

AMOS, HOSEA, MICAH

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# SEEING JESUS AND OURSELVES IN THE PROPHETS

THE PROPHETS SPEAK OF JESUS

*Jesus said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”*

LUKE 24.44

*This salvation was something even the prophets wanted to know more about when they prophesied about this gracious salvation prepared for you. They wondered what time or situation the Spirit of Christ within them was talking about when He told them in advance about Christ's suffering and his great glory afterward.*

1 PETER 1.10-11



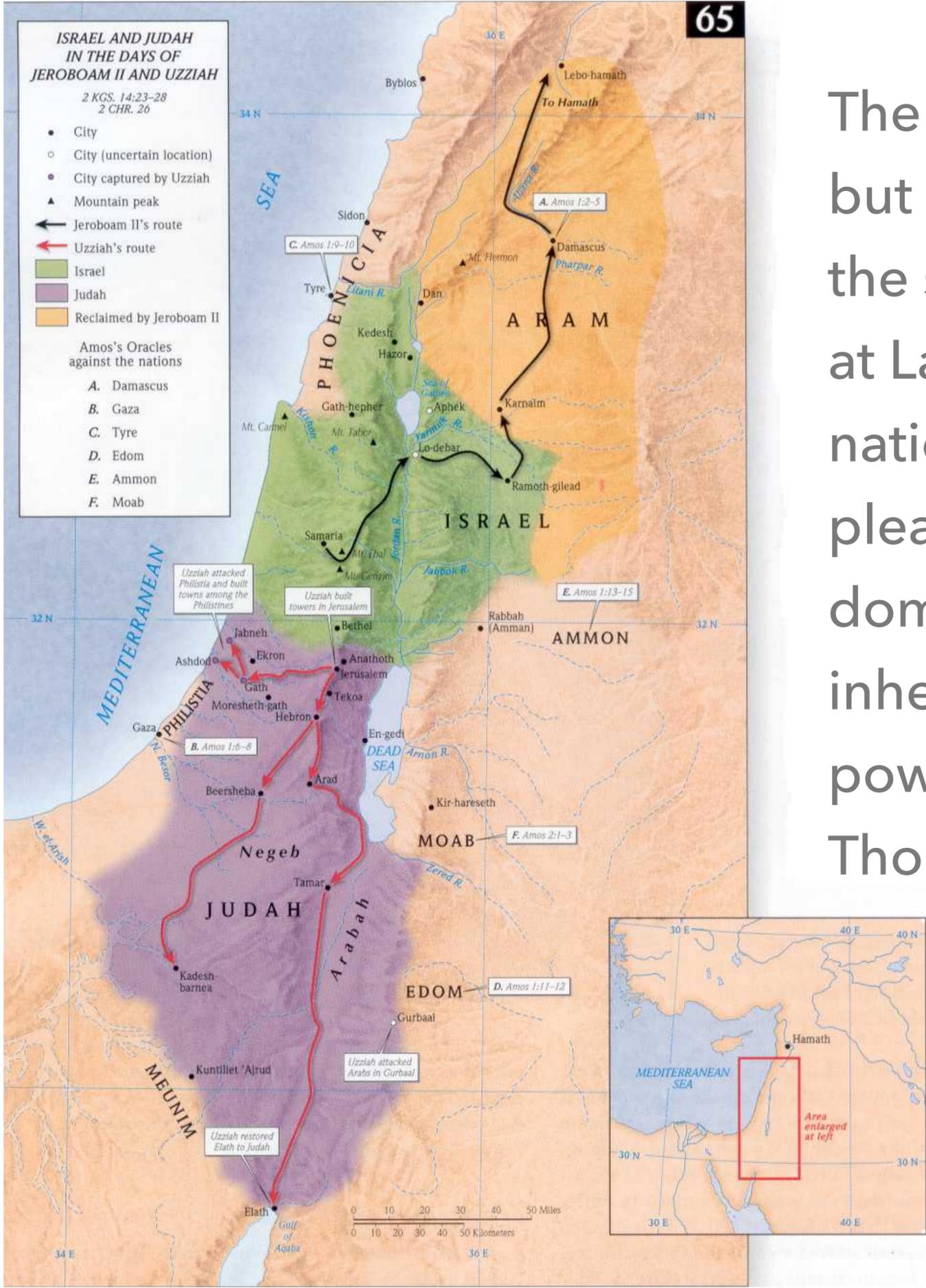


**ISRAEL AND JUDAH IN THE DAYS OF JEROBOAM II AND UZZIAH**  
 2 KGS. 14:23-28  
 2 CHR. 26

- City
- City (uncertain location)
- City captured by Uzziah
- ▲ Mountain peak
- ← Jeroboam II's route
- Uzziah's route
- Israel
- Judah
- Reclaimed by Jeroboam II

