

# **ONE TOO MANY!**

## **Amos 1:1 – 2:5**

### **How much will God take before He responds?**

- Amos addresses this issue in the opening verses of his book.

#### **I. ONE TOO MANY MISCONCEPTIONS** (1:1-2)

**- *Our Lord is not quiet!***

##### **A. REGARDING GOD'S MESSAGE** (1:1-2)

###### **1. Roaring!** (2)

- God's thundering voice comes from heaven through earth and resounds throughout the land from the southern pastures to the northern mountains of Carmel.

###### **2. Through a shepherd!** (1)

- Amos is a shepherd not a prophet or a preacher

##### **B. REGARDING GOD'S WRATH** (1:4-2:5)

###### **1. Irrevocable:** I will not revoke its punishment (1:3, 6, 9, 11, 13 & 2:1, 4)

- His decision will not be annulled nor delayed

###### **2. Fiery:** I will send fire (1:4, 7, 10, 12, 14 & 2:2, 5)

- A devouring fire that consumes resources and defenses is predicted in every instance

###### **3. Devastating**

#### **II. ONE TOO MANY SINS** (1:3 – 2:4)

**- *Our Lord is not passive!***

##### **A. THE DESCRIPTION:** The fourth transgression [See Proverbs 30:21-31 for a similar formula]

###### **1. The cup of iniquity is full and this one makes it overflow**

###### **2. This final crime exceeds God's enduring patience and calls for repentance**

###### **3. That's too much ..... just one too many times you have continued in your sin**

###### **4. Now judgment!**

##### **B. THE DETAILS ....**

###### **1. Three cities to the west of the Jordan River**

###### **a. Damascus (3) Capital of Aram**

- Punished for barbaric torture

###### **b. Gaza (6) Capital of Philistia**

- Judged for selling refugees or prisoners of war into slavery

###### **c. Tyre (9) Leading city/state of Phoenicia**

- Brokering bond-servants while breaking brotherhood treaties

## 2. Three nations to the east of the Jordan River

## a. Edom (11)

- Unchecked fury in the relentless pursuit of an already defeated enemy

## b. Ammon (13)

- The sickening atrocity of ripping open pregnant women in order to extend their borders!

## c. Moab (2:1)

- The sacrilegious desecration of the dead by opening graves and burning bones

## C. THE ACCOUNTABILITY

1. These nations do not worship the Lord as their God, but are accountable to Him as their Judge

2. The ungodly and pagan are responsible for their behavior, even though their understanding of God may have been limited. - See Romans 1:18-20

III. **ONE TOO MANY ASSUMPTIONS** (2:4-5)

*- Our Lord is not partial!*

## A. THE THINKING

1. About “them” > They are much worse than me

2. About “us” > God’s people are exempt from His wrath

## B. THE REALITY

1. God judges His own - Heb. 12:3-11

2. God judges those who sin against Him (2:4b)

3. God’s judgment for Judah is the same as for others (2:5)

IV. **ONE TOO MANY MISTAKES**

*- Our Lord is not forever patient*

## A. CONSIDERATION: We are wrong ...

1. Our concept of God is wrong > One too many misconceptions!

2. Our tolerance of sin is wrong > One too many sins!

3. Our dependence on mercy is wrong > One too many assumptions!

4. Our unrepentant heart is wrong > One too many delays!

## B. REALIZATION: God will not always and forever turn away!

## C. INVITATION: Get right before its too late.

**CONCLUSION: How much will God take before His wrath explodes?**

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