

AMÓS

THE ARGUMENT.

Among many other Prophets that God raised up to admonish the Israelites of his plagues for their wickedness and idolatrie, he stirred up Amós, who was an herdsman or shepherd of a poor towne, and gave him both knowledge and constancie to reprove all estates and degrees, and to denounce God's horrible judgements against them, except they did in time repent: shewing them, that if God spare not the other nacions about them, who had lived as it were in ignorance of God in respect of them, but for their sins wil punish them, that they could look for nothing, but an horrible destruction, except they turned to the Lord by unfained repentance. And finally, he comforteth the godlie with hope of the comming of the Messiáh, by whom they should have perfite deliverance and salvacion.

Chapter 1

1 The time of the prophecie of Amós 3 The word of the Lord against Damascus 6 The Philistims, Tyrus, Idumea, and Ammon.

The words of Amós, who was among the herdmen ^aat Tecóa, which he saw upon Israél, in the daies of Uzziah King of Judáh, and in the daies of ^bJeroboám the son of Joáh King of Israél, two year before the ^cearth quake.

2 And he said, The Lord shal roar from Zión, and utter his voyce from Jerusalém, and the dwelling places of the shepherds shal perish, and the top of ^dCarmél shal wither.

3 Thus saith the Lord, For ^ethree transgressions of Damascus, and for four I will not turn to it, because they have ^fthreshed Gileád with the threshing instruments of iron.

4 Therefore will I send a fire into the house of Hazaél, and it shall devour the ^gpalaces of Ben-hadád.

5 I will break also the bars of Damascus, and cut off the inhabitant of Bikeath-áven: and him that holdeth the scepter out of Beth-éden, and the people of Arám shal go into captivity unto ^hKir, saith the Lord.

6 Thus saith the Lord, For three transgressions of Azzáh, and for four, I will not turn to it, because they ⁱcarried away prisoners the whole captivity to shut them up in Edóm.

7 Therefore will I send a fire upon the walls of Azzáh, and it shal devour the palaces thereof.

8 And I will cut off the inhabitant from Ashdód, and him that holdeth the scepter from Ashkelón, and tum mine hand to Ekrón, and the remnant of the Philistims shal perish, saith the Lord God.

9 ¶ Thus saith the Lord, For three transgressions of Tyrus, and for four, I will not turn to it, because they shut the whole captivity in Edóm, and have not remembered the ^kbrotherly covenant.

10 Therefore will I send a fire upon the walls of Tyrus, and it shal devour the palaces thereof.

11 ¶ Thus saith the Lord, For three transgressions of Edóm, and for four I will not turn to it, because he did pursue his brother with the sword, and did ^lcast off all pity, and his anger spoiled him

1 a Which was a town six miles from Jerusalem in Judea, but he prophecied in Israel.

1 b In his days the kingdom of Israel did most flourish.

1 c Which, as Josephus writes, was when Uzziah would have usurped the Priest's office, and therefore was smitten with the leprosy.

2 d Whatsoever is fruitful and pleasant in Israel, shall shortly perish.

3 e He shows first that all the people round about should be destroyed for their manifold sins: which are meant by three and four which make seven, because the Israelites should the most deeply consider God's judgements toward them.

3 f If the Syrians shall not be spared for committing this cruelty against one city, it is not possible that Israel should escape punishment which has committed so many and grievous sins against God and man.

4 g The antiquity of their buildings shall not avoid my judgements, Jer. 49.27.

5 h Tiglath Pielsar led the Syrians captive, and brought them to Cyrene, which he calls here Kir.

6 i They joined themselves with the Edomites their enemies, which carried them away captive.

9 k For Esau (of whom came the Edomites) and Jacob were brethren: therefore they ought to have admonished them of their brotherly friendship, and not to have provoked them to hatred.

11 ^lEbr., corrupt his compassion.

evermore, and his wrath watched him ^lalway.

