### Amos

## Chapter 5

1‘So, hear the word of Jehovah;  
 For against you, He sang this lament:  
  
 ‘The house of IsraEl will fall,  
 And thereafter, she won’t be raised.  
 2IsraEl (the virgin) will trip in her land,  
 And there’ll be no one to lift her.’  
  
 3‘And thus says Jehovah, [her] God:  
  
 ‘From a city that 1,000 had left,  
 Only 100 will return;  
 And from a town that 100 had left,  
 Only 10 from IsraEl’s house will return.’  
  
 4‘For, thus says Jehovah to the house of IsraEl:  
  
 5‘Inquire of Me and you’ll live…  
 Don’t [go to] Don’t [go to] <span class="placename">BethElDon’t [go to] <span class="placename">BethEl</span>  
 And into And into <span class="placename">GilGalAnd into <span class="placename">GilGal</span> don’t enter,  
 Nor should you go to the Nor should you go to the <span class="placename">Well of the OathNor should you go to the <span class="placename">Well of the Oath</span>!  
 For those going to For those going to <span class="placename">GilGalFor those going to <span class="placename">GilGal</span> will be captured,  
 And And <span class="placename">BethElAnd <span class="placename">BethEl</span> will be wiped away.’  
  
 6‘So inquire of Jehovah and live,  
 As the house of JoSeph has done…  
 And then you won’t have to be burned!  
 For, [fire] will come and consume,  
 And no one will quench IsraEl’s flames.  
  
 7‘From the heights, it’s Jehovah who says what’s right  
 And who sets the earth’s righteous [standards],  
 8For He’s the One who created it all,  
 And who made everything different!  
  
 ‘He’s the One who turns shadows into morning  
 And the day into the darkness of night;  
 He’s the One who calls the water from the seas  
 And pours it back on the face of the ground…  
 He is Jehovah the Almighty God.  
  
 9‘He’s the One who divides the conflicts and strengths  
 And sends misery into the strongholds  
 10Of those who shout at His Prophets  
 When they arrive at their gates…  
 Because they hate those who speak holy words.  
 11They’re the ones who strike the poor with their fists,  
 And steal their choicest of treasures.  
  
 ‘Yes, I can see the paneled houses you’ve built…  
 Homes in which you won’t live.  
 I can also see the vineyards you’ve planted…  
 From which you won’t drink the wine.  
  
 12‘For I know all the [bad] things you’re doing  
 And of how you’ve trampled the righteous…  
 How you’ve inflated your prices,  
 And turned the needy away from your gates.  
 13For during that time, I silently watched  
 As [you were becoming] more evil.’  
  
 14‘Now, ask for the good (not the bad)  
 So that you can continue to live.  
 If you’ll ask the Almighty to stay among you,  
 He will provide the things that you need  
 Whenever you’re willing to say,  
 15‘We hate what’s bad and love what’s good!’  
  
 ‘If you’ll return justice to your [city] gates;  
 Jehovah the Almighty God  
 Will show mercy on the remnants of JoSeph.  
  
 16‘For, it’s because of such things,’  
  
 ‘...says Jehovah, the Almighty God,  
  
 ‘That you’ll beat your chests in your squares,  
 And cry, ‘Woe [is me],’ in your streets!  
  
 ‘Then the farmers will be called to do mourning…  
 They’ll be wailing and beating their chests.  
 17Yes they’ll know all the ways to beat on their chests,  
 Because I’ll go through their midst,’ says Jehovah.  
  
 18‘Woe to those who wish for the Day of the Lord;  
 For, after they ask what the Lord’s Day will bring,  
 They’ll find that it only brings darkness, not light!  
  
 19‘It’s like when a man is fleeing a lion  
 Or being attacked by a bear,  
 And he rushes to his house and grabs hold of its walls…  
 Just to be bitten by snakes.  
 20For the Day of the Lord will bring darkness, not light…  
 It’ll bring dimness, not brightness!  
  
 21‘So, I’ve detested and I’ve pushed away  
 All of your holiday feasts…  
 For, in such things, I [find no delight].  
 22Therefore, should you bring whole burnt-offerings to Me  
 Along with other sacrifices;  
 I won’t receive them in favor  
 Or approve of your gifts for salvation.  
  
 23‘So remove the sounds of your hymns…  
 No I don’t want to hear the tunes of your psalms!  
 24For the waters of judgment will pour down on you,  
 And the river of righteousness, you won’t cross.  
  
 25‘O house of IsraEl;  
 You brought [animal] victims to Me to be sacrificed  
 During the 40 years in the desert.  
 26But then, you chose Moloch’s tent  
 And the star of Raiphan to serve as your gods…  
 You molded idols of them for yourselves!  
 27So beyond Damascus, I’ll move you...’  
  
 ‘...says Jehovah, the Almighty God.’