

30-Amos-03-Transcript

[Music]

so

[Music]

[Applause]

[Music]

well good evening brethren and welcome
to another wednesday night bible study
where we do study the scripture
line upon line
this week we will cover god willing
chapter 4
of the book of amos hopefully i'm coming
through loudly and clearly maybe uh
somebody could just go ahead and confirm
that in the chat let's begin with a word
of prayer
our loving heavenly father we come
before your throne
we're just ever so grateful father that
we have this relationship with you that
we've been grafted into this covenant
and that we can call upon you and that
we are guided by you we thank you god
for your word we thank you for the
prophets and we thank you most of all
for jesus christ in whose name we pray
amen
so we are audio pastor murray thank you
very much uh so we are up to amos
chapter four i just want to go back uh
to chapter three just for a bit of
continuity
and uh just before i do that
some of you have been asking about my
sermon on sabbath um
that was actually taken down it's
entitled closer than a brother
and we do have a local copy so if you
wanted to review it or you have not
heard it and wanted to hear it you just
write to me directly adrian davis at
cgicanada.org

and i can send you a copy of that sermon
but it's not it's not available on our
platforms

so let's get into amos

chapter four i'll go ahead and share my
screen here

and

back in chapter three

god poses this question to israel

can two walk together except they be

agreed and this really is the the gist

of the the problem the issue

with israel that god

and israel do not agree

more specifically israel israel has

turned their back on god so the

agreement goes back to exodus 19 and

verse 8 that when moises was given the

covenant and the law all the people

answered together and said all that the

lord has spoken

we will do

and moises returned the words of the

people unto the lord so they at this

point when the nation was was founded

they were in agreement and they could

walk together but something as terrible

has happened and israel no longer agrees

with god so god goes on in chapter three

last week we looked at this and he makes

this very chilling very chilling

statement

will a lion roar in the forest

when he has no prey is it will a lion do

that will a lion just roar in vain or

does a lion roar when it's in in the

process of the take down

will a young lion cry out of his den if

he has taken nothing

this is chilling this is telling us that

not only do israel and god not agree but

they have become enemies

and god is going to destroy personally

destroy israel

the god of israel is going to personally
destroy israel that's what this is
saying
verse 5
can a bird
fall in the snare upon the earth
where no trap is for him
shall one take up a snare from the earth
and have taken nothing at all so
think about it if there's a trap set
it's going to catch its prey and god has
set a trap for israel now this snare
christ speaks of in the end time we know
that amos although there was an
immediate application of his prophecies
we know that there is a an end time
application of the prophecies and in
fact when we get to amos 9 none of those
prophecies in amos 9 have taken place
they are clearly pointing to the
millennial future
so christ speaking of this snare in luke
21 and verse 35 he says for as a snare
shall it come
on all them
that dwell
on the face of the whole earth and we
know in in matthew 25 the church falls
asleep
so this snare is global
and it affects everybody
and yet
the prophets
will give us indications if we are
willing to listen if we're not going to
ignore them so here in amos 3 and verse
6 he says shall a trumpet be blown in
the city
and the people not be afraid this is a
warning signal a very definite warning
that god is at war with his people and
shouldn't the people be afraid
in fact
people today god's people are more

afraid of their shadow than they are of
the almighty god and the people should
not be afraid
shall there be e calamity in a city and
the lord has not done it so this this is
something that we really have to come to
terms with
that
it's it's comforting to say you know
jesus loves everybody jesus loves me
this i know for the bible tells me so
and just have this syrupy
and superficial understanding of christ
or we can study his word
and understand in every page
in the bible we can come to understand
his character
and here in amos 3 or the book of amos
the scroll of amos we can really
understand his character
and his expectations of his people
so calamity
is coming upon our cities
and god is telling us that when we see
this type of calamity
he's behind it
surely the lord god will do nothing
reveals his secret unto his servants the
prophets
so today
we don't have to be prophets
but we have to honor
the writings of the prophets and we have
to dig deep and go into it and
understand and not censor what the
prophets are saying especially when
christ says
this snare is going to be global
so when we see
developments
that are global
it's antithetical to the scriptures
to not speak about them
the the god expects us to search the