**Amos's Oracles against the nations**

- A. Damascus
- B. Gaza
- C. Tyre
- D. Edom
- E. Ammon
- F. Moab



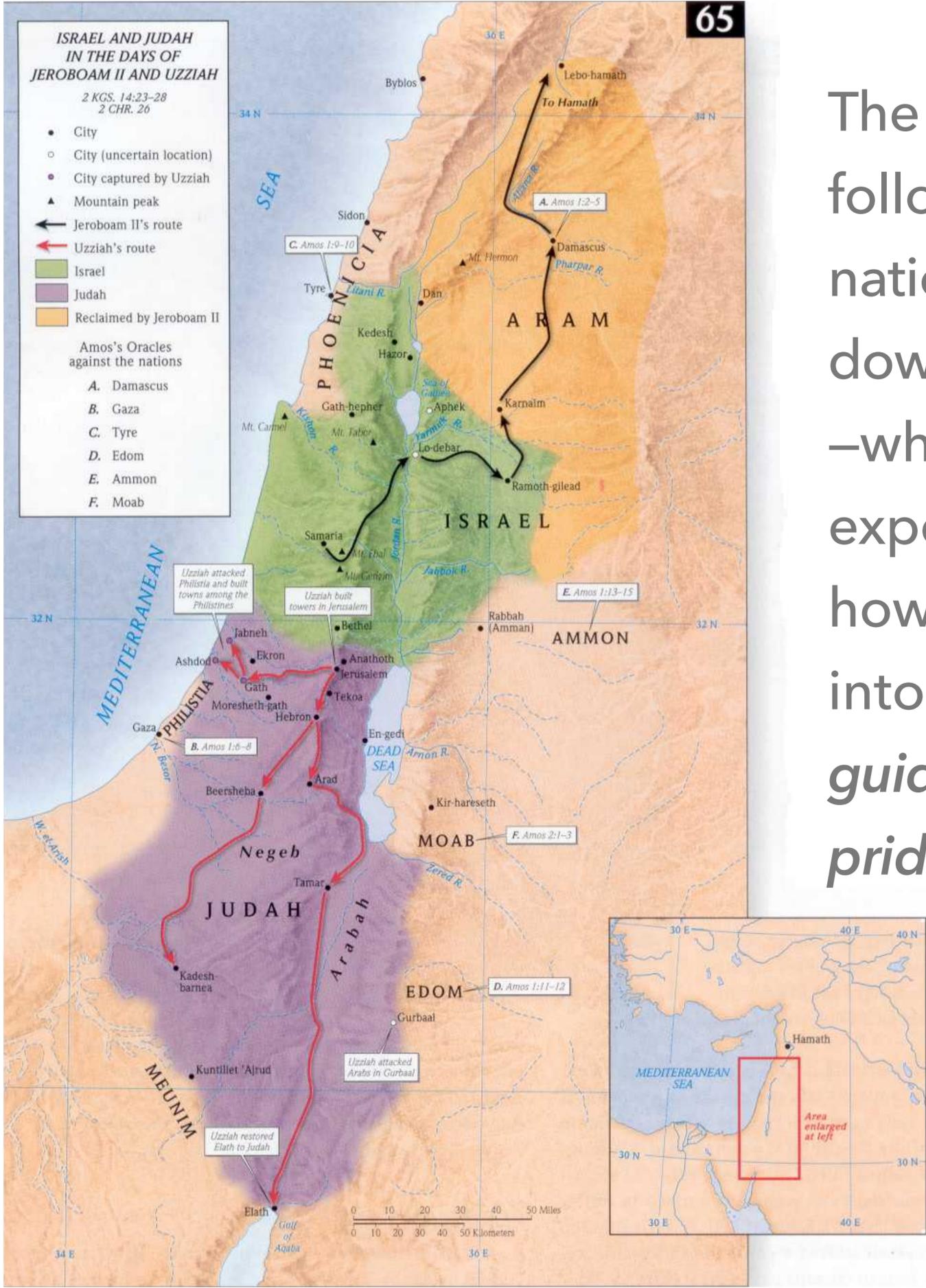
The Kingdom of Israel was economically prosperous but spiritually bankrupt. Through Hosea, God spoke in the same terms to Israel as Jesus spoke to the church at Laodicea (Hosea 7.9-10; Revelation 3.17). The nation was arrogant; the people were prosperity and pleasure-driven. The government exercised eminent domain to seize property and deprive people of their inheritance; the poor were exploited by the more powerful; the courts were biased in their judgments. Though God sent warning after warning, they rejected the call of every prophet to return to God and seek His righteousness, so God gave success to their invaders. After just 210 years, the kingdom was obliterated and never restored.