12 Therefore will I send a fire upon Temán, and it shal devour the palaces of Bozráh.

13 ¶ Thus saith the Lord, For three transgressions of the children of Ammón, and for four, I will not turn to it, because they ^mhave ripped up the women with child of Gileád, that they might enlarge their border.

14 Therefore will I kindle a fire in the wall of Rabbáh, and it shal devour the palaces thereof, with shouting in the day of battle, and with a tempest in the day of the whirlwind.

15 And their King shal go into captivity, he and his princes together, saith the Lord.

Chapter 2

Against Moáb, Judáh, and Israél.

Thus saith the Lord, For three transgressions of Moáb, and for four, I will not turn to it, because it burnt the ^abones of the King of Edóm into lime.

2 Therefore will I send a fire upon Moáb, and it shal devour the palaces of Kerióth, and Moáb shall die with tumult, with shouting, and with the sound of a trumpet.

3 And I will cut off the Judge out of the middes thereof, and will slay all the princes thereof with him, saith the Lord.

4 ¶ Thus saith the Lord, For three transgressions of Judáh, and for four, ^bI will not turn to it, because they have cast away the Law of the Lord, & have not kept his commandments, & their lies caused them to error after the which their fathers have walked.

5 Therefore will I send a fire upon Judáh, and it shal devour the palaces of Jerusalém.

6 ¶ Thus saith the Lord, For three transgressions of ^cIsraél, and for four, I will not turn to it, because they sold the righteous for silver and the poor for ^dshoes.

7 They gape over the head of the poor, in the ^edust of the earth, and pervert the ways of the meek: and a man and his father will go in to a maid to dishonor mine holie Name.

8 And they lie down upon clothes laid to pledge ^fby every altar: and they ^gdrink the wine of the condemned in the House of their God.

11 I He was a continual enemy unto him.

13 m He notes the great cruelty of the Ammonites that spared not the women, but most tyrannously tormented them, and yet the Ammonites came of Lot who was of the household of Abraham.

Chapter 2

1 a For the Moabites were so cruel against the King of Edom that they burnt his bones after that he was dead, which declared their barbarous rage, seeing they would revenge themselves of the dead.

4 b Seeing the Gentiles that had not so far knowledge were thus punished, Judah which was so fully instructed of the Lord's will, might not think to escape.

6 c If he spare not Judah unto whom his promises were made, much more he will not spare this degenerate kingdom.

6 d They esteemed most vile bribes more them men's lives.

7 e When they have spoiled him and thrown him to the ground, they gape for his life.

8 f Thinking by these ceremonies, that is, by sacrificing, and being near mine altar, they may excuse all their other wickedness.

8 g They spoil others and offer thereof unto God, thinking that he will dispense with them, when he is made partaker of their iniquity.

9 Yet destroyed I the ^hAmorite before them, whose height was like the height of the cedars, and he was strong as the oaks: notwithstanding I destroyed his fruit from above, and his root from beneath.

10 Also I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and led you forty years through the wilderness, to possess the land of the Amorite.

11 And I raised up of your sons for Prophets, and ⁱof your young men for Nazarites. Is it not even thus, ô ye children of Israël, saith the Lord?

12 But ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink, and commanded the Prophets, saying, Prophecie not.

13 Behold, I ^lam pressed under you as a cart is pressed that is full of sheaves.

14 Therefore the flight shal perish from the ^lswift, and the strong shal not strengthen his force, neither shal the mightie save his life.

15 Nor he that handleth the bow, shal stand, and he that is swift of foot, shal not escape, neither shal he that rideth the horse, save his life.

16 And he that is of mightie courage among the strong men, shal flee away naked in that day, saith the Lord.

Chapter 3

He reproveth the house of Israël of ingratitude 11 For the which God will punish them.

Hear this word that the Lord pronounceth against you, ô children of Israël, *even* against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying,

2 You ^aonly have I known of all the families of the earth: therefore I will visit you for all your iniquities.

3 Can two walk together except they be ^bagreed?

4 Will a ^clion roar in the forest, when he hath no prey? or will a lion's whelp cry out of his den, if he have taken nothing?

