AMOS.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK AS A WHOLE.

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(Repeated Alternation.)

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For the Canonical order and place of the Prophets, see Ap. 1 and p. 1207.
For the Chronological order of the Prophets, see Ap. 77.
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Amos corresponds to Hosea, the link being Jeroboam II (2 Kings 14:27). See p. 1206. A native of Judah, he prophesied in Israel (1:1; 7:10), and against Israel. As Jeroboam II died in the fourteenth year of Uzziah king of Judah, Amos was among the earliest of all the prophets (chronologically). Hence:

The references to Israel’s Religious History shows that the Law and Commandments were known (2:4) though not kept, but despised (2:4); that Israel was oppressive (2:6), impure (2:7), luxurious (6:1—6), idolatrous (2:8); that they had had earlier prophets (2:11; 7:14; 8:11); that Israel alone knew the true God (3:2); that Beth-el and Gilgal had been places of transgression (3:14; 4:4; 5:5).

The references to Israel’s Internal History show that the nation had once been one (3:1); that Joseph’s history was well known (6:6); that the high places of Israel were known (7:9); as was David (6:5).

The references to Israel’s External History show that the Exodus was known (2:10; 3:1; 5:25; 9:7); that the nation had wandered in the wilderness (2:10; 5:25); and were idolaters there (5:25, 26); that the Amorites had been destroyed (2:9, 10); that Gilead (1:13) and Sodom (4:11) had been destroyed.

The references to the Ceremonial Law show that it could not have been written after the days of Amos. Note the references to Burnt offerings (4:4; 5:22), and the Altar of Burnt offerings (9:1); Meal offerings (5:22); Peace offerings (5:22); Thank offerings (4:5); Free-will offerings (4:5); Feast days (5:21); Feast of New Moon (8:5); the Sabbath laws (8:5); laws as to debt (8:6); to vows (2:11, 12); to baldness for the dead (8:10); to pledges (2:8), and many other things.

As to the dating of Amos, it is “concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah and Jeroboam II, two years before the earthquake” (1:1).

Uzziah and Jeroboam II were contemporary from the twenty-seventh year of Jeroboam till his forty-second year: i.e. fourteen years (from 701—687 B.C.). See Ap. 50.

The inference is that the earthquake and Jeroboam’s end coincide; and that the “gap” of twenty-four years in the history of Israel (see Ap. 50, p. 59) was caused by, or in some way related to, the earthquake (687 B.C.), and before Zachariah began his reign of six months.

“Two years before the earthquake” would be 689-688 (a jubilee year). At that time the prophecy of Amos commenced (689 B.C.). He declared the death of Jeroboam by the sword (7:11), and the captivity (7:11), which took place seventy-eight years later (in 611 B.C.).

Possibly he was “chased out” of Israel into Judah by Amaziah the priest of Beth-el, on the charge of treason against Jeroboam (7:10—17); or he may have remained (most probably) and perished in the earthquake, as there is no reference to that catastrophe, which might be expected, if his prophecies had extended beyond that great landmark in the history of Israel. It would, in that case, follow that the period covered by Amos was during those two years, which would be 689-687 B.C.

The death of Jeroboam II presumably took place before, or about the time of, the earthquake.

This is Page 1231 from The Companion Bible.
The Words of Jehovah by Amos, who was among the shepherds of Tekoa, which words he saw in a vision concerning Israel in the days of Uzziah king of Judah, and in the days of Jeroboam the son of Joash king of Israel, two years before the well known and remembered earthquake.

And he said, The Lord will roar as thunder from Zion, and give out His voice from Jerusalem; and the pastures of the tenders shall mourn, and the top of Mount Carmel shall be dried up.

Thus saith the Lord; For three rebellions of Damascus, and for four, I will not avert an earthquake; because they have threshed Gilead as it were with threshing instruments of iron:

But I will send a fire into the house of Hazael, which shall devour the palaces of Ben-hadad [the Syrian king, son of Hadad] [the sun god].

I will break also the defence of the city of Damascus, and cut off the ruler from the plain of Aven [Beth-aven], and him that holdeth the sceptre from Beth-eden: and the people of Syria shall go into captivity unto Kir, saith the Lord.
Thus saith the Lord; For three rebellions of Gaza, and for four, I will not [avert an earthquake]; because they carried away captive a whole body of captives, to deliver them up to Edom:

But I will send a fire on the whole city of Gaza, which shall devour the palaces thereof:

And I will cut off the ruler from Ashdod, and him that holdeth the sceptre from Ashkelon, and I will turn Mine hand against Ekron: and the remnant of the Philistines shall perish, hath said the Lord God.

