

The Message & the Messenger

The message of God through Amos in a nutshell...

1. **Accountability**
2. **Indictment**
3. **Warning**
4. **Grace**

1) The Message: God who Levels the Wall – v. 7-9

How does God level the wall? Scripture tells us 3 ways.

- a) God Levels in the Beginning...
- b) God Levels along the Way...
- c) God Levels in the End...

2) The Messagee's Resistance – v. 10-13

- a) Legal Silencing – v. 10-11
 - Conspiring against the King
 - Enemy of the People

In the face of such legal resistance, we need to always ask two questions...

1. Is Amos really conspiring against the King?
2. Who is really the highest legal authority here?

b) Social Silencing – v. 12-13

1. Go Away!
2. Go Preach to the Choir
3. Stop Being so Rude

3) The Messenger's Response – v. 14-17

- a) This is God's Message – v. 14-15
- b) God Sent Me to You – v. 15
- c) Let Me Warn you against Muzzling God – v. 16-17
- d) Let me tell you the Message again – v. 17

Praxis

1. Share any recent examples of “social silencing,” whether experienced externally or internally.
2. What are the 4 basic elements of the message of Amos’ writings? What are the New Testament gospel expressions of these 4 elements?
3. Where else in Scripture do we find examples of “legal silencing”? How did God’s messenger respond?
4. Beyond Amos’ response, how do these Scriptures inform us as God’s messengers - Acts 13:6-11, 14:1-7, 26:24-29, 1 Peter 3:14-16, 2 Tim 2:24-25, Eph 6:18-20 / Col 4:2-4, Col 4:5-6, 2 Cor 2:14-17, 4:7-11
5. Why must God’s message come with both warning/indictment and grace? What happens when only warning/indictment? Only grace?
6. When and how exactly might you voice the 4 elements of Amos’ response to Amaziah (v. 14-17)?