5 ^dCan a bird fall in a snare upon the earth, where no fouler is? or will he take up the ^esnare from the earth, and have taken nothing at all?

6 Or ^fshal a trumpet be blown in the city, & the people be not afraid? or shal there ^gbe evil in a city, & the Lord hath not done it?

7 Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he ^hreveileth his secret unto his servants the Prophets.

8 The lion hath roared: who will not be afraid? the Lord God hath spoken: who can but ⁱprophecie?

9 Proclaim in the palaces at ^kAshdód, and in the palaces in the

9 ^hThe destruction of their enemies and his mercy toward them should have caused their hearts to melt for love toward him.

11 ⁱYou contemned my benefits and abused my graces and craftily went about to stop the mouths of my Prophets.

13 ^kYou have wearied me with your sins, Isa. 1.14.

14 ^lNone shall be delivered by any means.

Chapter 3

2 ^aI have only chosen you to be mine among all other people, and yet you have forsaken me.

3 ^bHereby the Prophet signifies that he speaks not of himself, but as God guided and moved him, which is called the agreement between God and his Prophets.

4 ^cWill God threaten by his Prophets, except there be some great occasion?

5 ^dCan any thing come without God's providence?

5 ^eShall his threatenings be in vain?

6 ^fShall the Prophets threaten God's judgements and the people not be afraid?

6 ^gDoes any adversity come without God's appointment? Is. 45.7.

7 ^hGod deals not with the Israelites as he does with other people: for he ever wams them before of his plagues by his Prophets.

8 ⁱBecause the people ever murmured against the Prophets, he shows that God's Spirit moved them so to speak as they did.

9 ^kHe calls the strangers, as the Philistims and Egyptians to witnesses of God's judgements against the Israelites for their cruelty & oppression.

land of Egypt, & say, Assemble your selves upon the mountains of Samaria: so behold the great tumults in the middes thereof, and the oppressed in the middes thereof.

10 For they know not to do right, saith the Lord: they store up violence, and robbery ^lin their palaces.

11 Therefore thus saith the Lord God, An adversary *shal come* even round about the country, and shal bring down thy strength from thee, and thy palaces shalbe spoiled.

12 Thus saith the Lord, As the shepherd taketh ^mout of the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear: so shal the children of Israël be taken out that dwell in Samaria in the corner of a bed, and in ⁿDamascus, *as in a couch*.

13 Hear, and testify in the house of Jaakób, saith the Lord God, the God of hostes.

14 Surely in the day that I shal visit the transgressions of Israël upon him, I will also visit the altars of Beth-él, and the horns of the altar shal be broken off, and fall to the ground.

15 And I will smite the winter house with the summer house, and the houses of ivory shal perish, and the great houses shal be consumed, saith the Lord.

Chapter 4

Against the governours of Samaria.

Hear this word, ye ^akine of Bashán that are in the mountain of Samaria: which oppress the poor, *and* destroy the needy, and they say to their masters, ^bBring, and let us drink.

2 The Lord God hath sworn by his holiness, that lo, the days shal come upon you, that he will take you away with ^cthorns, and your posterity with fish hooks.

3 And ye shal go out at the breaches every *kowe* forward: and ye shal cast your selves out of the palace, saith the Lord.

4 Come to ^dBeth-él, and transgress: to Gilgál, and multiply transgression, and bring your sacrifices in the morning, *and* your tithes after three ^eyears.

5 And after a thanks giving ^fof leaven, publish *and* proclaim the free offerings: for this ^gliketh you, ô ye children of Israël, saith the Lord God.

6 Therefore have I given you ^hcleanness of teeth in all your cities, and scarceness of bread in all your places, yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord.

7 And also I have withholden the rain from you, when there *were* yet three ⁱmonths to the harvest, and I caused it to rain upon one city, and have not caused it to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, & the piece whereupon it rained not, withered.

10 ^lThe fruit of their cruelty and theft appears by their great riches which they have in their houses.

