



[Amos 4:6-12](#)

(6) "Also I gave you cleanness of teeth in all your cities.
And lack of bread in all your places;
Yet you have not returned to Me,"
Says the LOORD.

(7) "I also withheld rain from you,
When *there were* still three months to the harvest.
I made it rain on one city,
I withheld rain from another city.
One part was rained upon,
And where it did not rain the part withered.

(8) So two *or* three cities wandered to another city to drink water,
But they were not satisfied;
Yet you have not returned to Me,"
Says the LOORD.

(9) "I blasted you with blight and mildew.
When your gardens increased,
Your vineyards,
Your fig trees,
And your olive trees,
The locust devoured *them*;
Yet you have not returned to Me,"
Says the LOORD.

(10) "I sent among you a plague after the manner of Egypt;
Your young men I killed with a sword,
Along with your captive horses;
I made the stench of your camps come up into your nostrils;
Yet you have not returned to Me,"
Says the LOORD.

(11) "I overthrew *some* of you,
As God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah,

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Amos 4:6-12 (<http://www.theberean.org>)

And you were like a firebrand plucked from the burning;

Yet you have not returned to Me,"

Says the LORD.

(12) "Therefore thus will I do to you, O Israel;

Because I will do this to you,

Prepare to meet your God, O Israel!"

New King James Version

What are we to think of the disasters this nation has been experiencing of late? If they are not direct signs of the apocalypse, what are they? What [God](#) says to Israel through Amos.

Between verses 7 and 12, God mentions sending them drought, blight and mildew, locusts, plague, military defeat, and divine punishment for [sin](#), yet after every disaster, Israel still refused to repent. So, God warns them in verse 12 that He would bring on them a major judgment—His wrath, their Day of the Lord, a day of “darkness, and not light” ([Amos 5:18-20](#)).

This passage suggests that the disasters we have recently seen are warnings to the nation that God is aware of its sin and the people's drifting from Him. He is trying to get their attention so that they realize that they need to repent and return to Him. These disasters, then, are precursor judgments and threats, prods to motivate [repentance](#) and a restored relationship.

The ultimate judgment of God comes later, and Christ's return happens according to the prophecies recorded in Scripture. They are straightforward—not esoteric, not discernible only to biblical numerologists or experts of some mysterious Bible code. The prophecies will be fulfilled in real, visible, unmistakable events.

— Richard T. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[The End Is Not Yet](#)

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