

Amos 3

New King James Version (NKJV)

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Authority of the Prophet's Message

1 Hear this word that the LORD has spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying:

2 “ You only have I known of all the families of the earth;

Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities.”

3 Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?

4 Will a lion roar in the forest, when he has no prey?

Will a young lion cry out of his den, if he has caught nothing?

5 Will a bird fall into a snare on the earth, where there is no trap for it?

Will a snare spring up from the earth, if it has caught nothing at all?

6 If a trumpet is blown in a city, will not the people be afraid?

If there is calamity in a city, will not the LORD have done it?

7 Surely the Lord GOD does nothing,
Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.

8 A lion has roared!

Who will not fear?

The Lord GOD has spoken!

Who can but prophesy?

Punishment of Israel's Sins

9 “ Proclaim in the palaces at Ashdod,[a]
And in the palaces in the land of Egypt, and say:

‘ Assemble on the mountains of Samaria;
See great tumults in her midst,
And the oppressed within her.

10 For they do not know to do right,’
Says the LORD,

‘ Who store up violence and robbery in their palaces.’”

11 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD:

“ An adversary shall be all around the land;
He shall sap your strength from you,
And your palaces shall be plundered.”

12 Thus says the LORD:

“ As a shepherd takes from the mouth of a lion
Two legs or a piece of an ear,
So shall the children of Israel be taken out
Who dwell in Samaria—
In the corner of a bed and on the edge[b] of a couch!

13 Hear and testify against the house of Jacob,”
Says the Lord GOD, the God of hosts,

14 “ That in the day I punish Israel for their
transgressions,

I will also visit destruction on the altars of Bethel;
And the horns of the altar shall be cut off
And fall to the ground.

15 I will destroy the winter house along with the
summer house;

The houses of ivory shall perish,
And the great houses shall have an end,”
Says the LORD.