

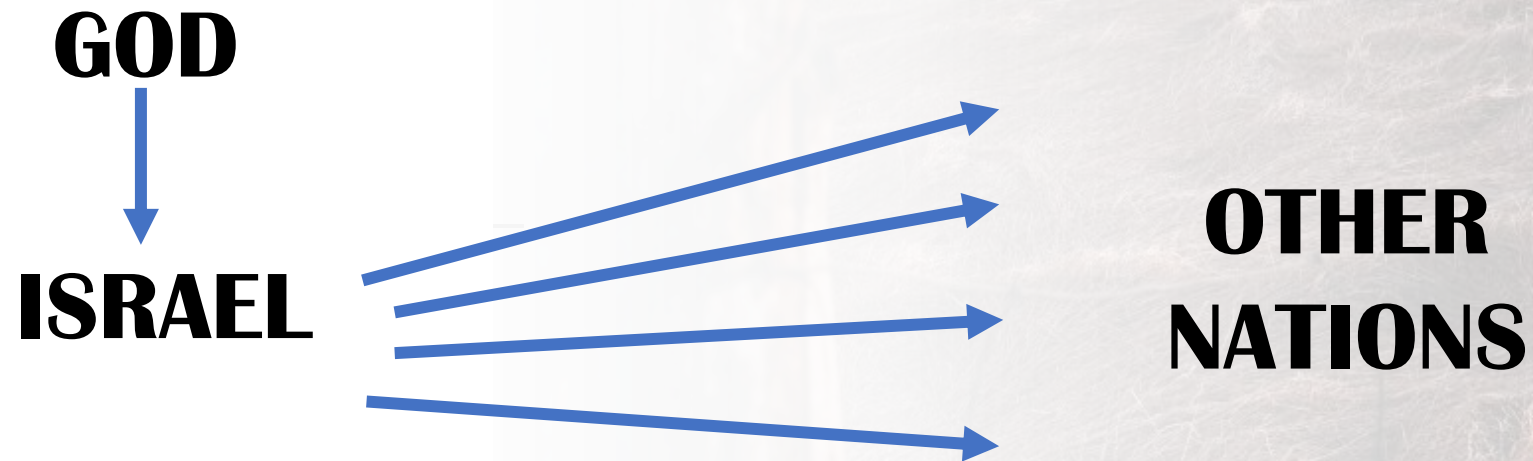


A Famine of the Word

Amos 8:11-14

How God deals with nations

- In OT God dealt with Israel and other nations to fulfill His purposes to send a Savior



Background of Amos

- History of the Jews
 - Joshua (1400 BC) – Israel settled in Promised Land
 - Israel ruled by tribal leaders (Judges)
 - Israel under United Kingdom (Saul, David, Solomon)
 - After Solomon's death – divided two kingdoms 930 BC
- Amos 750 BC – reign of Jeroboam II (786-746)
 - Time of great prosperity – booming economy
 - Rich and poor – injustice in legal system
 - Secularization of society – Baal worship mixed with Jehovah

Amos the prophet

Amos 7:14-15 Then Amos answered, and said to Amaziah: “I *was* no prophet, Nor *was* I a son of a prophet, But I *was* a sheepbreeder And a tender of sycamore fruit. ¹⁵ Then the LORD took me as I followed the flock, And the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to My people Israel.’

