



What if Amos 4:2 is a part of God’s judgement on those who don’t honor His warning on dividing the land found in **Joel 3:2**?

***Amos 4:2** The Sovereign LORD has sworn by his holiness: "The time will surely come when you will be taken away with hooks, the last of you with fishhooks.

_____ is an [Italian surname](#). It is derived from the [Sicilian](#) word for "[sickle](#)" A **sickle**, **bagging hook** or **reaping-hook** is a single-handed [agricultural tool](#) designed with variously curved [blades](#) and typically used for [harvesting](#), or cutting.

***Amos 5:1** Hear this word, Israel, this lament I take up concerning you:

***Amos 5:2** "Fallen is Virgin Israel, never to rise again, deserted in her own land, with no one to lift her up."

***Amos 5:3** This is what the Sovereign LORD says to Israel: "Your city that marches out a thousand strong will have only a hundred left; your town that marches out a hundred strong will have only ten left."

“God Mourns When...”

- 1. Amos 5:1 & 10** When “Truth” is rejected, loathed, disliked, or hated.
- 2. Amos 5:2** When God’s people choose to be deserted, rather than to call on Him.
- 3. Amos 5:3** When we are decimated by our choices. Yet, we continue to misplace our security in past victories and situations.

“The Past is Marred by the Present ”

(Amos 5:5)

- 1. Bethel, Gilgal, and Beersheba** were once places associated with great privilege and spiritual heritage. Now places of *vain, empty worship*.
- 2. Bethel** was the place where God met Jacob (Genesis 28:11-19, Genesis 35:1-7). **Gilgal** was the place where Israel’s spiritual reproach was rolled away in the days of Joshua (**Joshua 5:1-12**).
- 3. Beersheba** was connected to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (**Genesis 21:22-33, 26:23-33, 46:1-5**).

***Amos 5:10** There are those who hate the one who upholds justice in court and detest the one who tells the truth.

***Amos 5:13** Therefore the prudent keep quiet in such times, for the times are evil.

***Amos 5:14** Seek good, not evil, that you may live. Then the LORD God Almighty will be with you, just as you say he is.

“The Cause, the Curse & the Cure”

1. **Falsehood** became the norm and a total rejection of truth.
2. **Hatred of Government** with its corruption and unfair courts while the elite mistreat the people.
3. **V:4, 6, &14** Seek God and live. Seek good not evil.

A Key Misunderstanding of the Future

***Amos 5:18** Woe to you who long for the day of the LORD! Why do you long for the day of the LORD? That day will be darkness, not light.

***Amos 5:19** It will be as though a man fled from a lion only to meet a bear, as though he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall only to have a snake bite him.

***Amos 5:20** Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light—pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness?

***Amos 5:21** "I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me.

1. **Christian Schools** have wrongly the believed the day of Lord is what they are looking forward to as taught by Amillennialism.
2. **Blindness** about the day of Lord is keeping many Christians unprepared.
3. **I hate, I despise your feast days:** This would have amazed – and offended – those in Israel who heard Amos say this. They told themselves that they were really honoring God and pleasing Him by their observance of the **feasts** and **sacred assemblies**, but God was offended by their religious ceremonialism, disconnected from the heart, justice towards one another, and the Day of the Lord.

***Amos 5:4** This is what the LORD says to Israel: "Seek me and live;