Thus saith the Lord; For three rebellions of Tyre, and for four, I will not [avert an earthquake]; because they delivered up a whole body of captives to Edom, and remembered not a covenant of brethren:

But I will send a fire on the whole city of Tyre, which shall devour the palaces thereof.

Thus saith the Lord; For three rebellions of Edom, and for four, I will not [avert an earthquake]; because he did pursue his brother with the sword, and did cast off all pity, and his anger did tear [his prey] perpetually, and he kept his wrath for ever:

But I will send a fire upon Teman, which shall devour the palaces of Bozrah.

Thus saith the Lord; For three rebellions of the sons of Ammon, and for four, I will not [avert an earthquake]; because they have ripped up the women with child of Gilead, that they might enlarge their border:

But I will kindle a fire in the whole city of Rabbah, and it shall devour the palaces thereof, with a great war-cry in the day of their foe's tumultuous assault, with a tempest in the day of the whirlwind:

And their king shall go into captivity, his priests and his princes together, hath said the LORD.

Thus saith the Lord; For three rebellions of Moab, and for four, I will not [avert an earthquake]; because he burned the bones of the king of Edom into lime:
2.2

AMOS.

2.16

2. But I will send a fire upon Moab, and it shall devour the palaces of Kerioth: and Moab shall die with tumult, with war-cry, and with the sound of the trumpet:
3. And I will cut off the sceptre-holder from the midst of her land, and will slay all the princes thereof with him, saith the Lord.
4. Thus saith the Lord; For three rebellions of Judah, and for four, I will not avert an earthquake: because they have despised the law of the Lord, and have not kept His statutes, and their idols caused them to err, after the which their fathers have walked:
5. But I will send a fire upon Judah, and it shall devour the palaces of Jerusalem.
6. Thus saith the Lord; For three rebellions of Israel, and for four, I will not avert an earthquake: because they sold a righteous one for silver, and a needy one for a pair of shoes:
7. That crush the head of the impoverished ones in the dust of the earth, and pervert their whole way of humble ones: and a man and his father will go in unto the same young person [male or female], to profane My holy name:
8. And they lay themselves down upon clothes laid to pledge by every altar, and they drink the wine of the condemned in the house of their god.
9. Yet destroyed I the Amorite before you, whose height was like the height of the cedars, and he was strong as the oaks; yet I destroyed his fruit from above, and his roots from beneath.
10. Also I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and led you forty years through the wilderness, to possess the land of the Amorite.
11. And I raised up of your sons for prophets, and of your young men for Nazarites [after the priests had failed in their duty to teach the law]. *Is it not even thus, O ye sons of Israel?* saith the Lord.
12. But ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink; and commanded the prophets, saying, Prophesy not.
13. Behold, I am pressed under you, according as a full cart is pressed that is full of sheaves.
14. Therefore the flight shall perish from the swift, and the strong shall not strengthen his force, neither shall the mighty deliver his soul:
15. Neither shall he stand that handleth the bow; and he that is swift of foot shall not deliver himself; neither shall he that rideth the horse deliver his soul.
16. And he that is stout in heart among the mighty shall flee away armourless in that day, saith the Lord.

9 Yet. Former blessings now cited to heighten the crime of their fivefold rebellion. the Amorite. Ref. to Pent. (Num. 21:24. Deut. 2:32-34). Cp. Josh. 24:8. These being the descendants of the Nephilim were all to have been destroyed, with the other Canaanite nations, by the sword of Israel. See Ap. 23 and 25. them. Some codices, with three early printed editions, read “you”. height. Ref. to Pent. (Num. 21:24. Deut. 2:32-34). Ap.92.
3.1

Hear this word that the Lord hath spoken against you, O house 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 soil: therefore I will visit upon you for all your iniquities.

