

THE KEY OF DAVID

Tomorrow's News
Today

TRANSCRIPT – Amos and God's Secret (0805)

VOICEOVER:

The Key of David with Gerald Flurry

GERALD FLURRY:

Greetings, everyone. The prophet Amos prophesied about a *secret*, or God's secret. What is that secret, and what does it mean for you? Because after all, this is an end-time prophecy, and we all need to know what God's secret is. What is it?

Now, Amos had a secret for *his* day, and it's somewhat altered in this end time, but his message was only a *type* of what is to be delivered, and what is for *us* today. It was only a type, and we have to look into his book and see that that message is really for *us*.

Now, there *is* a lot of news that is not so good, but it has a splendid ending like one you've never heard of. It's about a new civilization that is going to be *free* of all the problems we see in this world today.

But it says in Amos that God's secret is given to His prophets, or to a man. It is given to a man, or was given to a man, Amos anciently, and God said there would be a *man* that would be given this message in the end time, and there would be a *different* interpretation in many respects because it *is* mainly for this day today. A different secret in some respects.

Now, Amos didn't understand this message. He didn't really get it, as far as its meaning for the end time, but he did understand it for *his* time. And he said in his book that God is not going to pass this way any more. This is His last secret to be delivered to this world. There will be no other after this one.

And he also said there would be a famine of the word, that there would be such a calamity in the world that God would temporarily stop His message and you couldn't hear it going out to the world, as you can today.

Now, that's a promise from God, and it's all for our time today so we really need, desperately, to understand this book of Amos.

Notice Amos 3, verses 7 and 8. "Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets. (8) The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord GOD hath spoken, who can but prophesy?"

So God reveals His message, and you can see here it is *extremely* urgent, *extremely* urgent. And God likens Himself to a lion, and the lion has roared. And if you know anything about a lion, they don't roar until they're about to pounce on their prey. God is comparing that to Himself and how He's going to punish His people Israel, the nations of Israel, if they don't heed His warning. They don't have to go through that, but He is going to punish them if they don't listen to this message. And *time* is a critical factor here; the lion has roared. When you really and truly understand this book of Amos, the lion has roared, and is getting ready to pounce; that's what we're looking at today.

God has warned us about our sins, and He's given a secret. God has given a secret to a man to get out to this world so they can know what's on God's mind. What is He thinking? What does *He* think about what is going on on this earth? You can be *sure*, if the great God created this earth and man, He's concerned about what's happening on this earth, and all these weapons of mass destruction, and the terrible, terrible evil that is going on on this earth, in so many ways. You can be sure God is concerned.

And Amos said, "Well, who *can* but prophesy?" In other words, he felt *compelled* to prophesy. But this message was so urgent, and it is for this end time, and you and I *must know* or we're in for some real calamity, and the worst ever on this planet. But God said He would protect us if we would heed His message today, whether you're an individual or a large group of people or a nation or whatever.

Notice Amos 2, verses 11 and 12. We'll back up just a little, a few verses, and notice what it says so that we can understand God's secret better. It has to do with *this*, "And I raised up of your sons for prophets, and of your young men for Nazarites. *Is it* not even thus, O ye children of Israel? saith the LORD. (12) But ye gave the Nazarites wine to drink; and commanded the prophets, saying, Prophesy not."

So what is this secret about? Well, it's about Israel, and who is Israel? Who *are* the nations of Israel today? If you don't know *that*, you can't even *know* about this prophecy because it's addressed to Israel, the physical nations of Israel *and* the spiritual nation of Israel, the Church, so it's dual in that way, as well.

But who is Israel? And where is *spiritual* Israel? And there was a group of people, and still *are* a group of people saying they once had God's secret, and now they've come along and said, "Don't prophesy. Prophesy not!" And yet there's a little remnant of people that will say, "Who *can* but prophesy?" A man and a group of people supporting that man and that message of God, say, "Who *can* but prophesy? We *must* prophesy!"

This is so terribly urgent that we understand it and get the message out.

Here is a quote from a minister I know well, and here's what he said about this message. "If anyone is still unclear about the need for us to change our preoccupation with prophecy, whether in preaching, teaching, or in the publications, or on the telecast, then let me make the truth very plain." And then he went on to talk about how let's get away from prophecy.

Now, I experienced that, and it says here that God raised those men up, and then they turned against His prophecy. God raised them up and gave them His secret, and then the main body turned away. They had the power to say, “Don’t prophesy.” Obviously, somebody took over the Church and is turning it in a different direction.

And this is an end time prophecy; do you know where this happened, and how it happened and why it happened? Well, those are the questions we need to really answer and understand. It’s *always* a difficult message you have to deliver if it’s delivered by God.