scriptures
to have a prophetic view
of global developments and to share that
with his people
so that they can take warning in fact in
amos 2 where we were two weeks ago
speaking so he says that he doesn't do
anything unless he reveals it first to
his prophets
so so his will is known if we're willing
to dig for it in the prophets but in
amos 2 and verse 11 he says this to
israel that i raised up of your sons
for prophets
and your young men for nazirites he
created this nation he founded this
nation and then he developed people
within the nation to be his spokesman to
speak for him to communicate his will
and he says isn't this isn't it even so
are you children of israel
do you not agree that i did this
that i raised up your own sons for
prophets says the lord but what did you
do were you grateful
did you
pursue an understanding of
did you did you understand that he
reveals his secrets to the prophets and
that as global developments take place
you can search the scriptures to
understand what god is doing so did you
honor the word of the prophets or did
you censor the prophets
but you gave the nazirites wine to drink
you wanted them to be drunk like you
and you commanded the prophets
saying
prophesy not
and in fact this is what i was talking
about on sabbath when i was talking
about mass formation
that israel here is clearly falling
victim to mass formation or group think

and and what we need to break the spell
of mass formation is mass formation is a
form of mass
hypnosis
and it is carried out through the spoken
word it's it's narrative
in the spoken word repeated over and
over and that everybody gets swept up in
it
and what it needs in order for that
spell to be broken
is people who will stand up and provide
a counter narrative
and that's exactly what the prophets did
they provided a counter narrative the
kings of israel couldn't just have their
way they couldn't just the government of
the day couldn't just do as it pleases
and all the people just agree with the
government
because the prophets stood up and they
were not afraid of the government
the prophet stood up and provided a
counter narrative to break the spell of
mass hypnosis
but you said prophesy not because you
have a narrative that is weak
that cannot stand up to the scrutiny of
the light of day
and so because your narrative is weak
you rely on censorship
and so you say to the prophets prophesy
not how does god respond to this
censorship
to to
obstructing the counter-narrative
that can only be brought by the prophets
how does god respond he says behold
i am pressed under you
as a cart
is pressed that is full of sheaves in
other words
when you oppress the people
and you oppress the prophets

it's like when christ said to paul why
are you persecuting me
here when they're oppressing the
prophets god is saying you're oppressing
me
i'm trying to speak to my people through
the prophets and you're censoring them
and you're oppressing me
back to amos 3 and verse 8 again very
chilling words
we want to understand the character of
christ
he says the lion has roared
you know we know that that the lion
doesn't just roar in vain
the lion has roar god has roared the
takedown is about to happen so who will
not fear
well those who are subject
to mass formation
those who are subject to mass hypnosis
they won't fear they'll fear something
else they won't fear god
because they're not hearing the counter
narrative
but god wants his prophets to
communicate what the roar means the lion
has roared who will not fear the lord
god has spoken
who can but prophesy
so although there was a lot of censors a
very sensorious
culture the the kings were the
government of the day was trying to have
its way and and suppressing the
counter-narrative that could come from
the prophets
but here amos who was a a farmer
is saying god spoken
god has spoken
we have to prophesy we we have to
communicate what god has spoken
regardless of censorship here in 1st
corinthians 9 and verse 16

paul
in very much the same spirit says for
though i preached the gospel that's what
he was doing preaching the gospel i have
nothing to glory of
oh great job paul you're so courageous
paul is saying no nothing to glory of
here
for necessity is laid upon me yeah woe
is unto me if i preach not the gospel
that the lord god has spoken
who cannot but preach
who cannot but prophesy when god speaks
and he says in fact that if you
are ashamed of me before men
i'll be ashamed of you before my father
so so we cannot help we you know the
church
like the prophets of old
should be that counter narrative
and that if the church was doing this
decades ago
society wouldn't be in the ruin that it
is in today
but but the church had a noose put
around its neck and in order not to lose
you know charitable status and uh you
know get along with the government uh
the churches and i don't mean just the
church of god churches in general around
the world the christian church generally
speaking
has become very weak but paul is saying
woe unto me
if i preach not the gospel and woe unto
all of us if we do not speak what god
has spoken so with that as backdrop
let's come into now amos chapter 4
and what is fascinating
about amos 4
is the fact that he goes to root cause
this situation that israel has found
itself in
where it's actually oppressing god

