### Amos

## Chapter 7

1Then {Look!} the [messenger of the] Lord showed me [a vision of] a breed of locusts that arrived early in the morning, being led by Gog the grasshopper king. 2These [locusts] came to devour all the grass in the land [of These [locusts] came to devour all the grass in the land [of <span class="placename">IsraElThese [locusts] came to devour all the grass in the land [of <span class="placename">IsraEl</span>].  
  
So I shouted:  
  
 ‘O Lord, please be kind; for, who’ll raise Jacob again, since so few now remain? 3O Lord, please change Your mind about this thing that You’re doing!’  
  
But the [messenger of the] Lord replied:  
  
 ‘That won’t happen.’  
  
4Then {Look!} the [messenger of the] Lord took me and showed me that he’d also called fire down upon them as their punishment… And [this fire] devoured everything to the depths [of the great sea], as well as a portion [of the land].  
  
5And I said:  
  
 ‘O Lord God, please stop! Who’ll raise Jacob again now that so few are left? O Lord, please change your mind about doing this!  
  
6But the Lord replied:  
  
 ‘That won’t happen.’  
  
7Then the Lord [took me] and showed me something… {Look!} he was standing on a straight wall with a plumb line in His hand. 8And the [messenger of the] Lord asked me:  
  
 ‘What do you see, Amos?’  
  
And I replied:  
  
 ‘A plumb line.’  
  
Then the [messenger of the] Lord said to me:  
  
 ‘{Look!} In the midst of IsraEl, my people,  
 I’ve now set a plumb line,  
 And beyond it, I’ll no longer pass.  
  
 9‘I’ll wipe their shrines to laughter away,  
 And their sites of mystic rites will lie ruined;  
 For against the house of [King] JeroBoam,  
 I’m now sending the broadsword.’  
  
  
10Well after that, AmaziAh (the priest of Well after that, AmaziAh (the priest of <span class="placename">BethElWell after that, AmaziAh (the priest of <span class="placename">BethEl</span>) sent [a message] to JeroBoam (the king of IsraEl) that said:  
  
 ‘Amos is hatching a plot against you there in the midst of the house of IsraEl, and there’s no way that the land will be able to endure the things that he’s saying. 11For Amos is [telling the people] that JeroBoam will be destroyed by the broadsword, and that For Amos is [telling the people] that JeroBoam will be destroyed by the broadsword, and that <span class="placename">IsraElFor Amos is [telling the people] that JeroBoam will be destroyed by the broadsword, and that <span class="placename">IsraEl</span> will be led away from this land as captives.’  
  
12And later, AmaziAh said this to Amos (there in front of everyone):  
  
 ‘Get out of here and go to the land of Judah!  
  
 ‘Spend the rest of your life there and do all your prophesying there! 13You may no longer prophesy here in You may no longer prophesy here in <span class="placename">BethElYou may no longer prophesy here in <span class="placename">BethEl</span>, for this is the sanctuary of the king and the place of his royal palace!’  
  
14But I (Amos) replied to AmaziAh:  
  
 ‘I wasn’t a prophet or a prophet’s son; I was just a herder of sheep and someone who picked the fruit of mulberry trees. 15But then Jehovah took me away from my sheep and said to me:  
  
 ‘Go and prophesy over My people IsraEl!’  
  
 16‘So now, listen to what the Lord told me! Because you’ve warned me not to prophesy over IsraEl, and you’ve said:  
  
 ‘There’s no way that armies will be led against the house of Jacob...’  
  
 17‘...this is what was said by Jehovah:  
  
 ‘Your wife will become a city prostitute,  
 And your sons and daughters will fall by the sword.  
 Then they’ll measure your land with a plumb line,  
 And you’ll come to your end in a place that’s unclean.  
 For, IsraEl will in fact be led from this land…  
 They’ll be carried away as captives.’