

**Hope and Restoration**  
**Amos 8-9**

STARTED with the similarities of AMERICA, 2008, and ISRAEL, 750 BC

- both nations 200 years
- both at the height of power
- both secure
- both growing in idolatry
- both facing impending judgment

Kim - Last Sunday night "Well, that was depressing!"

I. Two More Pictures of Judgment

A. BASKET of RIPE FRUIT. Chapter 8

1. "The vision of the plumb line showed the certainty of God's judgment, this vision reveals the nearness of that visitation" (Feinberg, 115)
2. Judgment was imminent
3. Cataclysmic judgment. 8:9
4. **"A famine for the words of the Lord."**
  - a. Osteen Video
  - b. Tony Jones ... *When I was growing up in a moderate, centrist church -- somewhere between mainline Christianity and evangelicalism -- Original Sin was a given. I first learned about it in youth group, and we regularly talked about it. Actually, it's more accurate to say that we talked about a life with Christ, and the notion of Original Sin was in the background. It was assumed. And I cannot remember that it was ever debated.*

*In other words, I assumed that the doctrine of Original Sin was a biblical notion, and that all Christians accepted it as gospel truth. Of course, neither is true.*

*I have come to reject the notion of Original Sin. I consider it neither biblically, philosophically, nor scientifically tenable. And I'm going to spend this week blogging about why I've rejected it. I look forward to hearing your thoughts...*

- c. (Psalm 51:5 KJV) "Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me."
- d. (Psalm 51:5 NIV) "Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the

*time my mother conceived me."*

- e. FAMINE for the Word of GOD
  - (1) James 5:7-9
  - (2) (2 Timothy 4:3) *"For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear."*
  - (3) Jude 1:17-19 *But, dear friends, remember what the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ foretold. <sup>18</sup>They said to you, "In the last times there will be scoffers who will follow their own ungodly desires." <sup>19</sup>These are the men who divide you, who follow mere natural instincts and do not have the Spirit.*
  - (4) 1 Tim 4:1-2 "The Spirit explicitly says that in the later times, some will depart from the faith...."
  - (5) 2 Tim 3:1-9 "But mark this, that in the last days terrible times will come....."
  - (6) 2 Peter 2

B. Broken Pillars. Amos 9:1-10

## II. Restoration.

- A. After 9 ½ chapters of judgment, 5 verses of promise
- B. Amos 9:11-12 quoted in Acts 15:16-18. 6 Characteristics of the restoration:
  - 1. Restoration of Dravidic dynasty (11)
  - 2. Supremacy of Israel over the nations (12)
  - 3. Conversion of the nations (12)
  - 4. Land will be fruitful (13)
  - 5. Rebuilding of cities (14)
  - 6. Permanent restoration of Israel to her land (15)
- C. This was the hope for Israel
- D. Where is our hope?
  - 1. If it is finances...
  - 2. If it is in America
  - 3. Are you without hope if you lose your job?
  - 4. Are you without hope if your retirement fund reaches zero?
  - 5. If we're planning to be here in the tribulation...
    - a. Buy Euros!

b. Buy water!! (Rev 11:1-6 - famine for 3.5 years)

E. How Should we live??

1. (Hebrews 10:25) "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

(Titus 2:11-13) "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,"

(2 Timothy 4:8) "Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing."

2. If you are planning to be here in the Tribulation