TITLE: Summer Fruit

TEXT: Amos 8:1,2

(Amo 8:1) Thus hath the Lord GOD shewed unto me: and behold a basket of summer fruit.

(Amo 8:2) And he said, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A basket of summer fruit. Then said the LORD unto me, The end is come upon my people of Israel; I will not again pass by them any more.

Subject: Summer Fruit

The Lord c omes to Amos and gives him a vision of summer fruit

Sycamore fruit is wild figs. Tehre is quite a less on in there: wild figs grow bitter and not sweet, but if somebody went by and scratched them or wounded them, they would grow very sweet. But in wounding the figs give opport. For the bugs inside of them to get out.

Arab was in the desert eating figs and as he was eating he had a light, He bit in one and it had a bug he threw it out, grab another same thing, third one same thing. He put out the light and ate the rest of the bag.

Bethel is thehouse of God.

Jereboam the king had made two golden calves and set one up on bethel and one in dan. Here in this place considered a sacred place of worship, Beth became a great center of idolatry.

Here the Lord spoke to amos and showed him a basket of ‘summer fruit.’

My people—God still called them his people. Because of his covenant with Abraham. He would never forget that.

Israel had gradually and progressively (fruit doesn’t grow over night) come to such a condiotn of ripe fruit. RIPE FRUIT. Ripe in her sin. 🡨not something pleasant to the lord, but displeasant to the Lord their sin.

1. They Abused Past Privileges.

* They misused God’s grace and his love.
* No nation has been as blessed as Israel.
* The greater the privileges abused, the greater the guilt. You will pay a great price.

This is no hasty positon God has taken, but like it takes time for fruit to develop and come to ripeness, there had been a long time of Israel progressing into their sin and condition so that time has passed

1. They Abused Past Warnings

Prophets gave warning, but they gave no heed. They would not listen to the ‘gospel’ like today. America has had past warnings, over and over again. In the 70’s his mom commented, “James, How much longer is God going to put up with this?”

Israel’s Judment was Without Rememdy: Shall suddenly be destgroyed without remedy.

(Amo 7:9) And the high places of Isaac shall be desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste; and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.

(Amo 7:10) Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel: the land is not able to bear all his words.

*Conspired--*“You are wrong, you don’t know what you are saying.” Amos was only the voice of God. God was the one making the pronouncement.

(Amo 7:11) For thus Amos saith, Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel shall surely be led away captive out of their own land.

Why dodn’t you go someplace else and do your preaching? Israel, like the fruit, is ripiening unto evil and sin as a nation.

* Summer fruit is pleasant to the eye.

But here the nation of Israel appeared to be achieving ability prosperity and apparent security. But there was underlying political unrest, immorality and religious decay. Corruption filled the land. How much like our nation of America?

America has come like a ripe fruit and ready for God’s judgement.

Apostasy filled the land. Does this sound familiar to you? (Get prayer and Bible reading out of schools.)

Once a great nation, but the under pinions have been destroyed:

(Rev 3:15) I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

(Rev 3:16) So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

(Rev 3:17) Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

(Amo 4:6) And I also have given you cleanness of teeth in all your cities, and want of bread in all your places: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

Cleanness of teeth—no food, famine.

* Summer fruit is destroyed from within.

After it has been plucked, harvested, put into a basket. It is not long that it lasts, but soon deteriorates. It doesn’t last long. I t may look good, but is spoiling inside out. Israel was not destroyed from without, but within.

(Hos 13:9) O Israel, thou hast destroyed thyself; but in me *is* thine help.

If you had come to me, I would help me, but you destroyed yourself and turned from me. And you are destroying yourself.

America has turned from her moorings.

Krushev “ You will never take America militarily. The only way you will take America is from the inside.”

We are where we are by crooks and thieves getting inside and are destroying a great country.