

## “Minor Prophet Monologues: Amos”

by  
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**What** In this monologue, the prophet, Amos, summarizes Amos 1-6 and 9:11-15 as a doom poem for Israel, in a modern hip-hop or spoken-word style.

Themes: Prophet, Warnings, Church, God’s People, Seek God

**Who** Amos

**When** Modern day

**Wear** Casual attire

**Why** Amos 1-6, 9:11-15

**How** The book of Amos is a challenge to the people of Israel from a prophet from Judah. The book is full of poetry, much of which gets lost in our various translations.

So, the idea of Amos being a woke poet calling out sin like a social justice warrior was an obvious choice.

This monologue covers nearly the entire book in order, from Chapters 1-6 and then 9:11-15. The only part of the book this omits is the visions.

It's time to embrace your inner Lin-Manuel Miranda. Lay heavy on the internal rhyme and syncopation. If the meter doesn't work, keep working it until you find it. The meter changes often and breaks entirely at key times. I've left some stage directions to help. Also be sure to check out my video if you need to hear it the way I heard it when I wrote it.

**Time** Approximately 4 minutes

*Amos center stage with a mic. If done as a video, he could be at an open mic night at a club or coffee shop.*

Amos: Eyes up, Ears Up, Attention up here  
Suppose I go I don't stop until it clears up  
All Israel, I beg you come and listen to what's in this  
Ignore me at your peril or unless you think you're sinless  
  
The Lord sent me, a lowly shepherd out of Judah  
And he gave me words to speak and many visions to bring to the  
Brothers in Israel, makin' Lord Jehovah famous  
A prophet what my name is?  
you can blame this all on Amos

Look around.

*(pause)*

For three sins and four Damascus, get passed this  
The LORD will not revoke the punishment that he's amassed for this.

For three sins and four in Gaza, it draws a  
Question but the LORD will bring judgment to the plaza  
For three sins and four in Tyre, on fire  
in Edom, in Ammon, in Moab, in common  
Our neighbors on a wheel watch them spin like a carousel  
The Lord brings fire and consumes every citadel

But oh no, don't you go, and think it's not you though  
The LORD has a word for the people of Judah  
Who said that the word of the Lord don't apply to me  
And led them astray with a mutinous hypocrisy

And so I come to Israel and this is where it gets real  
The list of accusations is widespread but nonetheless real  
The LORD abhors when you ignore the poor  
Lock 'em up, shut 'em out, show the humble the door  
Sell 'em into slavery like some kinda joke  
How they get a lawyer when they already broke?

So, the LORD speaks against you who he brought out of Egypt  
The ones you know he chose to show the glow of His allegiance  
"I will punish you" he says "for all of your iniquities"  
and your proclivity  
with hostility  
sin repeatedly  
and you have not returned to me"

PURCHASE

Up now, here I go, prophet on the mic is woke  
You transgress, yet fear less  
But this is what the LORD spoke

"I brought hunger to your towns, but you have not returned to me  
Kept rains from the fields, but you have not returned to me  
Brought locusts to your farms, but you have not returned to me  
Sent plagues, war, and death, but you have not returned to me"

Prepare - to meet - Your God

*Quieter, but growing intense.*

TO

Your worship's a sham  
leads to endless injustice  
Hypocrisy and  
You got no moral compass  
Charge rent on the man  
Who can't even afford it  
Homes chiseled by hand  
From your vineyard, you lord it

REMOVE

You take bribes under hand  
Distress for the righteous  
Tell the poor that their banned  
Move along they won't like this  
Prudent can't understand  
They stay silent for nothin'  
Pain drenches the land  
There's no room for discussion

WATERMARK

Hold up.  
Ya messed up.  
Don't you think it's time ya fessed up?  
It takes a farmer with a vision just to see like this  
God says it was never s'posed to be like this

Let Justice roll on like a torrent of water  
Sprung from obedience keeps getting hotter  
Like an unfailing stream, Let Righteousness flow  
Let dry riverbeds fill with the good that we know

*Like a song chorus.*

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Seek God - That you might live  
Seek good - That you might live  
one time

Seek God - That you might live  
Seek good - That you might, that you might live  
*Still and quiet.*

An army will conquer in years count to forty  
Assyria take you on an exile sortie  
Woe to those who repose up in Zion  
Don't put off the day of calamity, son

*Growing with optimism.*

Behold, days are coming and the Lord will restore  
The fallen house of David raise the walls and the doors  
Behold, days are coming and the Lord will rebuild  
All the nations call his name in and the prophets fulfilled  
Behold, days are coming and the crops will evolve  
The time in mountain wine in and hills will dissolve  
Behold, days are coming when the captives let loose  
Rebuild the ruined cities plant the vines for some juice

Behold, days are coming, and the Lord will replant  
His people home again, safe again,  
in their promised land  
Behold, days are coming  
Behold, days are coming

Behold.

*Lights out.*