

2026-04-29 Points

## # Sermon Analysis

**Title:** Too Little for Too Long: Understanding God's Patience and Wrath Through Amos

**Sermon Summary:**

This sermon introduces the book of Amos, focusing on the balance between God's grace and His righteous judgment. The pastor emphasizes that while God is gracious, compassionate, and slow to anger, His patience should not be mistaken for approval of sin or taken for granted. Using the prophet Amos—a shepherd from Tekoa called by God to deliver difficult messages—the sermon warns against presumptuous faith that assumes salvation without genuine repentance and holy living. The message challenges American Christianity's tendency toward comfort over holiness, urging believers to pay attention to God's voice, appreciate His kindness as an invitation to repentance, and live with persistent devotion rather than casual commitment. The sermon calls for balance between presumption (assuming we're saved without concern) and paranoia (never believing we can be saved), advocating instead for grateful, attentive discipleship that recognizes the cost of Christ's sacrifice.

**Key Points:**

- God's patience and kindness are designed to lead us toward repentance, not to enable continued sin
- The danger of presumptuous faith—assuming salvation while living carelessly
- Amos was an ordinary shepherd called to deliver God's message of impending judgment
- God's wrath is real and will come after persistent warnings are ignored
- The phrase "for three sins, even for four, I will not turn back my wrath" indicates that judgment comes after prolonged patience
- American Christians risk taking God's grace for granted, prioritizing comfort over holiness
- We must learn to recognize and respond to God's voice through His Word

and Spirit

- Persistence in doing good and seeking God is essential for genuine faith (Romans 2)
- God's judgment is fair and based on truth, not favoritism
- Even those without the law have an internal conscience that knows right from wrong
- Taking time to know Jesus personally is vital—not just claiming to know Him
- The importance of teaching children God's Word and letting it work in their souls

**\*\*Scripture Reference:\*\***

- Primary: Book of Amos, Chapter 1-2
- Supporting: Romans 1-2
- References to: Deuteronomy 6, 2 Corinthians (taking thoughts captive), Ephesians (in anger do not sin)
- Matthew (Jesus raising the bar on commandments—from adultery to lustful thoughts, from murder to hatred)
- Job (referenced as previous sermon series)

**\*\*Stories:\*\***

- The story of Amos being called from shepherding in Tekoa (about 5 miles from Bethlehem) to prophesy
- David as a shepherd from Bethlehem who killed a lion to protect his sheep
- Jacob wrestling with God and being renamed Israel
- The pastor's personal testimony of not wanting to be a preacher but feeling God's call
- The prodigal son's confession and repentance (referenced as model of true repentance)
- Judas selling Jesus for silver
- Peter denying Jesus to fit in with the crowd
- Personal anecdotes about the pastor's father's discipline and being a "channel changer" as a child
- Reference to October anniversary of violence against pregnant women and babies (contemporary application of Amos's prophecy)
- Illustration of being a two-year-old's persistence ("why, why, why")