

Amos 2:9-16

- A a I\* destroyed the Amorite before you\* (9a)  
b whose height was like the height of cedars (9b)  
b' who was as strong as oaks (9c)  
a' I destroyed his fruit above and his roots beneath (9d)

B I brought you up out of the land of Egypt (10a)  
and led you forty years in the wilderness to possess the land of the Amorite. (10b)

C I raised up some of your children to be prophets (11a)

D and some of your youth to be nazarites. (11b)

E Is it not so, O people of Israel? says YHWH (11c)

D' You made the nazarites drink wine (12a)

C' and commanded the prophets saying, "You shall not prophesy." (12b)

B' I will press you down in your place, just as a cart presses down when it is full of sheaves. (13)

- A' c the swift will not be able to flee (14a)  
d the strong will not retain their strength (14b)  
e the mighty will not save their lives (14c)  
d' the archers will not stand (15a)  
e' the runners will not save themselves (15b)  
e'' the horsemen will not save their lives (15c)  
c' the most courageous will flee naked in that day says YHWH (16)

\*I = YHWH; you = Israel

*The pairings seem to indicate the following:*

*AA' The effects of God's judgment on those he punishes*

*BB' God raised up Israel and will press down Israel*

*CC' God raised up prophets; Israel rejected them*

*DD' God raised up nazarites; Israel made them break their vows*

*E As the history is true, so will the prophecy be true*