12 ^mWhen the lion has sate his hunger, the shepherd finds a leg or a tip of an ear to show that the sheep have been worried.

12 ⁿWhere they thought to have had a sure hold, and to have been in safety.

Chapter 4

1 ^aThus he calls the princes and governors, which being overwhelmed with the great abundance of God's benefits, forgot God, and therefore he calls them by the name of beasts and not of men.

1 ^bThey encourage such as have authority over the people, to powle them, so that they may have profit by it.

2 ^cHe alludes to fishers which catch fish by hooks and thorns.

4 ^dHe speaks this in contempt of them which resorted to these places, thinking that their great devotion and good intention had been sufficient to have bound God unto them.

4 ^eRead Deut. 14.28.

5 ^fAs Lev. 7.13.

5 ^gYou only delight in these outward ceremonies and have none other respect.

6 ^hThat is, lack of bread and meat.

7 ⁱI stayed the rain till the fruits of the earth were destroyed with drought and yet you would not consider it to return to me by repentance.

8 So two or three cities wandered unto one city to drink water, but they were ^knot satisfied: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord.

9 I have smitten you with blasting, and mildew: your great gardens and your vineyards, and your fig trees, and your olive trees did the palmer worm devour: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord.

10 Pestilence have I sent among you, after the manner of Egypt: your young men have I slain with the sword, and have taken away your horses: and I have made the stink of your tents to come up even into your nostrils: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord.

11 I have overthrown you, as God overthrew Sodóm and Gomoráh: and ye were as a fire ^mbrand plucked out of the burning: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord.

12 Therefore, thus will I do unto thee, ô Israël: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to ⁿmeet thy God, ô Israël.

13 For lo, he that formeth the mountains, and createth the wind, and declareth unto man what is his thought: which maketh the morning darkness, and walketh upon the hie places of the earth, the Lord God of hostes *is* his Name.

Chapter 5

A lamentation for the captivitie of Israël.

Hear ye this word, which I lift up upon you, *even* a lamentation of the house of Israël. 2 The ^avirgin Israël is fallen, *and* shal no more rise: she is left upon her land, *and* there *is* none to raise her up.

3 For thus saith the Lord God, The city which went out by a thousand, shal leave an ^bhundreth: and that which went forth by an hundreth, shal leave ten to the house of Israël.

4 For thus saith the Lord unto the house of Israël, Seek ye me, and ye shal live.

5 But seek not Beth-él, nor enter into ^cGilgál, and go not to Beer-shéba: for Gilgál shal go into captivity, and Beth-él shal come to naught.

6 Seek the Lord, and ye shal live, lest he break out like fire in the house of Joséph and devour it, and there *be* none to quench it in Beth-él.

7 They turn ^djudgement to wormwood, and leave off righteousness in the earth.

8 He ^emaketh Pleiades, and Orion, and he turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and he maketh the day dark as night: he calleth the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the open earth: the Lord *is* his Name.

9 He strengtheneth the destroyer against the mightie: and the destroyer shal come against the fortress.

10 They have hated him, ^fthat rebuked in the gate: and they abhor him that speaketh uprightly.

11 For asmuch then as your treading *is* upon the poor, and ^gye

8 k They could not find water enough where they had heard say it had rained.

10 l As I plagued the Egyptians, Ex. 9.10.

11 m You were almost all consumed, and a few of you wonderfully preserved, 2 King 14.26.

12 n Turn to him by repentance.

Chapter 5

2 a He so calls them because they so boasted of themselves, or because they were given to wantonness and deintines.

3 b Meaning, that the tenth part should scarcely be saved.

5 c In these places they worshipped new idols, which afore time served for the true honor of God: therefore he says that these shall not save them.

7 d Instead of judgement and equity they execute cruelty and oppression.

8 e He describes the power of God, Job 9.9.

10 f They hate the Prophets, which reprove them in the open assemblies.

