

# The Day of the LORD

Zephaniah Week Three

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# Be Silent!

- Psalm 46
  - ✓ Possibly written by King Hezekiah
  - ✓ Written after the deliverance from Sennacherib
    - ✓ Remember back to week one (2 Kings 19:15-19)
  - ✓ Context not the same as Zephaniah; drawing similarities for atmosphere
- Command before judgement is rendered
  - ✓ Think about a judge in a courtroom

# Precursor to Judgement

- Jericho (Joshua 6)
  - ✓ God grants Jericho to Israel; announces his judgement
  - ✓ Instructions: Circle the city once a day for six days and seven times on the seventh day. The priests carried seven trumpets before the Ark of the Covenant
  - ✓ Verse 10
- Psalm 50:16-22
  - ✓ We fall into sin, or tolerate it
  - ✓ God is silent
  - ✓ Judgement

# Precursor to Judgement

- Revelation 8

- ✓ What came before

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Seal: White Horseman
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Seal: Red Horseman
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Seal: Black Horseman
4. 4<sup>th</sup> Seal: Pale Horseman
5. 5<sup>th</sup> Seal: Alter with the souls of the martyrs
6. 6<sup>th</sup> Seal: Great Earthquake
7. 7<sup>th</sup> Seal: Silence

# Day of the Lord

- Zephaniah mentions 24 times
- Origin of “The Day of the Lord”
  - ✓ Sovereign’s day of conquest
  - ✓ Old Testament – Acts of Judgement; historical and future
  - ✓ First used in Amos (assuming Amos predates Joel and Obadiah)
  - ✓ In Zephaniah – coming judgement of Judah; universal outpouring of divine anger
- Revelation 19

# The Feast/Sacrifice

- The Prepared Sacrifice: Judah
- Consecrated guests
  - ✓ Babylonians: Jerusalem fell in 586 BC
  - ✓ Judah
- The Princes
- Foreign Garments

# The Threshold

- Leap over the threshold
  - ✓ Threshold seen as a sanctified space
  - ✓ Master: king or pagan deity
  - ✓ Violence and deceit: wealth taken by oppressive measures
- 1 Samuel 5:5
  - ✓ Head and hands

# Destruction of Jerusalem

- The Fish Gate
  - ✓ North wall next to fish market; Nebuchadnezzar entered through
- The Second Quarter (or New Quarter)
  - ✓ District northwest of the temple
- The Mortor
  - ✓ Geographically depressed area
  - ✓ Business ceases; those who weigh silver would perish



# The Search

- Search with Lamps
  - ✓ Think of a night watchman
- Stagnant in spirit
  - ✓ Church at Laodicea – Revelation 3
- The LORD will not do good or evil
  - ✓ God doesn't care
  - ✓ Absent father

# Desolation

- Wealth will become plunder
- Houses desolate
  - ✓ Houses built; no one lives in them
  - ✓ Planted vineyards; no wine
- Warrior will weep

# Day of the LORD

- A day of wrath
- A state of complete emptiness
  - ✓ Emotion distress; anxiety invoking
  - ✓ Physical destruction not experienced before
- Darkness and gloom
  - ✓ Isaiah 59:9
  - ✓ 2 Peter 2:4

# Cast Aside

- Distress
- Walking like the blind
- Blood like dust; flesh like dung
- No amount of wealth will deliver
- A terrifying, complete end