**CHAPTER** **8**

*Under the figure of a hook, which bringeth down the fruit, the approaching desolation of Israel is foreshewed for their avarice and injustices.*

**1** These things the Lord shewed to me: and behold a hook to draw down the fruit.

**2** And he said: What seest thou, Amos? And I said: A hook to draw down fruit. And the Lord said to me: The end is come upon my people Israel: I will not again pass by them any more.

**3** And the hinges of the temple shall screak in that day, saith the Lord God: many shall die: silence shall be cast in every place.

**4** Hear this, you that crush the poor, and make the needy of the land to fail,

**5** Saying: When will the month be over, and we shall sell our wares: and the sabbath, and we shall open the corn: that we may lessen the measure, and increase the sicle, and may convey in deceitful balances,

**6** That we may possess the needy for money, and the poor for a pair of shoes, and may sell the refuse of the corn?

**7** The Lord hath sworn against the pride of Jacob: surely I will never forget all their works.

**8** Shall not the land tremble for this, and every one mourn that dwelleth therein: and rise up altogether as a river, and be cast out, and run down as the river of Egypt?

**9** And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord God, that the sun shall go down at midday, and I will make the earth dark in the day of light:

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

**11** Behold the days come, saith the Lord, and I will send forth a famine into the land: not a famine of bread, nor a thirst of water, but of hearing the word of the Lord.

**12** And they shall move from sea to sea, and from the north to the east: they shall go about seeking the word of the Lord, and shall not find it.

**13** In that day the fair virgins, and the young men shall faint for thirst.

**14** They that swear by the sin of Samaria, and say: Thy God, O Dan, liveth: and the way of Bersabee liveth: and they shall fall, and shall rise no more.