3 *Can two walk together, except they have met together by appointment of time and place?*

4 *Will a lion roar in the thicket, when he hath no prey? will a young lion cry out of his den, if he have taken nothing?*

5 *Can a bird fall in a net upon the earth, where no trap is for him? shall one take up a net from the earth, and have taken nothing at all?*

6 *Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not run together? shall there be calamity in a city, and the Lord hath not inflicted it?*

7 No: for the Lord GOD doeth nothing, but He revealeth His secret counsel unto His servants the prophets.

8 The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord GOD hath spoken, who can but prophesy?

9 Publish in the palaces at Ashdod, and in the palaces in the land of Egypt, and say, Assemble yourselves upon the mountains of Samaria, and behold the great tumults in the midst thereof, and oppressive acts in the midst thereof.

10 For they know not to do straight-forward, saith the Lord, who store up violence and robbery in their palaces.

11 Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; An adversary shall come there shall be even round about the land; and he shall bring down thy strength from thee, and thy palaces shall be spoiled.

12 Thus saith the Lord; Just as the shepherd rescueth, out of the mouth of the lion two legs, or the tip of an ear; so shall the house of Israel be taken out that dwell in Samaria in the corner of a bed, and in Damascus luxuriously.

13 Hear ye, and testify in the house of Jacob [the whole of the natural seed], saith the Lord God, the God of hosts,

14 That in the day that I shall visit the transgressions of Israel upon him I will also visit the altars of Bethel: and the horns of the altar shall be cut off, and fall to the earth.

15 And I will smite the winter house with the summer house; and the houses overlaid with ivory shall perish, and many houses shall have an end, saith the Lord.
4 Hear this word, ye heifers of Bashan, that are in the hill country of Samaria, which oppress exhausted ones, which crush needy ones, which say to their masters, Bring, and let us drink.
2 The Lord God hath sworn by His holiness, that, lo, the days shall come upon you, that He will take you away with nose hooks, and the remnant of you with fishhooks.
3 And ye shall go out at the breaches, each woman through the breach in the wall of Samaria [without turning to the left or right]; and ye women who are at ease in your palaces will be cast forth into exile, saith the Lord.
4 Come to Bethel, and rebell; at Gilgal multiply rebellion; and bring your sacrifices every morning, and your tithest after three years:
5 And offer as incense of thanksgiving with leaven, and proclaim and publish the free offerings: for so ye have loved to have it, O ye sons of Israel, saith the Lord.
6 And I also have given you famine in all your cities, and want of bread in all your places: yet have ye not returned unto Me, saith the Lord.
7 And also I have withheld the rain from you, when there were yet three months to the harvest: and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one portion of land was rained upon, and the portion of land whereupon I rained not withered.
8 So two or three cities wandered unto one city, to drink water; but they were not satisfied: yet have ye not returned unto Me, saith the Lord.
9 I have smitten you with blasting and mildew: when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased, the gnawer devoured them: yet have ye not returned unto me, saith the Lord.
10 I have sent among you death resulting from pestilence after the manner of Egypt: your young men have I slain with the sword, and have taken away your horses; and I have made the stink of your camps to come up unto your nostrils: yet have ye not returned unto Me, saith the Lord.

11 Therefore thus will I do unto thee, O Israel: and because I will do this unto thee, prepare to meet thy God, O Israel.

12 For, lo, He that formeth the mountains, and createth the wind, and declareth unto man what is his thought, that maketh the morning darkness, and treadeth upon the high places of the earth, The God of hosts, is His name.

5 Hear ye this word which I lift up as a burden against you, even a dirge, O house of Israel.

2 The young girl who is beloved of the house of Israel is fallen; and cannot rise again: she is forsaken upon her soil; and there is none to raise her up.

3 For thus saith the Lord God; The city that goeth out to war a thousand strong shall leave an hundred, and that which went forth a hundred strong shall leave ten, belonging to the house of Israel.

4 For thus saith the Lord unto the house of Israel, Seek ye Me, and ye shall live: but seek not Bethel, nor enter into Gilgal, and pass not through to Beer-sheba: for Gilgal shall be utterly removed, and Bethel shall come to nought.

6 Seek the LORD, and ye shall live; lest He break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and devour it, and there be none to quench it in Bethel.

7 Ye who turn judgment to wormwood, and cast down righteousness to the earth,

8 Seek Him That maketh the seven stars and Orion, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, and maketh the day dark with night: Seek Him That calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The Lord it is His name:


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9 Seek Him That makes destruction to come suddenly to flash upon the strong, and destruction will come upon the fortress.

10 They hate the reprobate before the judge, and they abhor him that speaketh truthfully.

11 Forasmuch therefore as your treading is upon the impoverished one, and ye take from him exaction of wheat:  9 ye have built houses of hewn stone, but ye shall not dwell in them; ye have planted vineyards of desire, but ye shall not drink wine of them.