11 g You take both his money and also his food wherewith he should live.

take from him burdens of wheat, ye have built houses of hewn stone, but ye shal not dwell in them: ye have planted pleasant vineyards, but ye shal not drink wine of them.

12 For I know your manifold transgressions, and your mighty sins: they afflict the just, they take rewards, and they oppress the poor in the gate.

13 Therefore ^hthe prudent shal keep silence in that time, for it is an evil time.

14 Seek good and not evil, that ye may live: and the Lord God of hostes shalbe with you, as you have spoken.

15 Hate the evil, and love the good, and establish judgement in the gate: it may be that the Lord God of hostes will be merciful unto the remnant of Joséph.

16 Therefore the Lord God of hostes, the Lord saith thus, Mourning *shalbe* in all streets: and they shal say in all the hie ways, Alas, alas: and they shal call the ⁱhusbandman to lamentation, and such as can mourn, to mourning.

17 And in all the vines *shalbe* lamentation: for I will pass through thee, saith the Lord.

18 Wo unto you, that ^kdesire the day of the Lord: what have you to do with it? the day of the Lord *is* darkness and not light.

19 As if a man did flee from a lion, & a bear met him, or went into the house, & leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him.

20 Shal not the day of the Lord be darkness, and not light? even darkness and no light in it?

21 I hate *and* abhor your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies.

22 Though ye offer me burnt offerings and meat offerings, I will not accept them neither will I regard the peace offering of your fat beasts.

23 Take thou away from me the multitude of thy songs (for I will not hear the melodie of thy viols)

24 And let judgement run down as ^mwaters, and righteousness as a mighty river.

25 Have ye offered unto me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, ô house of Israël?

26 But you have born ⁿSiccúth your King and Chiun your images, *and* the star of your gods, which ye made to your selves.

27 Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus, saith the Lord, whose Name *is* the God of hostes.

Chapter 6

Against the princes of Israël living in pleasures.

Wo to ^athem that are at ease in Zión and trust in the mountain of Samaria, ^bwhich were famous at the beginning of the nations: and the house of Israël came to them. 2 Go you unto Calnéh, & see: and from thence go you to Hamáth the great:

13 h God will so plague them, that they shall not suffer the godly once to open their mouths to admonish them of their fautes.

16 i So that all degrees shall have matter of lamentation for the great plagues.

18 k Thus he speaks because the wicked and hypocrites said they were content to abide God's judgements, where as the godly tremble and fear, Jer. 30.7, Joel 2.11, Zeph. 1.15.

22 l Because you have corrupt my true service and remain obstinate in your vices, Is. 1.11, Jer. 6.10.

24 m Do your duty to God and to your neighbor, and so you shall feel his grace plentifully, if you show your abundant affections according to God's word.

26 n That idol which you esteemed as your King, and carried about, as you did Chiun, in the which images you thought that there was a certain divinity.

Chapter 6

1 a The Prophet threatens the wealthy, which regarded not God's plagues nor menaces by his Prophets.

1 b These two cities were famous by their first inhabitants the Canaanites: and seeing before time them did nothing avail them that were there born, why should you look that they should save you, which were brought in to dwell in other men's possessions?

then go down to Gath of the Philistims: be they better then these kingdoms? or the border of their land greater then your border,
3 Ye that put far away the ^devil day, and approach to the seat of iniquity?

4 They lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch them selves upon their beds, & eat the lambs of the flock, and the calves out of the stall.

5 They sing to the sound of the viol: they invent to them selves instruments of musicke like ^eDavid.

6 They drink wine in bowls, and anoint them selves with the chief ointments, but no man is ^fsorry for the affliction of Joséph.

7 Therefore now shal they go captive with the first that go captive, and ^gthe sorrow of them that stretched them selves, is at hand.

8 ^hThe Lord God hath sworn by him self, saith the Lord God of hostes, I abhor ⁱthe excellencie of Jaakób, and hate his palaces: therefore will I deliver up the city with all that is therein.

