

# The Judge of all the Earth

Will Peterson

Amos 3:1-15

**3** Hear this word that the LORD has spoken against you, O people of Israel, against the whole family that I brought up out of the land of Egypt: **2** "You only have I known of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities. **3** "Do two walk together, unless they have agreed to meet? **4** Does a lion roar in the forest, when he has no prey? Does a young lion cry out from his den, if he has taken nothing? **5** Does a bird fall in a snare on the earth, when there is no trap for it? Does a snare spring up from the ground, when it has taken nothing? **6** Is a trumpet blown in a city, and the people are not afraid? Does disaster come to a city, unless the LORD has done it? **7** "For the Lord GOD does nothing without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets. **8** The lion has roared; who will not fear? The Lord GOD has spoken; who can but prophesy?" **9** Proclaim to the strongholds in Ashdod and to the strongholds in the land of Egypt, and say, "Assemble yourselves on the mountains of Samaria, and see the great tumults within her, and the oppressed in her midst." **10** "They do not know how to do right," declares the LORD, "those who store up violence and robbery in their strongholds." **11** Therefore thus says the Lord GOD: "An adversary shall surround the land and bring down your defenses from you, and your strongholds shall be plundered." **12** Thus says the LORD: "As the shepherd rescues from the mouth of the lion two legs, or a piece of an ear, so shall the people of Israel who dwell in Samaria be rescued, with the corner of a couch and part of a bed. **13** "Hear, and testify against the house of Jacob," declares the Lord GOD, the God of hosts, **14** "that on the day I punish Israel for his transgressions, I will punish the altars of Bethel, and the horns of the altar shall be cut off and fall to the ground. **15** I will strike the winter house along with the summer house, and the houses of ivory shall perish, and the great houses shall come to an end," declares the LORD.

The most dangerous thing in this fallen world is a misunderstanding of who God is. "I think God is..." "I was taught God is..." He is the judge of all the Earth, His people included.

1. The Lord revealed why he would punish them (vv.1-2)
  - a. Not only because they had sinned, but because they were his people
  - b. We see 4 doctrines in these verses
    - i. Adoption
    - ii. Redemption

- iii. Election
- iv. discipline

2. The Lord revealed who would punish them (vv.3-8)
  - a. On the surface it may look like an enemy, but at the heart of the punishment it is the Lord orchestrating it all.
3. The Lord revealed how he would punish them (vv.9-15)
  - a. God inviting Pagan nations to bear witness to the punishment he would inflict shows that God shows no partiality.
  - b. There is no room for pride in the heart of one who wishes to know the Lord.
  - c. Even in His punishment He showed mercy in leaving a remnant.
  - d. He would destroy their safety
  - e. He would destroy their comfort