

The Book of Amos

Chapter 4

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- vs. 1 – note that he is addressing the “cows” (feminine) here. Perhaps he is addressing the women of Samaria in this section.
 - R.G. Lee said in his sermon “Payday Someday”: “Search the pages of the Bible all you will; study history all you please. And you will find one truth that stands out above some other truths. What is that truth? The truth that the spiritual life of a nation, city, town, school, church, or home never rises any higher than the spiritual life of women.”
- vs. 2 – hooks – forcibly removed or plucked out.
- vs. 3 – Speaks of their fleeing through breaches in walls or being rounded up by the enemy.
- vs. 4 – The idolatry that was practiced in two places long associated with the true God: Bethel (Genesis 28:10-22) and Gilgal (Joshua 5:1-9).
- vs. 5 – Their unholy sacrifices that they proudly offered to idols.
- vs. 6-11 – Five ways God tried to get their attention:
 - vs. 6 – Famine, possibly the one in II Kings 8:1
 - vs. 7-8 – Drought
 - vs. 9 – Mildew
 - vs. 10 – Pestilence
 - vs. 10-11 – Military defeats
- vs. 12 – What will God do to Israel this time? “God says not how; he leaves the nature of the coming chastisement in mysterious uncertainty, that the very suspense may work fear and repentance.” – *Pulpit Commentary*
- vs. 13 – God identifies Himself as:
 - Lord – Jehovah, Yahweh – The Self-Existing One
 - God – Elohim – Creator
 - Sabaoth – “of hosts” – God of All