9 And if there remain ten men in one house, they shal die.

10 And his uncle ^jshal take him up and burn him to carry out the bones out of the house, and shal say unto him, that is by ^kthe sides of the house, Is there yet any with thee? And he shal say, None. Then shal he say, ^lHold thy tongue: for we may not remember the Name of the Lord.

11 For behold, the Lord commandeth, and he will smite the great house with breaches, and the little houses with clefts.

12 Shal horses ^mrun upon the rock? or will one plow *there* with oxen? for ye have turned judgement into gall, and the fruit of righteousness into ⁿwormwood.

13 Ye rejoyce in a thing of naught: ye say, Have not we gotten us ^ohorns by our own strength?

14 But behold, I will raise up against you a nation, ^pô house of Israél, saith the Lord God of hostes: and they shal afflict you, from the entering in of ^qHamáth unto the river of the wilderness.

Chapter 7

God sheweth certain visions, whereby he signifieth the destruction of the people of Israél. 10 The false accusation of Amaziáh 12 His crafty counsel.

Thus hath the Lord God shewed unto me, and behold, he formed ^agreshoppers in the beginning of the shutting up of

2 c If God have destroyed these excellent cities in three divers kingdoms, as Babylon, Syria, and of the Philistims, and has brought their wide borders into a greater straightness, then yours yet are, think you to be better or to escape?

3 d You that continue still in your wickedness & think, that God's plagues are not at hand, but give yourselves to all idleness, wantonness and riot.

5 e As he caused divers kinds of instruments to be made to serve God's glory, so these did contend to invent as many to serve their wanton affections and lusts.

6 f Pitied their brethren whereof now many are slain and carried away captive.

7 g Some read, the joy of them that stretched themselves, shall depart.

8 h Read Jer. 51.14.

8 i That is, the riches and pomp.

10 k The destruction shall be so great that none shall almost be left to bury the dead: and therefore they shall burn them at home, to carry out the burnt ashes with more ease.

10 l That is, to some neighbor, that dwells round about.

10 m They shall be so astonished at this destruction, that they shall boast no more of the Name of God, and that they are his people: but they shall be dumb when they hear God's name and abhor it, as they that are desperate or reprobate.

12 n He compares them to barren rocks whereupon it is in vain to bestow labor: showing that God's benefits can have no place among them.

12 o Read Ch. 5.7.

13 p That is, power and glory.

14 q From one corner of the country to another

Chapter 7

1 a To devour the land: and he alludes to the invading of the enemies.

the latter growth: and lo, *it was* in the latter growth ^bafter the King's mowing. 2 And when they had made an end of eating the grass of the land, then I said, O Lord God, spare, I beseech thee: who shal raise up Jaakób? for he is small.

3 So the Lord ^crepented for this. It shal not be, saith the Lord.

4 ¶ Thus *also* hath the Lord God shewed unto me, and behold, the Lord God called to judgement by fire, ^dand it devoured the great deep, and did eat up a part.

5 Then said I, O Lord God, cease, I beseech thee: who shal raise up Jaakób? for he is small.

6 So the Lord repented for this. This also shal not be, saith the Lord God.

7 ¶ Thus *again* he shewed me, and behold, the Lord stood upon a wall made by line ^ewith a line in his hand.

8 And the Lord said unto me, Amós, what seest thou? And I said, A line. Then said the Lord, Behold, I will set a line in the middes of my people Israél, and will pass by them no more.

9 And the hie places of Ishák shalbe desolate, and the temples of Israél shalbe destroyed: and I will rise against the house of Jeroboám with the sword.

10 ¶ Then Amaziáh the Priest of Beth-él sent to Jeroboám King of Israél, saying, Amós hath conspired against thee in the middes of the house of Israél: the land is not able to bear all his words.

11 For thus Amós saith, Jeroboám shal die by the sword, and Israél shalbe led away captive out of their own land.

12 Also ^aAmaziáh said unto Amós, O thou the Seer, go, flee thou away into the land of Judáh, and there eat *thy* bread and prophecie there.

