



# THE DAY OF THE LORD IS NEAR

An investigation into the  
prophets Zephaniah and  
Habakkuk

With Jesse Bridges and  
Tim Oakleaf

*Welcome! We are glad you are  
here.*



# HOMework OPTIONS

- *“You get out of it what you put into it.”*
- Has anyone done any?



**JUDGMENT IN ALL DIRECTIONS**

**JUDGMENT TO THE EAST**

**JUDGMENT TO THE SOUTH**

**JUDGMENT TO THE NORTH**

**SUMMARY**

**“SO WHAT?”**

**NEXT WEEK**

# CHAPTER 2:8-15

## LESSON FIVE

### AGENDA:

# JUDGMENT IN ALL DIRECTIONS

Cross by Country Word Puzzle:

Seacoast  
Ethiopia  
Philistines  
Assyria  
Ekron  
Moab  
Canaan  
Ammon  
Nineveh

N.: \_\_\_\_\_

W.: \_\_\_\_\_



E.: \_\_\_\_\_

S.: \_\_\_\_\_



# JUDGMENT IN ALL DIRECTIONS

Cross by Country Word Puzzle:

Seacoast  
Ethiopia  
Philistines  
Assyria  
Ekron  
Moab  
Canaan  
Ammon  
Nineveh

W.: v4+5  
Canaan  
Seacoast  
Philistines  
Ekron

N.: v13-15  
Assyria  
Nineveh



S.: v12  
Ethiopia

E.: v8-11  
Moab  
Ammon

# JUDGMENT IN ALL DIRECTIONS

## Temporal Directions:

- West – Canaan
- East – Moab
- South – Ethiopia
- North – Assyria

Babylonian  
Invasion  
Middle East



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## Spiritual Dimensions:

- Satan
- His Demons
- Unbelievers
- [Our works]

Four Horsemen of the  
Apocalypse  
Global

*Think He is trying to get a message across?*



# JUDGMENT TO THE EAST, V8-11

## V.8 Moab and Ammon

- “taunting” *cherpah* [kher-paw’] = antagonistic insults, scornful, a matter of shaming and disgrace, rebuke, reproach
- “revilings” *gidduwph* [ghid-doof’] = reproach
  - More insults, plural form, magnified intensity
  - Essentially, to the effect of: “You are worthless scum and so is your pitiful excuse for a god.”
- Taunting repeated for emphasis, as in heaped upon them



# JUDGMENT TO THE EAST, V8-11

## V. 9 God's response:

- “as I live” and “Surely” = a solemn oath, will come to pass without a doubt
- To a bad attitude – pride and arrogance, v. 10
- To the verbal abuse of His children
- To arrogance against God's people, which is arrogance against God
- Liken to Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 10:19, 19:19+20)
  - “nettles and salt pits” = utterly barren and unable to support life (Jeremiah 48:9)
  - “a perpetual devastation” = a wasteland forever

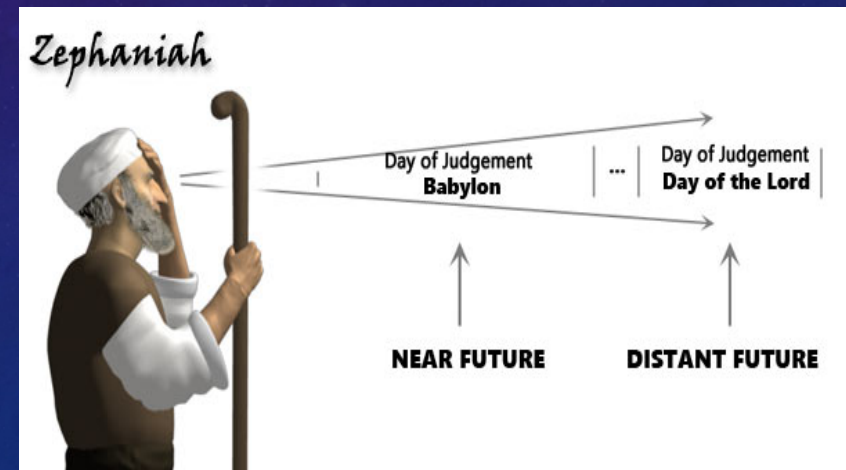
As promised, God will bestow upon His Remnant (“the remainder”) these lands as an inheritance (See Genesis 15:15-21, the Abrahamic Covenant)



# JUDGMENT TO THE EAST, V8-11

## V. 10+11 God's response to their godlessness:

- Pride (See Isaiah 16:6, Jeremiah 48:29)
- Taunting (pride) and arrogance (See Ezekiel 25:1-11, Judges 11:17, Numbers 20:21)
  - “taunt” (diff. v.8) charaph [khaw-raf'] includes defiance to the extent of blasphemy
- Results in the destruction of their idols/gods
- Complete fulfillment will be in the future
- See Philippians 2:9-11



*Do we not also have good reason to be “terrified” of Him?*

*See Matthew 10:28*

# JUDGMENT TO THE SOUTH, V12

## Ethiopia (Cushites)

- “slain” chalal [khaw-lawl'] = fatally wounded, pierced
- “My sword” (See Hebrews 4:12)
  - chereb [kheh'-reb] = sword, knife, *tool for cutting stone*, as in a chisel - for hardened hearts?