god says you're oppressing me and we
don't agree anymore
amos goes to root cause here in chapter
four he says this
hear this word
you cows of bashan
he's quite biting
you cows of bashan
that are in the mountain of samaria
which oppress the poor
so
he is calling
the rich women of
israel the the women in the elite role
within israel he's calling them fat cows
you fat cows bashan is a very
rich fertile land and you are the fat
cows of bashan that's what he calls them
and now he's getting to the root cause
of the oppression
that when you see you know this this
centurious
culture within israel
even though it might be the king that's
issuing the edicts what what amos is
showing is it's the women
it's the wives that are actually behind
this
and the king and the you think of that
king what was his name uh married to
jezebel um
i'm thinking of ahaz but i don't think
it was ahaz it was uh
anyway somebody could type that in the
chat uh jezebel's husband
who he's the king but she's in control
and this is what amos is showing
that it is the elite women that are
behind the oppression you fat cows of
bashan he calls them that are in the
mountain of samaria which oppress the
poor you're doing this you you women
you're doing this which oppress the poor
which crush the needy

which say to their masters or their
husbands bring and let us drink so
they're clearly oh king ahab thank you
thank you so clearly it's just a moment
there i couldn't remember the name uh
yeah so king ahab he's the king he's
issuing the edicts he's censoring things
but it's actually jezebel
that's the power behind the throne so
sometimes we have to see
behind
or or see
reality behind the the the image
and here uh amos points to it you fat
cows of bashan
that are in the mountain of samaria
which oppress the poor which crushed the
needy and then you say to your husbands
hey you come come bring bring a lettuce
drink who clearly who's in control it's
the women it's the wives

4 2

the lord god
has sworn by his holiness
so this is serious now this is what he
swears by his holiness that lo
the days shall come upon you
that he will take you away with hooks
this is a prophecy
to specifically to the root cause
this is a prophecy to the fat cows of
bashan this is a prophecy to the women
who are who are clearly
pursuing their comfort their own comfort
and
in the process
oppressing god's people and controlling
their husbands
the lord god has sworn in his holiness
that lo the day shall come upon you that
he will take you away with hooks
and your posterity with fish hooks this
is god's prophecy this is what's coming
and you shall go out at the breaches

every cow
at that which is before her
and you shall cast them into the palace
says the lord so you get this image of
the cows just being led out in almost
like a single file in a very orderly
fashion and they have no choice now
somebody they were oppressing and now
somebody more powerful has come and is
oppressing them and taking them captive
then he says this
come to bethel
and transgress
at gilgal multiply transgression
and bring your sacrifices
every morning
and your tithes after three years and i
don't know why the english says years
the hebrew actually says yom three days
so so hey you're so righteous do this
every three days and a real bite of
sarcasm here but he says
and there's actually seven things here
to come and transgress
multiply transgression uh bring your
sacrifices uh your tithes and you'll go
on and count a few more things so we see
seven things that they're involved in
and it's all a charade so seven being
the number of completeness it's a
complete charade
and this is this is speaking
to the religious leaders
the church of the day
and so if we look for an end time
application of this as god's church we
cannot be
complacent
as god's church we need to say are we
putting on a charade
is this sort of you know hey we keep the
sabbath but that's about all we do we're
not willing to take a stand we're not
willing to speak the voice of the

prophets we just want to get along with
atheistic government
and we just want to play religion
and so bethel here in um if we look at
bethel and gilgal in 1st kings 12 32
bethel was established by jeroboam
and jeroboam ordained a feast in the 8th
month on the 15th day of the month like
unto the feast that is in judah this is
speaking of the feast of tabernacles and
he offered upon the altar pretending
he's the high priest
so did he in bethel so he established
bethel as the religious center for
samaria
sacrificing unto the cavs that he had
made and he placed in bethel the priests
of the high places which he had made so
it's this whole uh counterfeit religion
that they practiced wholeheartedly and
felt very good about themselves because
of their religiosity
with respect to gilgal joshua 5 verse 9
and the lord said to joshua this day
have i rolled away the reproach of egypt
from off you wherefore the name of the
place is called gilgal unto this day so
gilgal was another prominent location
within samaria or the northern tribes
and so uh so go ahead and play this
religious game and the prophet continues
and offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving
with levin and proclaim and publish the
free offerings
why
because you love to do this you love
this religiosity you love to feel good
about yourself that you're a righteous
person
because you know you you do these
rituals
but
your heart
really isn't in it

