



## Plumb Line Perspective



**Text:** Amos 9 (Page #1430 in the sanctuary Bible)

**Context:** Israel (the northern kingdom) and Judah (the southern kingdom) had become

**7:8** And the LORD asked me, "What do you see, Amos?" "A plumb line," I replied. Then the Lord said, "Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel."

horribly greedy, defiant and spiritually lifeless. For centuries, God has been sending prophetic messengers like Amos to challenge the people to repent and live in the truth. Now, Amos predicts (3:11) that an enemy will attack them as a judgment for their wicked ways. Yet, Amos wraps up his message with a completely undeserved, but wonderful promise for the future.

(Last Week - Chapters 1-8) Amos described their issues:

### #1. Selfish oppression of vulnerable people

- 2:6b "They sell the righteous for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals. <sup>7</sup>They trample on the heads of the poor as upon the dust of the ground and deny justice to the oppressed..."

### #2. Religion devoid of spiritual reality.

- 5:21 "I hate, I despise your religious feasts; I cannot stand your assemblies."

**Nehemiah 9:30** For many years you were patient with them. By your Spirit you admonished them through your prophets. Yet they paid no attention, so you handed them over to the neighboring peoples. <sup>31</sup>But in your great mercy you did not put an end to them or abandon them, for you are a gracious and merciful God.

- **Amos 9:8** "Surely the eyes of the Sovereign LORD are on the sinful kingdom. I will destroy it from the face of the earth-- yet I will not totally destroy the house of Jacob," declares the LORD. <sup>9</sup>"For I will give the command, and I will shake the house of Israel among all the nations as grain is shaken in a sieve, and not a pebble will reach the ground. <sup>10</sup>All the sinners among my people will die by the sword, all those who say, 'Disaster will not overtake or meet us.'"
- **9:11** "In that day I will restore David's\* fallen tent. I will repair its broken places, restore its ruins, and build it as it used to be, <sup>12</sup>so that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations that bear my name," declares the LORD, who will do these things.  
\*See **2 Samuel 7:16**
- **9:13** "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when the reaper will be overtaken by the plowman and the planter by the one treading grapes. New wine will drip from the mountains and flow from all the hills. <sup>14</sup>I will bring back my exiled people Israel; they will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them. They will plant vineyards and drink their wine; they will make gardens and eat their fruit. <sup>15</sup>I will plant Israel in their own land, never again to be uprooted from the land I have given them," says the LORD your God.

Summary sentence:

Some other "promising" examples:

- Joel 3:17, Obadiah 1:21
- Zephaniah 3:20, Zechariah 2:11
- Isaiah 35:10 & 65:17
- Revelation 7:9 & 21:1-24

*What is the promise?*

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

## ▶ Implications:

1

- **Amos 7:8** "Look, I am setting a plumb line..."
- **1 Corinthians 2:9** However, as it is written: "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him."

2

- **Amos 9:13** "...The reaper will be overtaken by the plowman and the planter by the one treading grapes. New wine will drip from the mountains and flow from all the hills."
- **Revelation 21:27** Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.

3

- **Amos 5:6** "Seek the LORD and live..."
- **1 John 5:12** He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

## ▶ Practical Responses



*A sinner's prayer*

Lord, I am a sinner who has offended you. Please forgive me. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for my sins and place my trust in Christ's sacrifice as the only way to be right with you. Thank you for loving me and coming into my heart. I want to follow You and do Your will in my life. In Jesus' name, amen.

# TAP

Read the designated Scripture. Reflect on it and write out short responses.

- T - key Truths** = Summary thoughts, principles to live by, observations to remember.
- A - practical Application** = How should I respond? What practical action can I take?
- P - my Prayer response** = My expression to God from what I am reading/thinking.

Mon- <b>Amos 9</b> , Tues- <b>Joel 3</b> , Wed- <b>Isaiah 65</b> , Thur- <b>Isaiah 66</b> , Fri- <b>Revelation 21</b>	
<b>key</b> truths	
<b>practical</b> application	
<b>my</b> Prayer response	