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The southern Kingdom of Judah alternated between following the idolatrous practices of surrounding nations and returning to God. At the heart of every downturn was an "I'll serve God however I want" attitude –which is, in reality, "I'll serve any god I want." Judah experienced several spiritual reformations. In time, however, God's Word and the worship of Him would fall into neglect. *When God's Word no longer has its guiding, restraining, and correcting authority in our lives, pride, deception, and idolatry fill the vacuum.* Judah did not learn from Israel's demise; after a third invasion by the Babylonians, Jerusalem was totally destroyed and the remaining population deported—just 115 years after Israel's destruction.

## WHAT DOES ALL OF THIS HAVE TO DO WITH JESUS?

▶ Jesus came for one purpose: to save people from their sins (Matthew 1.21).

His work of salvation had two components:

(1) Perfect obedience to the Law (Matthew 5.17; Hebrews 5.8-9);

(2) The sacrifice of his life as a ransom—a payment (Mark 10.45).

*They will strike Israel's leader  
in the face with a rod.*

MICAH, page 49 (IMMERSE: *The Reading Bible*: PROPHETS, Tyndale House)

*Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spit on him.*

*Then they led him out to crucify him.*

- ▶ The writings of the prophets serve to warn us of the depth of our sinfulness, our utter inability to be right with God, and the absolute law that “the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6.23).

*“The people of Israel have sinned again and again,  
and I will not let them go unpunished.*

*AMOS, page 5*

*For I know the vast number of your sins  
and the depth of your rebellion.*

*AMOS, page 10*

*The time of Israel’s punishment has come;  
the day of payment is here.*

*HOSEA, page 32*

► Thus, they reveal the extreme work of salvation that could only be accomplished by *God Himself-in-the-Flesh* dying for our justification.

*But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,*

*are only a small village among all the people of Judah. (cf. Matthew 2.4-6)*

*Yet a ruler of Israel, (cf. Luke 1.32-33)*

*whose origins are in the distant past, (cf. John 1.1; 8.58)*

*will come from you on my behalf. (cf. Luke 2.1-4; John 3.17)*

*And he will stand to lead his flock with the LORD's strength, (cf. John 10.14-16)*

*in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. (cf. John 12.27-28; Hebrews 2.12)*

*Then his people will live there undisturbed, (cf. Revelation 7.16-17)*

*for he will be highly honored around the world. (cf. Matthew 12.18, 21; Colossians 1.5b-6)*

*And he will be the source of peace. (cf. Romans 5.1; Colossians 1.20)*



(1) What is your only comfort in life and death?

Answer: That I am not my own, <sup>1</sup>

but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, <sup>2</sup>  
to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ. <sup>3</sup>

He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, <sup>4</sup>  
and has set me free from all the power of the devil. <sup>5</sup>

He also preserves me in such a way <sup>6</sup>

that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; <sup>7</sup>  
indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. <sup>8</sup>

Therefore, by His Holy Spirit He also assures me of eternal life <sup>9</sup>

and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for Him. <sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> I Corinthians 6.19, 20 <sup>2</sup> Romans 14.7-9 <sup>3</sup> I Corinthians 3.23; Titus 2.14 <sup>4</sup> I Peter 1.18, 19; I John 1.7; 2.2 <sup>5</sup> John 8.34-36; Hebrews 2.14, 15; I John 3.8 <sup>6</sup> John 6.39, 40; 10.27-30; 2 Thessalonians 3.3; I Peter 1.5 <sup>7</sup> Matthew 10.29-31; Luke 21.16-18 <sup>8</sup> Romans 8.28 <sup>9</sup> Romans 8.15, 16; 2 Corinthians 1.21, 22; 5.5; Ephesians 1.13, 14 <sup>10</sup> Romans 8.14



(2) What do you need to know in order to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

Answer: First, how great my sins and misery are; <sup>1</sup>  
second, how I am delivered from all my sins and misery; <sup>2</sup>  
third, how I am to be thankful to God for such deliverance. <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Romans 3.9, 10; I John 1.10 <sup>2</sup> John 17.3; Acts 4.12; 10:43. <sup>3</sup> Matthew 5.16; Romans 6.13; Ephesians 5.8-10; I Peter 2.9, 10

(3) From where do you know your sins and misery?

Answer: From the law of God. <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Romans 3.20