

Amos 4

Chapter 4 of 9 · 13 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Israel's Failure to Return to God

- 1** Hear this word, ye kine of Bashan, that are in the mountain of Samaria, which oppress the poor, which crush the needy, which say to their masters, Bring, and let us drink.
- 2** The Lord GOD hath sworn by his holiness, that, lo, the days shall come upon you, that he will take you away with hooks, and your posterity with fishhooks.
- 3** And ye shall go out at the breaches, every cow at that which is before her; and ye shall cast them into the palace, saith the LORD.
- 4** Come to Beth-el, and transgress; at Gilgal multiply transgression; and bring your sacrifices every morning, and your tithes after three years:

- 5** And offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving with leaven, and proclaim and publish the free offerings: for this liketh you, O ye children of Israel, saith the Lord GOD.
- 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.
- 7** And also I have withholden the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered.
- 8** So two or three cities wandered unto one city, to drink water; but they were not satisfied: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

9 I have smitten you with blasting and mildew: when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased, the palmerworm devoured them: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

10 I have sent among you the pestilence 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 camps to come up unto your nostrils: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

11 I have overthrown some of you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, and ye were as a firebrand plucked out of the burning: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the LORD.

12 Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel.

13 For, lo, he that formeth the mountains, and createth the wind, and declareth unto man what is his thought, that maketh the morning darkness, and treadeth upon the high places of the earth, The LORD, The God of hosts, is his name.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Forgive — נָשָׁא / סָלַח (Salach / Nasa)

To forgive, pardon, lift up

The Hebrew **salach** (סָלַח) is used exclusively of God's forgiveness—divine pardon that only He can grant. **Nasa** (נָשָׁא) means to lift up or carry away, picturing sin being removed.

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Lord — אֲדֹנָי / יְהֹוָה (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהֹוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Love — אַהֲבָה / תִּדְּבֹר (Ahavah / Chesed)

Love / Loyal-love

Hebrew uses **ahavah** (אַהֲבָה) for love generally, but the covenant term **chesed** (תִּדְּבֹר) describes God's steadfast, loyal love—faithful covenant commitment beyond mere emotion.

Sacrifice — זְבַח (Zevach)

Sacrifice, offering

The Hebrew **zevach** (זְבַח) denotes a sacrifice or offering—an animal slaughtered for worship. Old Testament sacrifices foreshadowed Christ, 'the Lamb of God' (John 1:29).

Word — דְּבָר (Davar)

Word, thing, matter

The Hebrew **davar** (דְּבָר) means word, thing, or matter—God's creative and authoritative speech. 'By the word of the LORD were the heavens made' (Psalm 33:6).

Wrath — נַזְבֵּן (Aph)

Wrath, anger

The Hebrew **aph** (נַזְבֵּן) literally means 'nose' or 'nostrils,' idiomatically expressing wrath or anger—God's righteous indignation against sin. Yet God is 'slow to anger' (Exodus 34:6) and 'abundant in mercy.'

CROSS REFERENCES

Amos 4:1 **Parallel theme:** Amos 5:11; 6:1; Psalms 22:12; Ecclesiastes 4:1; Ezekiel 39:18

Amos 4:2 **References Lord:** Jeremiah 16:16. **Holy:** Psalms 89:35. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 37:29. **References God:** Amos 6:8

Amos 4:3 **Parallel theme:** Ezekiel 12:5; 12:12

Amos 4:4 **Parallel theme:** Amos 5:5; Ezekiel 20:39; Hosea 4:15; 9:15; Matthew 23:32. **Sin:** Hosea 12:11

Amos 4:5 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 81:12; Matthew 6:2. **References Israel:** Hosea 9:10. **References God:** Hosea 9:1

Amos 4:6

References Lord: Isaiah 9:13; Jeremiah 5:3; Haggai 2:17. **Parallel theme:** Leviticus 26:26; Revelation 2:21

Amos 4:7 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 9:4; 9:26; 10:23; Isaiah 5:6; Jeremiah 3:3; Joel 2:23; James 5:17

Amos 4:8 **References Lord:** Amos 4:6. **Parallel theme:** 1 Kings 18:5; Haggai 1:6

Amos 4:9

References Lord: Amos 4:6; Deuteronomy 28:22; Haggai 2:17. **Parallel theme:** Joel 1:4

Amos 4:10 **Parallel theme:** Joel 2:20. **Word:** Leviticus 26:25; Jeremiah 11:22; 18:21.

Creation: 2 Kings 13:7. **References Egypt:** Deuteronomy 28:60. **References Lord:** Amos 4:6; 8:3; 2 Kings 13:3; Jeremiah 48:15

Amos 4:11

References God: Isaiah 13:19; 2 Peter 2:6. **References Lord:** Amos 4:6; Jeremiah 49:18; Zechariah 3:2. **Parallel theme:** Jeremiah 23:14; 1 Corinthians 3:15; Jude 1:7; 1:23; Revelation 9:20

Amos 4:12 **References Israel:** Ezekiel 13:5. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 47:3; Ezekiel 22:30; Hosea 13:8; Matthew 5:25; Revelation 3:3

Amos 4:13 **Darkness:** Amos 5:8; Jeremiah 13:16. **References Lord:** Amos 9:6; Deuteronomy 33:29; Isaiah 47:4; Micah 1:3. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 65:6. **References God:** Daniel 2:28

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