and you're completely unwilling to
experience any discomfort any
inconvenience
in standing up for god
you you would rather just pursue the
path of least resistance
but at the same time you want to appear
religious
and so god says through amos to israel
you love to do this you you love to play
the hypocrite you love the the
superficial appearance o you children of
israel says the lord god
and now
the judgment
and i also have given you
cleanness of teeth
in all your cities so that's just a way
of saying hunger
that if you're if your
teeth are clean you haven't eaten
anything there's nothing to floss right
you have a good good steak or lamb or
chicken you need to floss afterwards
here there's no need to floss
because he's given you cleanness of
teeth and so it begs the question for us
today
with all of these supply chain
disruptions
and and we're just increasingly having
trouble
to
have our goods our our
food
delivered to
retail outlets so that we can just buy
as we've always
had in the past
now it's it's disrupted
but is anybody turning to god
is anybody saying like wow
we need to turn to god nobody can help
us here but god

or do they just complain and find hey
we're going to solve this we'll look to
the president we'll look to the prime
ministers we'll look to the kings of the
day and they'll help us because they
love us
and i also have given you cleanness of
teeth in all your cities
and want of bread in all your places and
so we're seeing something like this
today globally
yet
have you not returned unto me says the
lord this is the first time he calls
them out
that the reason
he is inflicting this suffering upon
them is to get them to turn the hebrew
word ishuv to return to repent to turn
around and come back to me
so so i'm inflicting this suffering upon
you but you won't return to me says the
lord and this
not returning to me goes back to
deuteronomy goes back to torah
deuteronomy 30 in verse 1. it shall come
to pass when all these things are come
upon you the blessing and the curse
which i've said before you so now amos
is giving them the curses and it's not
just random curses
it is deuteronomic covenant curses
and the purpose of these curses is to to
cause them to repent and moises is
foreseeing this yeah they haven't even
gone into the land yet and moises is
foreseeing this and saying that both the
blessing the deuteronomy the
deuteronomic blessing and the
deuteronomic curse
are going to come upon you
you'll start out well but then you'll
deviate
and then you shall call to mind among

the nations where the lord your god has
driven you so god has done this
and you shall shoot
that as a result of these deuteronomic
curses as as stiff-necked as israel is
god is just going to keep pounding and
pounding and pounding and eventually
moses says you shall shoe you shall
return unto the lord your god and shall
obey his voice according to all that i
command you this day you and your
children with all your heart
and with all your soul that is holy
spirit language and so despite israel's
stubbornness
despite israel's rebellion what moses is
saying from the very beginning is
eventually
god is not going to let up
god is going to continue to inflict this
suffering
until eventually israel will break
and return
that then
the lord your god will turn your
captivity and have compassion upon you
and he will shoot
so you return
and then he will return
can two walk together unless they agree
you've got to change
when you change then god will return and
gather you from all the nations where
according to the curse you've been
scattered
so this is very deuteronomic language we
see in amos and here in isaiah 9 13 he
says for the people do not shoot
they're not turning unto him
that smites them
they're stubborn
so it's a
it's a relationship that israel has with
god

where he inflicts punishment not to
destroy them
but to get them to turn
and yet isaiah says they won't turn to
him that smites them neither do they
seek the lord of hosts so this is what
amos now is showing them
that the purpose of all of this was to
get you to turn but you won't
so he goes on and says
and also
i have withheld the rain from you just
from drought
when there were yet three months to the
harvest so you're looking forward to
this great harvest and god spoils it by
withholding the rain
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 peace
where upon it rained
where it rained not withered so he's
definitely showing israel i'm
controlling all of this when will you
get it
when will you turn to me
and so he says
so two or three cities wandered on one
city to drink water so they had to leave
their city to go to this other city to
drink water but they were not satisfied
yet
have you not returned unto me says the
lord so this is the second time amos
says it now so he clearly there's this
objective that god has
but israel is constantly resisting no
matter what god does israel resists
their that's how evil they are
and and we need to be careful again as
as
the religious leaders
and people are called out

in amos's prophecy we should not be so
oh that doesn't reply to us
maybe it does
maybe it does and maybe some of the
things that we are suffering now
are opportunities for us
to return to the lord
wholeheartedly

verse 9 i have smitten you with blasting
and mildew so again this is not random
and i've said many times that if you
read the quran
because israel disobeyed and broke the
sabbath god was so angry that he turned
them into apes and pigs
well

