

Zephaniah Thesis
"Turn or Burn"
July 19, 2026
Hymn # 410 {R} "Cleanse Me"

Thesis Verse: 2:1-3 - Gather yourselves together, yes, gather together, O undesirable nation, Before the decree is issued, Or the day passes like chaff, Before the LORD's fierce anger comes upon you, Before the day of the LORD's anger comes upon you! Seek the LORD, all you meek of the earth, Who have upheld His justice. Seek righteousness, seek humility. It may be that you will be hidden In the day of the LORD's anger.

Thesis Statement: "God's Judgment is real. The "Day of the LORD" looms His imminently impending consequences for sin, it calls us to fervently repent, and proclaims hope for those who submit to His sovereign rule. God's desire is to redeem and restore. Only repentance can draw His mercy and temper divine judgment.

Alternate Outline**

Chapter outlines

1. Chapter 1:7 - Judgment on Jerusalem
 - a. 1 = Zephaniah's lineage
 - b. 2-7 = Prophesied Judgment on Judah
 - c. 7-18 = The Great Day of the LORD
2. Chapter 2:1-3 - An offer to repent
 - a. 1-3 = A call to Repent
 - b. 4-15 = Judgment on the Gentile Nations
 - i. 4-7 Philistia to the West
 - ii. 8-11 Moab and Ammon to the East
 - iii. 12 Ethiopia to the South
 - iv. 13-15 Assyria to the North
3. Chapter 3:15-17 - Glory to God for His Great Restoration
 - a. 1-7 = Wickedness of Jerusalem
 - b. 8 = Gathering of Nations for Judgment
 - c. 9-13 = Prophecy for the restoration of Israel
 - d. 14-20 = The restoration of God's people
 - i. 15-17 = God's Faithfulness Manifested
 - ii. 18-20 = Future hope in God's Faithfulness

Application for RBC

1. All sin has Consequences
2. All sin brings Condemnation
3. Repentance is not an action
4. God and God alone always seeks our restoration
5. You can be restored through repentance

Benediction: Acts 3:11-26

****Alternate Outline - This outline does not follow the chapter breaks but does a better job of categorizing the Judgments**

1. Judgment on Jerusalem (1:1–2:3)

- a. Zephaniah Prophesies Judgment on Judah (1:1–6)**
- b. The Day of the LORD (1:7–18)**
- c. A Call to Repentance (2:1–3)**

2. Judgment on the Nations (and Jerusalem) (2:4–3:8)

- a. Judgment on the Philistines (2:4–7)**
- b. Judgment on Moab and Ammon (2:8–11)**
- c. Judgment on Cush and Assyria (2:12–15)**
- d. Judgment on Jerusalem (3:1–5)**
- e. Purification of the Nations (3:6–8)**

3. Hope for the Nations and Jerusalem (3:9–20)

- a. A Faithful Remnant (3:9–13)**
- b. Israel's Restoration (3:14–20)**