13 But prophecie no more at Beth-él: for it is the King's chapel, and it, is the King's court.

14 Then answered Amós, and said to Amaziáh, I was no ^bProphet, neither was I a Prophet's son, but I was an herdman, and a gatherer of wild figs.

15 And the Lord took me as I followed the flock, and the Lord said unto me, Go, prophecie unto my people Israél.

16 Now therefore hear thou the word of the Lord. Thou saist, Prophecie not against Israél, and speak nothing against the house of Ishák.

17 Therefore thus saith the Lord, ⁱThy wife shal be an harlot in the city, & thy sons and thy daughters shal fall by the sword, and thy land shalbe divided by line: and thou shalt die in a polluted land, and Israél shal surely go into captivity forth of his land.

Chapter 8

1 Against the rulers of Israél 7 The Lord sweareth 11 The famine of the word of God.

1 b After the public commandment for mowing was given: or as some read, when the King's sheep were shorn.

3 c That is, stayed this plague at my prayer.

4 d Meaning, that God's indignation was inflamed against the stubbornness of this people.

7 e Signifying that this should be the last measuring of the people, and that he would defer his judgement no longer.

10 f That is, when Amos had prophecied that the King should be destroyed: for this wicked Priest more for hatred he bare to the Prophet then for love toward the King, thought this accusation sufficient to condemn him, where as none other could take place.

12 g When this instrument of Satan was not able to compass his purpose by the King, he assayed by another practice: that was, to fear the Prophet, that he might depart, and not reprove their idolatry there openly, and so hinder his profit.

14 h Thus he shows by his extraordinary vocation, that God had given him a charge which he must needs execute.

17 i Thus God used to approve the authority of his Prophets by his plagues and judgements against them, which were malicious enemies, Jer. 28.12 and 29.21 and 25 as this day he does against them that persecute the ministers of his Gospel.

Thus hath the Lord God shewed unto me, and behold, a basket of summer fruit. 2 And he said, Amós, what seest thou? And I said, A basket of summer ^afruit. Then said the Lord unto me, The end is come upon my people of Israél, I will pass by them no more.

3 And the songs of the Temple shall be howlings in that day, saith the Lord God: many dead bodies *shalbe* in every place: they shall cast them forth with ^bsilence.

4 Hear this, ô ye that ^cswallow up the poor, that ye may make the needy of the land to fail,

5 Saying, When will the ^dnew month be gone, that we may sell corn? & the Sabbath, that we may set forth wheat, & make ^ethe Epháh small, & the shekel great, & falsify the weights by deceit?

6 That we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for shoes: yea, and sell the refuse of the wheat.

7 The Lord hath sworn by the excellency of Jaakób, Surely I will never forget any of their works.

8 Shall not the land tremble for this, and every one mourn, that dwelleth therein? and it shall rise up wholly as a flood, and it shall be cast out, and ^fdrowned as by the flood of Egypt.

9 And in that day, saith the Lord God, I will even cause the ^gsun to go down at noon: and I will darken the earth in the clear day.

10 And I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation: and I will bring sackcloth upon all loins, and baldness upon every head: and I will make it as the mourning of an only son, and the end thereof as a bitter day.

11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the word of the Lord,

12 And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the North even unto the East shall they run to and fro to seek the ^hword of the Lord, and shall not find it.

13 In that day shall the fair virgins and the young men perish for thirst.

14 They that swear by the sin of Samaria, and that say, Thy God, ô Dan, liveth, and ⁱthe manner of Beer-shéba liveth, even they shall fall, and never rise up again.

Chapter 9

Threatenings against the Temple, 2 And against Israél. 11 The restoring of the Church.

I saw the Lord standing upon the ^aaltar, and he said, Smite the lintel of the door, that the posts may shake: and cut them in pieces, *even* the ^bheads of them all, & I will slay the last of them with the sword: he that fleeth of them, shall not flee away: and he

2 a Which signifies the ripeness of their sins and the readiness of God's judgements.

3 b There shall be none left to mourn for them.