[Skit Guys - God's Chisel - Bing video](#)

“On the one side, we have a two-edged sword versus the joints and marrow. On the other side, we have God’s word versus the soul and the spirit. The joints and marrow are the deepest parts of man. To divide the joints is to divide the bone outwardly. To divide the marrow is to divide [*split open*] the bone inwardly.”

[www.ministrysamples.org](http://www.ministrysamples.org)





A map of the Assyrian Empire in 650 B.C. The empire is highlighted in orange and covers Mesopotamia, including the Taurus Mountains to the north, the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, and the Persian Gulf to the south. Major cities like Nineveh, Ashur, and Babylon are marked. Surrounding regions like Anatolia, Syria, Phoenicia, and Egypt are also labeled. A scale bar at the bottom indicates 500 miles. An inset map in the top left shows the location of the empire within the world's continents.

## Assyrian Empire, 650 B.C.

# JUDGMENT TO THE NORTH, V13

## Assyria

- Nineveh

- Built by Nimrod (See Genesis 10:11)
- Spared by God (See Jonah 1:2, 3:5+10)
- Referenced by Jesus (See Matthew 12:38-41, 16:4, Luke 11:29+30)
- Flooded, captured, and destroyed (See Nahum 1:8, 2:6+8, 3:1+2, 7, 9)

“an ancient Assyrian city of Upper Mesopotamia, located on the outskirts of Mosul in modern-day northern Iraq. It is located on the eastern bank of the Tigris River and was the capital and largest city of the Neo-Assyrian Empire, as well as the largest city in the world for several decades.” Wikipedia





# JUDGMENT TO THE NORTH, V14

- Destruction, desolation, parched – a wasteland, wilderness, barren landscape, uninhabitable desert
- Results of desolation:
  - Herds of animals are comfortably at home due to the absence of humans
  - Animals freely roost on columns of the buildings
  - Birds sing undisturbed in the windows
  - Trappings of civilization (wall coverings) are gone, walls laid bare...

*As we will be when we stand before the Lord*



# JUDGMENT TO THE NORTH, V15

**“exultant” alliyz [al-leez’] = rejoicing, jubilant, joyous**

- **“Say what?!” ... In the face of judgment?**
- **See examples in Isaiah 32:9-14, 47:8-14**
- **Nineveh was so entirely obliterated that its site was unknown, laying undiscovered until modern times**

# JUDGMENT TO THE NORTH, V15

**“securely” betach [beh’takh] (KJV “carelessly”) = carefree, false sense of security, confidence in their defensive fortifications/impenetrability, assured of protection**

- **Arrogance/pride (See Proverbs 16:18)**

**“hiss” and “wave/wag” = signs of scorn, contempt, derision**

- **Whistle, as in disbelief, shock**
- **Literally, “shake his fist” as in anger**

**Theme for V.8-15?**

**See the Lesson 5 handout**



# SUMMARY



**GOD**

**JUDGES THE  
REBELLIOUS**



**GOD**

**PROTECTS THE  
REMNANT**



**GOD**

**PROMISES  
RESTORATION**



**GOD**

**DETERMINES  
THE RESULTS**

# “SO WHAT?”

Am I trusting God will protect me?

Do I believe God has control of all my circumstances?

Do I expect God to enable me to defeat my spiritual enemies/temptations?

Am I truly looking forward to my inheritance?

Do I reverence God for His absolute power?



FOR  
NEXT  
WEEK...

Read Chapter 3

Homework:

- Pick from the handout; or *make them up for yourself!*

Suggested word list:

- Defiled, reckless, profaned, cut off, revere, appointed, corrupt, rise up, dispersed; or *choose others you like!*



**THANKS FOR COMING**

**HOPE TO SEE YOU NEXT TIME...**



## **Zephaniah Chapter 2, Lesson 5 Handout**

### Outline Chapter 2:8-15:

- I. Judgment in All Directions
- II. Judgment to the East
- III. Judgment to the South
- IV. Judgment to the North

### Theme v8-15

God's response to being disrespected

Judgment for disrespecting God and His People

### Scripture references:

Sodom and Gomorrah – Genesis 10:19, 19:19+20

Inheritance for the Remnant - Genesis 15:15-21

Moab's and Ammon's arrogance – Isaiah 16:6, Jeremiah 48:29, Ezekiel 25:1-11, Judges 11:17, Numbers 20:21

Every tongue and every knee - Philippians 2:9-11

Reverence of God - Matthew 10:28

His sword – Hebrews 4:12

Nineveh

Built by Nimrod - Genesis 10:11

Spared by God – Jonah 1:2, 3:5+10

Referenced by Jesus – Matthew 12:38-41, 16:4, Luke 11:29+30

Flooded, captured, and destroyed – Nahum 1:8, 2:6+8, 3:1+2, 7, 9

False sense of security – Isaiah 32:9-14, 47:8-14

Arrogance and pride – Proverbs 16:18