Here is a statement from the Companion Bible talking about Jeremiah, and the people being *against* him, and he said, “By which *against* is repeated seven times in order to emphasize the fact that as the man’s thoughts and ways are the *opposite* of God’s, it is impossible for a prophet or a man who has God’s message who is a spokesman for God to be other than *against* man.” It is impossible. Quite an amazing statement that here is somebody, a scholar in the world that is just interpreting the Bible the right way, and he says the message of God is always going to have somebody against it, and a lot of people fighting against it. That’s what Jeremiah experienced. After all, he was put in a dungeon for delivering that message, and was going to be killed, but God saved him.

So here is another key that you need to think about. If these people *had* the secret of God and they had the prophecy of God, then who was it that established that prophecy in the first place? Who was it that God revealed the secret to in the first place, and now he’s dead and gone? And then they turn away from it; God’s Church turns away from it and God has to raise up another voice, a second voice, a second messenger has to deliver God’s message because the main body turned away from it, and so God had to raise up someone to do that and to be against—not only God’s own Church, primarily—but also against what’s going on in the world. People are going to be *against* the message of God in a lot of cases. Not always, but that’s just the way it has been in the history of mankind.

Now let’s look at Amos 3, verses 1 and 2. “Hear this word that the LORD hath 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.”

You see, these nations of Israel have a *history* with God. Here’s the duality again. But still, primarily He’s talking spiritually, but He’s also talking about the nations of Israel, and He has a history with them, the only family that God has ever known. But now there is a spiritual Church on this earth, which is the only family God, has ever known, or knows today, and it’s to *that* family, that one Church that God gives His secret. What is the secret that God is going to give us? He only knows one family.

Notice verse 3, “Can two walk together, except they be agreed?”

Well, no, they can’t, and so God is showing us here that here you have two churches, a little remnant and the main body, that have a disagreement and that can no longer walk together because they don’t agree on the prophecy of God! They don’t agree with what God says about prophecy, and most of them say, “Don’t prophesy!” They don’t want to

hear that prophecy; they don't want people to be against them in any way, and that's what it's all about here. That's what it's all about.

But I want to show you how what is going on in this world looks good to man, but what does God say about it, and what does His secret tell us about that? Notice verse 5, "Can a bird fall in a snare upon the earth, where no gin *is* for him? shall *one* take up a snare from the earth, and have taken nothing at all?"

So here is a snare. See, everything looks so good; it's just like a bird seeing a snare, but it's a trap, but the bird doesn't see it as a trap, and very quickly is *entrapped* by that trap. But it's a snare; it looks good to the bird. It looks good to the people of Israel, it looks good even to God's Church, but it's a *snare*, it's a snare and it's a trap, and it's going to cause Israel, the nations of Israel, serious trouble, and God's own Church serious trouble.

Now, if you want to know who Israel is, who the nations of Israel are, well, then you need to write for our book on The United States and Britain in Prophecy if you don't have it, and I'll send you another booklet at the end of this program to show you who *spiritual* Israel is, and who is it that *has* that secret, and what that secret is, and what you and I need to do to understand it. It's an important secret, and it's dual in two different ways because it's for the ancient time and it's for today mainly. But it's also physical and it's also spiritual, so there are two sets of duality here.

God is talking about three nations in Amos 3, verses 11 and 12 where He talks about some of the terrible things that are coming, if we don't heed God's message, that there will be in these nations, God likens it to a lion attacking a sheep, and there's only two legs or an ear left of that animal. He's trying to illustrate how bad it's going to be, and why He wants us to heed His message and see that we're doing almost everything wrong today, and there is a penalty for all that, but it doesn't have to be that way. It's still going to end well, but there are a lot of problems that we're facing today, and we can't just hide from them, we can't escape reality. We're bringing terrible problems upon ourselves, and the prophet Amos said, "Who can but prophesy?"

Let me read you something that I got out of a commentary. This is not *my* view, but just listen to what your Bible says. The Anchor Bible Commentary says, regarding the "*it* in Amos, Chapters 1 and 2, all eight oracles refer to the same *it*, which will not be retracted or reversed. There was a single decree covering them all, declaring judgment on the entire region as a unit. This unity suggests one cosmic holocaust." One cosmic holocaust! Not just several invasions that would pick off these countries one by one.

So in the booklet I write, "Amos likens it to the fire that destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. It is called fire from heaven (Genesis 19 and verse 24). The Anchor Bible calls it one cosmic holocaust. That is a massive destruction from the heavens, from the cosmos."

Again, these are not *my* words; these are the words of a commentary that you can find at almost any library if you want to check this up, and it's about a holocaust from the cosmos, or fire from heaven, and the only thing you would think is similar to that today would be what? Nuclear weapons? Nuclear fire? Well, again, you need to read it from

your own Bible and read it from this Anchor Bible Commentary, and they've got it exactly right. They have it exactly right.