[Music]

god lost control he was so angry he lost
control and he turned them into apes and
pigs that's what that's what muslims
believe about jews
but where is that in the scripture
here when you have a true prophet of god
cursing the people
it's within the context of mooses it's
within the context of the torah
deuteronomy i have smitten you with
blasting and mildew when your gardens
and your vineyards and your fig trees
and your olive trees increased the
palmer worm devoured them
yet have you not returned unto me says
the lord third time now he's just trying
to get them to return but they won't
and this this mildew that he cursed them
with and we could go into deuteronomy
and find all these curses but for
example the mildew deuteronomy 28 verse
22 the lord shall smite you with a
disease and with a fever and with an
inflammation and with extreme burning
and with the sword and with blasting and
with mildew
and they shall pursue you

until you perish so these are not just
random curses that amos is just hey god
is angry with you and today's going to
do this and it's just this capricious
god that's just random
no it's it's all written
that the bible is a complete story
complete narrative back to amos 4 and
verse 10
i have sent among you the pestilence
after the manner of egypt again is this
random that the way he uh plagued egypt
is now the way he's he plagued egypt to
cause his people to escape slavery and
now that same way that he plagued egypt
he says i'm going to plague israel the
same way is that just random
you're a young man have i slain with the
sword and i've taken away your horses
and i've made the stink of your camps to
come up unto your nostrils
yet
have you not shove unto me says the lord
i just
i'm doing all of this and i just you're
just stubborn
instead of acknowledging that i'm the
one that is there evil can evil come to
a city and the lord calamity come and
the lord god has not done it well if you
were listening to the prophets you would
figure it out well you want to suppress
the prophets so now there's some other
narrative that's going on and that
people don't understand and they're
unwilling to change
now in deuteronomy 28 and verse 27 the
lord will smite you with the botch of
egypt this was written
god is god is doing everything this
shows
the faithfulness of god to his covenant
everything he does
he never breaks covenant

so israel broke the covenant therefore
that just activated the the covenant
curses but god is still governing
himself according to the covenant the
lord will smite you with the botch of
egypt and with the emirates and with the
scab and with the itch whereof you
cannot be healed but all of this is to
drive you to return because he's in
covenant with you amos 4 and verse 11.
i have overthrown some of you
as god overthrew sodom and gomorrah now
how sad
how depressing
you know how how bad
that his own people
god has to treat them if the filth
among his own people he has to treat
them like sodom and gomorrah
and you were as a firebrand plucked out
of the burning yet
have you not returned unto me that's the
fifth time that all of these things are
happening but they're happening so that
you'll return to me but you won't
you you keep suppressing the prophets so
the
people can't hear the word of god and
they won't they won't repent but this um
firebrand plucked out the burning out of
the fire that should remind us of
zechariah 3 and verse 2. the lord said
unto satan the lord rebuke you o satan
even the lord that has chosen jerusalem
rebuke you is not this a brand plucked
out of the fire so you get this
impression that god's intention is not
to completely destroy his people he'll
take them to the edge but his intention
is to get them to repent and then he's
going to pull them out pull them back as
moses prophesied from the beginning
verse 12
therefore

thus will i do unto you o israel this is
god so we got the root cause
was the fat cows of bashan
that they're the ones driving the agenda
and now here's what god is going to do
and the purpose of all of his actions
is to get israel to repent but they
won't therefore thus will i do unto you
o israel and because i will do this unto
you
prepare
to meet your god o israel
that is chilling
that's not um oh
you know
prepare to meet your god because he's
gonna give you a big hug
this is like a military statement get
ready i'm gonna do this to you and i'm
coming to destroy you so prepare to meet
your god your your angry god
and god is furious
and prepared to meet a furious god
for lo
he that formed the mountains
and created the wind and declares unto
man what is his thought that's really
fascinating that god will tell us even
what we're thinking
that makes the morning darkness
and treads upon the high places of the
earth
the lord
the god of hosts
is his name
so that is amos chapter four uh very
powerful words of this prophet amos who
unlike isaiah was just a common farmer
but god raised him up
and despite the resistance despite the
oppression despite the censorious nation
nature of the the culture of the time
amos just preached
that the lord god has spoken who can but

prophecy and these are not smooth
prophecies these are not words that
israel wanted to hear and yet hear them
they must so we must be faithful
like amos like isaiah like the ancient
prophets we have their words and
somebody has to declare
all of this
so that people can have a counter
narrative and not just go along with the
global uh mass media narrative but there
can be a counter narrative to break the
spell
and to cause people to seek their god
before it's too late jesus christ is
lord brethren god willing will carry on
with amos chapter 5 next week what a
mighty and faithful god we serve god
bless brethren
you