

## Amos 8.1-6

**Amos 8:1** This is what the Lord GOD showed me—a basket of summer fruit. <sup>2</sup> He said, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A basket of summer fruit.” Then the LORD said to me,

The end has come upon my people Israel;  
I will never again pass them by.

<sup>3</sup> The songs of the temple shall become wailings in that day,” says the Lord GOD;

“the dead bodies shall be many,  
cast out in every place. Be silent!”

**Amos 8:4** Hear this, you that trample on the needy,  
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,

<sup>5</sup> saying, “When will the new moon be over  
so that we may sell grain;

and the sabbath,  
so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,  
and practice deceit with false balances,

<sup>6</sup> buying the poor for silver  
and the needy for a pair of sandals,  
and selling the sweepings of the wheat.”

Questions for consideration:

1. What image in this story speaks to you most right now?
2. How is your congregation serving those who are poor during this time?
3. How is your congregation working to created a more just society during this time?
4. What is this passage saying to you right now?
5. What do you think this passage is saying to Good Shepherd?