4 c By staying the sale of food and necessary things which you have gotten into your own hands, and so cause the poor to spend quickly that little that they have, and at length for necessity to become your slaves.

5 d When the dearth was once come, they were so greedy of gain, that they thought the holy day to be an hindrance unto them.

5 e That is, the measure small and the price great.

8 f That is, the inhabitants of the land shall be drown, as Nilus drowns many when it overflows.

9 g In the middes of their prosperity I will send great affliction.

12 h Whereby he shows that they shall not only perish in body, but also in soul for lack of God's word, which is the food thereof.

14 i For the idolaters did use to swear by their idols: which here he calls their sin, as the papists yet do by theirs.

14 k That is, the common manner of worshiping and the service or religion there used.

Chapter 9

1 a Which was at Jerusalem: for he appeared not in the idolatrous places of Israel.

1 b Both the chief of them and also the common people.

that escapeth of them, shall not be delivered.

2 Though they dig into the hell, thence shall mine hand take them: though they climb up to heaven, thence will I bring them down.

3 And though they hide themselves in the top of Carmél, I will search and take them out thence: and though they be hid from my sight in the bottom of the sea, thence will I command the ^cserpent, and he shall bite them.

4 And though they go into captivity before their enemies, thence will I command the sword, and it shall slay them: and I will set mine eyes upon them for evil: and not for good.

5 And the Lord God of hostes shall touch the land, and it shall melt away, and all that dwell therein, shall mourn, and it shall rise up wholly like a flood, & shall be drowned as by the flood of Egypt.

6 He buildeth his ^dspheres in the heaven, and hath laid the foundation of his globe of elements in the earth: he calleth the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the open earth: the Lord *is* his Name.

7 Are ye not as the Ethiopians ^eunto me, ô children of Israél, saith the Lord? have not I brought up Israél out of the land of Egypt? and the Philistims from ^fCaphtór, and Arám from Kir?

8 Behold, the eyes of the Lord God *are* upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it clean out of the earth. Nevertheless I will not utterly ^gdestroy the house of Jaakób, saith the Lord.

9 For lo, I will command and I will sift the house of Israél among all nations, like as *corn* is sifted in the sieve: yet shall not the ^hleast stone fall upon the earth.

10 *But* all the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, which say, The evil shall not come, nor hasten for us.

11 In that day will I raise up the ⁱtabernacle of David, that is fallen down, and close up the breaches thereof, and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it, as in the days of old,

12 That they may possess the remnant of ^kEdóm, and of all the heathen, because my Name is called upon them, saith the Lord, that doeth this.

13 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that the plowman shall ^ltouch the mower, & the treader of grapes him that soweth seed: & the mountains shall ^mdrop sweet wine, & all the hills shall melt.

14 ⁿAnd I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israél: and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them, and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof: they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruits of them.

15 And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up again out of their land, which I have given them, saith the Lord thy God.

3 c He shows that God will declare himself enemy unto them in all places, and that his elements and all creatures shall be enemies to destroy them.

6 d He declares by the wonderful power of God, by the making of the heavens and the elements that it is not possible for man to escape his judgements when he punishes.

7 e Am I more bound to you then to the Ethiopians or blackmoors? yet have I bestowed upon you greater benefits.

7 f Read, Jer. 47.4.

8 g Though he destroy the rebellious multitude, yet he will ever reserve the remnant his Church to call upon his Name.

9 h Meaning, that none of his should perish in his wrath.

11 i I will send the Messiah promised, and restore by him the spiritual Israel, Acts 15.16.

12 k Meaning that the very enemies, as were the Edomites and others, should be joined with the Jews in one society and body, whereof Christ should be the head.

13 l Signifying that there shall be great plenty of all things so that when one kind of fruit is ripe, another should follow and every one in course, Lev. 26.5.

13 m Read Joel 3.18.

14 n The accomplishment hereof is under Christ, when they are planted in his Church, out of that which they can never be pulled, after they are once grafted therein.