustice is about satisfying one's self-interest at the expense of another.*

Phil. 1:17 Do nothing out of **selfish** ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.

## 2. Why is this passage relevant to us?

### *Our Tactics Of Coercion:*

-Begging, anger & tantrums: techniques used to manipulate others to give in to your desires (*kids are great at using these*).

-Passive-aggressive behavior: indirect expressions of anger or hurt, offering subtle hints that we are not happy.

-Extortion: the practice of obtaining something, through force or threats. People practice it in business and in marriage.

### There is also the issue of fake worship:

*"When will the New Moon be over that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath be ended that we may market wheat?" Amos 8:5*

## Amos 9:11-15

“In that day “I will restore David’s fallen shelter— I will repair its broken walls and restore its ruins— and will rebuild it as it used to be, <sup>12</sup> so that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations that bear my name,” declares the Lord, who will do these things.

# Amos 9:11-15

<sup>13</sup> “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when the reaper will be overtaken by the plowman and the planter by the one treading grapes. New wine will drip from the mountains and flow from all the hills, <sup>14</sup> and I will bring my people Israel back from exile.

## Amos 9:11-15

“They will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them. They will plant vineyards and drink their wine; they will make gardens and eat their fruit. <sup>15</sup> I will plant Israel in their own land, never again to be uprooted from the land I have given them,” says the Lord your God.

### 3. What does this have to do with Christmas?

# EXPLORING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOD'S JUSTICE & MERCY



HE MUST CONFRONT EVIL  
AMONG ISRAEL & THE NATIONS

HIS LONG-TERM PURPOSES ARE FOR  
RESTORATION & A NEW FAMILY

# 3. What does this have to do with Christmas?

## Jesus is God's premier **gift.**

*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
-Romans 6:23 (John 3:16)*

## Jesus is the **restorer.**

*"After this I will return and rebuild David's fallen tent. Its ruins I will rebuild, and I will restore it" -Acts 15:16*

## Jesus is the **reconciler.**

*"so that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations" Amos 9:12*

## Jesus is the **example.**

*"If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. <sup>15</sup> For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you." John 13:14&15*