12 For I know your manifold rebellions and your mighty sins: oppressors as ye are of a righteous one, they take a bribe, and they turn aside the needy ones before the judge from their right.

13 Therefore the prudent shall keep silence in that time; for it is a time of calamity.

14 Seek good, and not calamity, that ye may live: and so the LORD, the God of hosts, shall be with you, according as ye have spoken.

15 Hate the calamity, and love the good, and establish judgment before the judge: it may be that the LORD God of hosts will be gracious unto the remnant of Joseph.

16 Therefore the LORD, the God of hosts, saith thus; Wailing shall be in all open places; and they shall say in all the highways, Alas! alas! and they shall call the husbandman to mourning, and such as are the professional mourners to wailing.

17 And in all vineyards shall be wailing: for I will pass through thee, saith the LORD.

18 Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD it is darkness, and not light.

19 According as if a man did flee from the face of a lion, and a bear met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a serpent bit him.

20 Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light? even very dark, ... no brightness in it?

21 I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies.

22 Though ye offer up burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts.

23 Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not hear the melody of thy lutes.
24 But let judgment roll on as waters, and righteousness as an inexhaustible intermittent stream.
25 Have ye offered unto Me sacrifices and offerings in the wilderness forty years, O house of Israel?
26 But borne aloft the booth of your Moloch and Chiu your images, your star god, which ye made to yourselves.
27 Therefore will I cause you to go into captivity beyond Damascus, saith the LORD, Whose name is The God of hosts.
6 Woe to them [the nobles of Judah] that are careless and secure in Zion, and them that confide in the mountain of Samaria, the men of name [of the chief of nations Israel], to whom the People of Israel came [for judgment and justice]!
2 Pass over [the Euphrates] ye unto Calneh, and consider its fate; and from thence go ye to Hamath the great [and consider its fate]: then go down to Gath of the Philistines [and consider its fate]: these nobles and chief men, be they better than these kingdoms which have been overthrown? or is their border or boundary greater than the borders of Israel and Judah? [yet I overthrew them; how much more shall I judge you!]
3 Ye that thrust far away the day of calamity, and cause the throne of violence to come near;
4 That lie upon beds of ivory, and stretch themselves upon their couches, and eat the lambs out of the flock, and the calves out of the midst of the stall;
5 That break out in song to the sound of the viol, and invent to themselves instruments of song, as David did;
6 That drink wine in sacred bowls; not in goblets, and anoint themselves with the chief ointments: but they do not afflict themselves for the breach of the two kingdoms of Joseph.
7 Therefore now shall they go captive with the first that go captive, and the banquet of them that stretched themselves shall be removed.
8 The Lord GOD hath sworn by His soul, is the oracle of Jehovah, the God of Hosts. I abhor the excellency of Jacob, and hate his palaces: therefore will I deliver up the city with the fullness thereof.
9 And it shall come to pass, if there survive after the siege ten men in one house, that they shall die [by pestilence].
10 And a relative shall take the corpse up, and he that burneth him, to bring out the skeleton out of the house, and shall say unto the survivor in the midst of the house, Is there yet any alive or dead with thee? and he shall say, No. Then shall he say. Hush!: for we may not call upon, or invoke the name of the LORD.

The Companion Bible (Condensed): AMOS: Page 9
11 For, "behold, the LORD commandeth, and He will smite the great house with breaches, and the little house with clefts.

12 "Shall horses run upon the rock? *will one plow the sea with oxen?* for [with equal madness] ye have turned judgment into gall, and the fruit of righteousness into wormwood:

13 Ye which rejoice in a thing of nought, which say, Have we not taken to us powers by our own strength?

14 But, "behold, *I will raise up against you a nation, O house of Israel, saith the LORD the God of hosts; and *they shall afflict you through the length and breadth of the land, *Hamath [unto] the river of the wilderness.

7 Thus hath the Lord GOD shewed unto me; and, "behold, He was forming locusts in the beginning of the shooting up of the latter growth; and, *lo, it was the latter growth after the king's mowings.

2 And it came to pass, that when they had made an end of eating the grass of the land, then I said, O Lord GOD, forgive, I beseech Thee: *who shall raise up Jacob [Israel] ? for he is small.