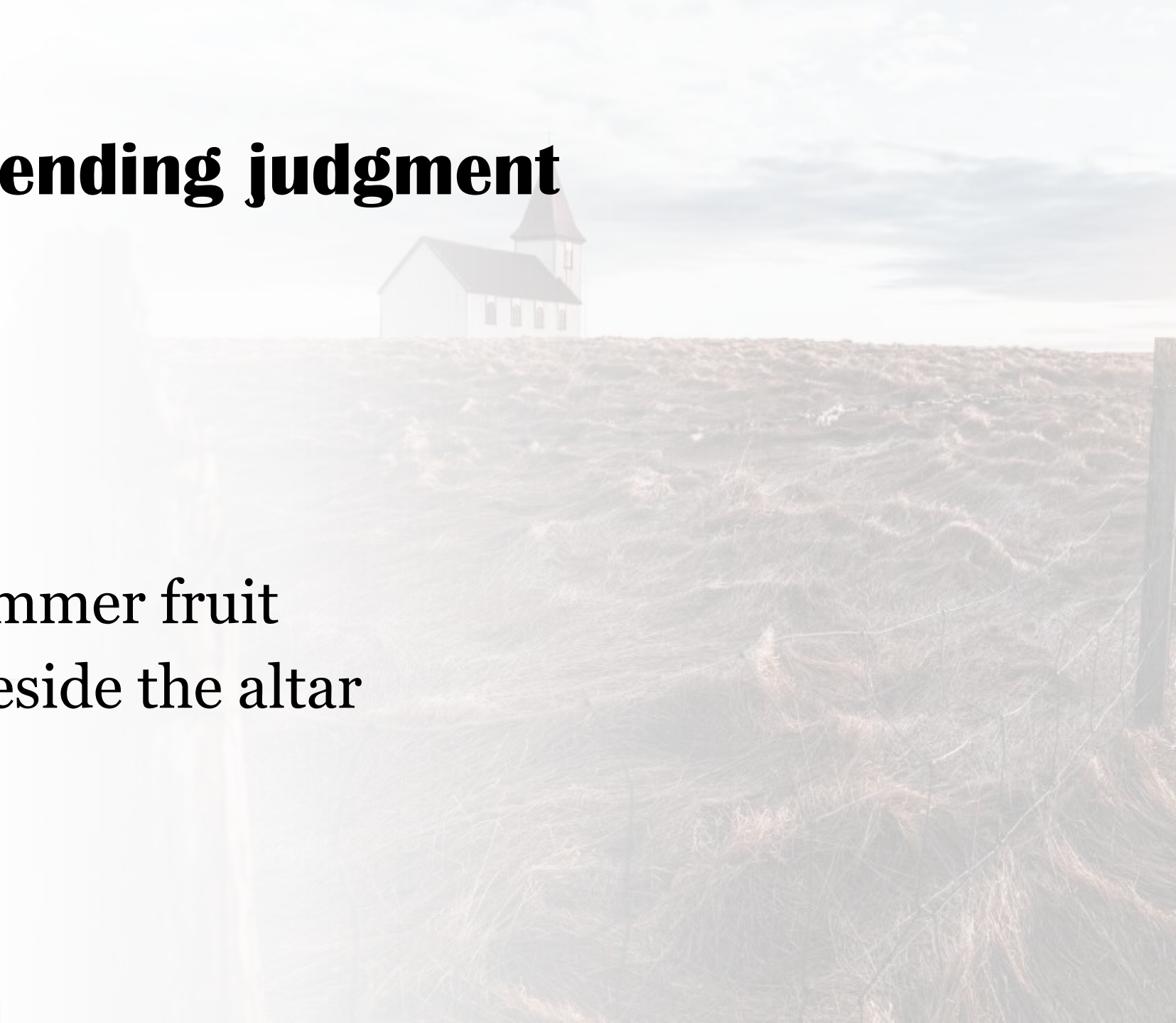
- Not a prophet but a sheepbreeder
- Sent from Judah to northern Israel
- No-nonsense outsider from country

Amos' warnings

- Ch 1-2 Sins of the pagan nations surrounding Israel
 - Damascus, Gaza, Edom, Tyre, Ammon, Moab
 - Judah... despised law of the Lord
 - Israel.. Decay in society, excesses of rich
- Ch 3-4 God's message to northern kingdom
 - 3:1-8 Two cannot walk together
 - 3:15, 6:1-4 Woes pronounced

Five visions impending judgment

- 7:1-3 Locusts
- 7:4-6 Fire
- 7:7-9 Plumbline
- 8:1-3 Basket of summer fruit
- 9:1-10 The Lord beside the altar



Amos opposed by the priest

- 7:10-17 Amaziah opposes Amos
 - 12 Then Amaziah said to Amos: “Go, you seer! Flee to the land of Judah. There eat bread, And there prophesy. ¹³ But never again prophesy at Bethel, For it is the king’s sanctuary, And it is the royal [i](#)residence.”
 - 7:14-18 Amos responds..

A different famine

- 8:11-12 “Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord GOD,
“That I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine of bread,
Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the LORD.
¹² They shall wander from sea to sea, And from north to east;
They shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the LORD, But
shall not find *it*.



A Famine of the Word

Amos 8:11-14