

God in the Ruins

The Message of the Minor Prophets

ZEPHANIAH

Zephaniah 1-3

5/15/2022

THE DAY OF THE LORD

Understanding God's future action to judge sin and save his people:

1. Tells us where we are _____.
2. Tells us how things are going to _____.

THE GREAT REVERSALS

Zephaniah leaves out the name of Babylon to highlight _____
_____ in orchestrating the rise and fall of Jerusalem.

A CALL TO REPENT

- What the people **ARE**: _____.
- **WHY** are the people like this? They are a "shameful" nation; they do not _____ for the _____.
- **WHAT** can they do? _____ the Lord.
- **HOW?** By being _____ and keeping God's _____.
- What's the **RESULT** of all this?
 - The repentant are the _____.
 - The humble remnant are God's _____ of love and power.
 - Real humility rooted in God's grace is _____ and brings _____.

FIRE & SONG

- God's "Day of the Lord" fire is not meant simply to destroy, but it's meant to _____.
- Our God is a _____ God.

THE POWER OF HOPE

1. It's a great motivation for _____.
2. It emphasizes the _____ of God.
3. It's an _____ to believers, even as they suffer.

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ZEPHANIAH 1

¹ The word of the Lord that came to Zephaniah son of Cushi, the son of Gedaliah, the son of Amariah, the son of Hezekiah, during the reign of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah: ² "I will sweep away everything from the face of the earth," declares the Lord. ³ "I will sweep away both man and beast; I will sweep away the birds in the sky and the fish in the sea—and the idols that cause the wicked to stumble." "When I destroy all mankind on the face of the earth," declares the Lord.

⁴ "I will stretch out my hand against Judah and against all who live in Jerusalem. I will destroy every remnant of Baal worship in this place, the very names of the idolatrous priests— ⁵ ...those who bow down and swear by the Lord and who also swear by Molek, ⁶ those who turn back from following the Lord and neither seek the Lord nor inquire of him."

⁷ Be silent before the Sovereign Lord, for the day of the Lord is near. The Lord has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated those he has invited. ⁸ "On the day of the Lord's sacrifice I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all those clad in foreign clothes.

¹² At that time I will search Jerusalem... ¹⁴ The great day of the Lord is near—near and coming quickly. The cry on the day of the Lord is bitter; the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry. ¹⁵ That day will be a day of wrath... ¹⁶ a day of trumpet and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the corner towers. ¹⁷ "I will bring such distress on all people that they will grope about like those who are blind, because they have sinned against the Lord.

ZEPHANIAH 2

¹ **Gather together, gather yourselves together, you shameful nation, ² before the decree takes effect and that day passes like windblown chaff, before the Lord's fierce anger comes upon you, before the day of the Lord's wrath comes upon you. ³ Seek the Lord, all you humble of the land, you who do what he commands. Seek righteousness, seek humility; perhaps you will be sheltered on the day of the Lord's anger.**

ZEPHANIAH 3

⁸ Therefore wait for me," declares the Lord, "for the day I will stand up to testify. I have decided to assemble the nations, to gather the kingdoms and to pour out my wrath on them — all my fierce anger. The whole world will be consumed by the fire of my jealous anger. ⁹ "Then I will purify the lips of the peoples, that all of them may call on the name of the Lord and serve him shoulder to shoulder. ¹⁰ From beyond the rivers of Cush my worshipers, my scattered people, will bring me offerings. ¹¹ On that day you, Jerusalem, will not be put to shame for all the wrongs you have done to me... ¹² But I will leave within you the meek and humble. The remnant of Israel will trust in the name of the Lord...

¹⁴ Sing, Daughter Zion; shout aloud, Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, Daughter Jerusalem! ¹⁵ The Lord has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy. The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm.

¹⁷ **The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing."**

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