

A Basket of Summer Fruit: The Sign of the End for Israel

What does the “basket of summer fruit” in Amos 8 represent? Does this vision of the end correspond to any other summer harvest imagery in the Law and the Prophets?

Amos 8:1-2, “And He said, ‘Amos, what do you see?’ So I said, ‘A basket of **summer fruit**.’ Then the LORD said to me: **‘The end** has come upon My people Israel; I will not pass by them anymore” (NKJV).

The Hebrew word often translated as “summer fruit” is *qayits* ([Strong's 7019](#)). In Amos' recorded vision, “summer fruit” (*qayits*) is in parallel to “the end,” which is the Hebrew word *qets* ([Strong's 7093](#)). This play-on-words emphasizes and reinforces the connection between the reaping of a summer harvest and the time of Israel's judgment.

Amos' vision sets the tone for Jeremiah's lament over Israel's time of judgment:

“I will take away their harvest,

declares the LORD.

There will be no grapes on the vine,

nor figs on the tree,

and even the leaf will wither.

Whatever I have given them will be lost to them.” (Jer. 8:13, BSB)

A few verses later in the same context, Jeremiah confirms the connection between God's harvest/removal of summer fruit and Israel's judgment (i.e., they are “left behind”):

My sorrow is beyond healing;

my heart is faint within me.

Listen to the cry of the daughter of my people

from a land far away:

“Is the LORD no longer in Zion?

Is her King no longer there?”

“Why have they provoked Me to anger

with their carved images,

with their worthless foreign idols?”

“The harvest has passed, the summer (*qayits*) has ended,

but we have not been saved.” (Jer. 8:18-20, BSB)

Note the familiar pattern that is found elsewhere in Scripture, specifically regarding the coming 70th week or Tribulation period:

Israel is in distress, because the King has left (Jesus + Church/Resurrection & Rapture); Deuteronomy 32:21 is fulfilled:

“They have made Me jealous by [what is] not God, | They made Me angry by their vanities; And I make them jealous by [what is] not a people, | I make them angry by a foolish nation.” (LSV)

And a gathering/reaping of the summer harvest has been accomplished (Amos 8:1-2).

“The Basket” (Amos 8:1, 2)

The Hebrew word *kelub* ([Strong's 3619](#)) is related to the word *keleb*, “dog” ([Strong's 3611](#)). The Hebrew consonants are similar: *kaph*, *lamed*, *bet*. The vessel in Amos' vision containing the end-time summer fruit (*kelub*) sounds like “dog,” a word that is also related to Joshua's companion, *Kaleb/Caleb*, ([Strong's 3612](#), son of *Jeph*). Caleb is another type of a Gentile who was grafted into God's royal family!

Compare with Isaiah 17:10-11 (another vision of a summer harvest reaping + a Gentile branch grafted in + a connection to a specific Gentile from Scripture, “*Naamans*”):

*“For you have forgotten the God of your salvation and have not remembered the Rock of your refuge; therefore, though you plant **pleasant plants** (*naamanim*) and sow the vine-branch of a stranger, though you make them grow on the day that you plant them, and make them blossom in the morning that you sow, **yet the harvest will flee away** in a day of grief and incurable pain.” (ESV).*

See [Isaiah 17–18: The Root, Shoot, and Fruit of Jesse](#)

In the Greek translation of Amos 8:1, 2, the vessel or container is referred to as an *aggos/ageion*, ([Strong's 30](#)). In the New Testament, this term is connected to Gentiles...gathered into a basket/container/vessel...at the end of the age.

Matthew 13:48-50, *“Again, the kingdom of the heavens is like to a net that was cast into the sea, and gathered together of every kind, which, when it was filled, having drawn up again on the beach, and having sat down, they gathered the good into vessels (*aggos*), and the bad they cast out, so will it be in the full end of the age, the messengers will*

come forth and separate the evil out of the midst of the righteous, and will cast them into the furnace of the fire; there will be the weeping and the gnashing of the teeth.”

Also, the “basket” of fish in the feeding of the 4,000 (Mark 6) is connected to the gathering of the fullness of Gentiles during the Church Age (John 21/Romans 11) and signified by Paul’s deliverance in a “basket” from his enemies in Damascus (see [Rapture Typology in Acts 9](#)).

[Opora](#) “fruit” and the **dog** star (Sirius)...harvest time and the **dog days** of summer.