3 The LORD *repented for this: It shall not be, saith the LORD.

4 Thus hath the Lord GOD shewed unto me: and, behold, the Lord GOD was calling for fire, to contend with Israel, and it devoured the great deep, and would have eaten up the land.

5 Then said I, O Lord GOD, cease, I beseech thee: by whom shall Jacob arise who shall raise up 2 Jacob? for he is small.

6 The LORD *repented for this: This also shall not be, saith the Lord GOD.

7 Thus He shewed me: and, "behold, the Lord stood upon a wall made perpendicular by a plummet, with a plummet in His hand.

8 And the LORD said unto me, *Amos, what seest thou?* And I said, A plummet. Then said the Lord, Behold, *I will measure the doings of Israel with the plummet of righteousness and judgment: I will not again forgive them* any more:

9 And the idolatrous altars of Isaac [nation of Israel] shall be desolate, and the sanctuaries of *Israel shall be laid waste; and *I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.

10 Then Amaziah the idolatrous priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, Amos hath formed a conspiracy against thee openly in the house of Israel: the land is not able to endure all his words.

Bethel. Cp. 3:14; 4:4; 5:5, 6. conspired=formed a conspiracy; the calves being connected with Israel's state policy (1 Kings 12:26-33).
11 For thus Amos saith, °Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel shall surely be led away captive out of their own land.

12 Also Amaziah said unto Amos, O thou seer, go, flee thee away °into the land of °Judah, and there eat bread, and prophesy there:

13 But prophesy not again any more at Bethel: for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is the king's palace.

14 Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, I °was no prophet, neither °was I °a prophet's son; but I °was an shepherd, and a preparer of sycomore fruit:

15 And the LORD called me °as I followed the flock, and the LORD said unto me, °Go, prophesy unto My people Israel.

16 Now therefore hear thou the word of the LORD: Thou sayest, Prophesy not against Israel, and °drop not °thy word against the house of °Isaac.

17 Therefore thus saith the LORD; Thy wife shall become a victim to the lust of the invader in the city, and thy sons and thy daughters shall fall by the sword, and thy °soil shall be partitioned °by line; and thou shalt die on polluted heathen soil: °and Israel shall surely go into captivity from upon his land.

8 Thus hath the Lord GOD shewed unto me: and behold a basket of °summer [ripe] fruit.

2 And He said, °Amos, what seest thou? °And I said, A basket °of summer fruit. °Then said the LORD unto me, °The end is come upon °My People of Israel; I will not again forgive them any more.

3 And the songs of the temple shall become howlings in that day, °saith the Lord GOD: there shall be °many corpses °in every place; they shall cast °them °forth [ °and burn them] °with °Hush!

4 Hear this, O ye that devour °a needy one, even to destroy °the meek ones °of °the °land,

5 Saying, When will °the °new moon °be °gone, that we may °sell °corn? °and °the °sabbath [ °stopping °business °for °a °day], °that °we may °sell °grain, °making °the °ephah °[ °measuring °the °goods] small, °and °the °shekel °[ °weighing °the °money] °great, °and °falsifying °the °balances °by °deceit?

6 That we may °buy °impovertised ones °for °silver, °and °a °needy °one °for °a °pair °of °shoes; °yea, °and °sell °[ °as °good °wheat] °the °refuse °of °the °wheat?

7 The LORD °hath °sworn °by °Himself, °Surely °I °will °never °forget °any °of °their °works.

8 Shall not the °land °tremble °for °this, °and °every °one °mourn °that °dwelleth °therein? °and °it °shall °rise °up °wholly °as °a °flood [ °of °the °Nile]; °and °it °shall °be °cast °out °and °subside, °as °by °the ° °flood °of °Egypt.


shackled. °Referring °to °the °overflowing °of °the °Nile. °drowned °= °subside.
9 And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the Lord GOD, that I will cause the sun to go down at noon, and I will darken the earth in the clear day:
10 And I will turn your feasts into mourning, and all your songs into lamentation; and I will bring up sackcloth upon all loins, and baldness upon every head; and I will make the land as the mourning of an only son, and the end thereof as a bitter day.
11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the word of the LORD:
12 And they shall go staggering from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find it.
13 In that day shall the fair virgins and young men faint for thirst.
14 They that swear by the guilt of Samaria, and say, Thy god, O Dan, liveth; and, The mode of worship of Beer-sheba liveth; even they that swear shall fall, and never rise up again.

