

“Amos” by Danny Carroll

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Many interpreters of the Bible are confused by the different “levels” of meaning in a given biblical text—how does the “original” meaning relate to meanings we might assign today? And what about the whole history of interpretation that has produced many other meanings? The *Fortress Commentary on the Bible* carefully untangles these different layers, helping readers to see clearly how our own questions intersect with those of previous generations, including those that produced the texts.

For each section in Amos, Daniel Carroll provides a careful reading of the prophetic passages in their original context (what are the specific abuses against which Amos rails?) followed by samples of the book’s interpretation by rabbis and reformers alike, and finally, the concerns that many moderns bring to the book. It is wonderful to have these three layers of interpretation alongside of each other: one understands one’s own interpretive context more fully when one sees it against the backdrop of previous eras. The power of the Bible in shaping lives, both in the past and today, emerges with great clarity.