When Amos was writing this book, he wrote about Adonai, which is one of several names for God, and he used it 25 times. And Amos was one of the twelve minor prophets. There are twelve minor prophet books in the Old Testament. Amos is only one of them, and he uses Adonai more than *all* the other minor prophets combined. Adonai means "headship or head," and I think as Amos was writing all of this and speaking all of it to the people, he did have some words of doom to talk to the people about, and he kept referring to Adonai and tried to keep his mind on Adonai, his Head. Christ is the Head of the Church, or the one who became Christ from the Old Testament is the Head, and Amos wanted to make sure he was getting it right, and clinging to the Head. And of course, anybody else had better have the same concerns if they're going to deliver God's message. It is a message that the land couldn't bear, Amos said. They couldn't bear it, and so he wanted to make sure he had it right. I'm sure that's why he used Adonai so many times. The Head. Christ is the Head, and we must listen to Christ, and what He says about the Father and about declaring the Father, as it says in John 1 and verse 18.

See, Amos was accused of all kinds of wild ideas, and tradition says they ended up killing him, so he wanted to get it right. He didn't want to die for his own crazy ideas; he wanted to die only for this secret of God. Would you have that kind of determination? Would I? If we had to face what Amos had to face?

Adonai really is defined in the sense of a blessing, though. If you keep it in the right context it is a blessing, even the bad news is a blessing because it turns people to God, turns them to God and God's love. God *is* love; He can only do something in love, He can't *do it* any other way. I wonder how many people really believe that. That all of the suffering is really in the context of a blessing. That's what your Bible says, and that's a wonderful thing to know, a wonderful truth to know.

And Amos also talked about Adonai visiting, personally visiting in this end time to save God's Work. He did it in Spirit, I'm not talking about some appearance where it shook the earth or anything like that. He came in Spirit, but He came to save God's Work. Now, that's a part of the secret, and I wonder how many people really *believe* that? Amos talked about the living God. God is alive! I mean you don't give your life, you don't *die* for something you don't believe. You don't die for that; you have to really believe this, but if you know that it's a secret of God, well, that gives you a lot more courage and a lot more determination.

Notice what Amos said in Amos 4 if you want to know a little more about the secret. Well, I'll start in verse 7, "...and I caused it to rain upon one city, and caused it not to rain upon another city: one piece was rained upon, and the piece whereupon it rained not withered. (8) So two *or* three cities wandered..." you can see it's going to get worse, "...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."

Now, that is a serious drought, isn't it? And it's prophesied here to get worse. It is for the end time, and we are experiencing drought in the southeast and the southwest, and we've had terrible fires in California already, and it's all because of years and years of drought, and it's a terrible condition, and they just keep having these fires again and again and again where over 700,000 acres were burned in 2003, and over 800,000 were burned this time recently, and over 200,000 homes were burned, and something like a *million* people were evacuated from their homes, the biggest evacuation perhaps ever in the United States. It was certainly front page on all of the news magazines.

Well, it is something we ought to be concerned about because God says after those terrible events come, "Still, yet, you have not turned unto Me or returned unto Me," talking to His own people, He's talking to the people of Israel who were once led by God in their ancient history, a long time ago. But He says, "Look, if you have these problems you'd better begin to think about God. You'd better begin to think about sin. You'd better begin to think about that God does, indeed, punish but He wants us to *avoid* these problems. That's what it's all about, and He's still going to have the most marvelous ending you can imagine because He's going to bring that new civilization to this earth *in spite* of man. This earth is going to be so full of prosperity that we will have never seen anything like it *ever* before! But there's a lot of suffering before that.

Amos 7 and verse 10, notice that, "Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, Amos hath conspired against thee in the midst of the house of Israel: the land is not able to bear all his words."

Amos was talking to, you can see in that chapter, he ended up talking to the king and the high priest. I mean this is on the highest level politically and spiritually, and Amos had some very direct strong words for the king and the high priest, and told them that they and their families were going to end up very badly. Told them to their face, and Amos didn't get that prophecy out of the Bible. Somehow God revealed that to him and told him that that king's family was going to suffer right before his eyes if he didn't repent of his sins. That was what was going to happen.

So these are really some of the most calamitous prophecies in all the Bible, and we need to understand them, and we have this booklet on Amos that we're going to send you that will explain all about God's secret, and why all of these things happen, and what God is saying about it, and what God would do about it if we would heed His message, and how He would prevent it all from happening if we would just heed what He says.

Now, these are marvelous solutions to all of our problems if we would just listen, and Amos has this beautiful ending where the plowman has overtaken the reaper, and vice versa. I mean there's just such prosperity on this earth that there's never been anything like it before, and God is just blessing the earth and the people in every way possible because at this time they're in this new civilization and they're obeying God and the whole earth is following Jesus Christ, and being ruled by Jesus Christ, and He is going to be here very soon. That's what this message is all about. You need to understand that and be ready when He gets here.

Until next week, this is Gerald Flurry. Goodbye friends.

VOICEOVER

Request our two free booklets, *The Lion Has Roared* and *Micah*. *The Lion Has Roared* shows how Christ is getting ready to return to Earth. But how bad will events become before He arrives? The most powerful part of biblical Israel is compared to a sheep that has been attacked – and only two legs and a piece of an ear remain! There is no stronger prophetic message in the Bible. Thankfully, all of these horrifying events lead to the return of Jesus Christ to rule this world forever!

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