9 I saw the LORD standing beside the altar: and He said, Smite the capital, shake the foundations, cut the pillars off by the head, all of them; and I will slay the remnant of the People with the sword: he that fleeth of them shall not flee away, and he that escapeth of them shall not be delivered.
2 Though they dig into the grave, thence shall Mine hand take them; though they climb up to heaven, thence will I bring them down:
3 And though they hide themselves in the top of Carmel, I will search and take them out thence; and though they be hid from My sight in the bottom of the sea, thence will I command the serpent, and he shall bite them:
4 And though they go into captivity before their enemies, thence will I command the sword, and it shall slay them: and I will set Mine eyes upon them for calamity, and not for good.
5 And the Lord GOD of hosts is He That toucheth the land, and it shall melt, and all that dwell therein shall mourn: and it shall rise up wholly like a flood; and shall be drowned, as by the flood of Egypt.
6 It is He That buildeth his chambers above in the heaven, and hath founded His blue vault over the earth; He That calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The Lord is His name.
7 Are ye not as sons of the Ethiopians unto Me, O sons of Israel? saith the Lord. Have not I brought up Israel out of the land of Egypt? and the Philistines from Crete, and the Syrians from Kir?
8 "Behold, the eyes of the Lord GOD are upon the "sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it off the face of the ground; saving that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob, saith the LORD.

9 For, behold, I will command, and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not "the least grain fall upon the earth.

10 All the "sinners of My People shall die by the sword, which say, The evil shall not overtake nor surprise us.

11 In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old:

12 That they may take possession of the remnant of "Edom, and of all the nations, on whom My name is called, saith the LORD That doeth this.

13 "Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that "the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and "the mountains shall drop new wine, and all the hills shall dissolve into wine and oil.

14 And "I will bring again the captives of My People of Israel, and "they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit them; and "they shall plant vineyards, and drink the "wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.

15 And "I will plant them upon "their land, and they shall "no more be pulled up out of their land "which I have given them [the ground of all the blessing], hath said the LORD thy God.

behold. Fig. Asterismos. Ap. 6.

sinful. Heb. chata. Ap. 44. i.

earth=ground, or soil. Heb. 'adamah.

9 lo=behold. Fig. Asterismos. Ap. 6.

the least grain. Heb. ts'for. A usage common to-day with the "fellaheen (see James Niel's Palestine Explored, p. 250).

earth. Heb. 'eretz. Not the same word as in v. 8.

10 sinners. Heb. qahal, as in v. 8.

prevent=surprise.

11 In that day. Passing to the subject of the future restoration (see the Structure). Quoted in Acts 15, 18.

of David. Erected on Zion by David (2 Sam. 6, 17. Cp. 7, 6) before the Temple was built on Moriah by Solomon. In 7, 7-9, it was seen to be "out of plumb", therefore on the point of falling. Here it is fallen down: hence the prophecy here given. In Acts 15 the time had come, had the People obeyed Peter's call in Acts 8, 18-21. But it was finally rejected (Acts 28, 23-29), and this prophecy, therefore, yet awaits its fulfillment.

12 may possess=may take possession of.


heathen=nations.

which are called, &c.: or, on whom My name is called.

name : i.e. Israel.

13 the plowman. &c. This shows that the fulfilment of this prophecy is yet in abeyance, for these temporal blessings were postponed on the rejection of the call to repentance in Acts 8, 18-26. Cp. Acts 28, 22-28. Note the ref. to Pent. (Lev. 26, 5). Ap. 92.


sweet wine=new wine. Heb. 'adiy. See Ap. 27, V.

melt: i.e. dissolve into wine and oil. Fig. Hyperbole (Ap. 6), for emphasis.


which I have given them. This is the ground of all the blessing. Ref. to Pent. (Num. 32, 7, 9. Deut. 8, 18; 26, 12; 28, 52). Ap. 92. Cp. Josh. 2, 4, 15; 18, 3; 23, 13, 15. Jer. 25, 5. The so-called "Priests' Code", according to most modern critics, was compiled by the priests in Babylon, and most of the Pentateuch is "post-exilic" (see Encycl. Brit., eleventh (Cambridge) edition, vol. 3, p. 562, col. 1). Yet it was well known to Amos (cent. 7 B.C.). Cp. 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 12; 4, 4, 5; 5, 12, 21, 22; 9, 4, &c. saith=hath said.