

Terry Fullam Audio Library

Scriptural References and Comment Notes

12-036-36 ZEPHANIAH: TERROR AND TENDERNESS (RSV)

:00-2:40 Comments regarding that portion of scripture commonly called the Minor Prophets.

2:40 Zephaniah 1:1 Teaching on the prophet and the context of the historical setting in which he lived. The time of king Josiah (640-609 B.C. +/-)

4:05 Zephaniah 1:12 Even though Josiah was thought of as a revival king, the religion of the day was superficial. The attitude of the people was; "The Lord will do no good, nor will he do ill".

The message of Zephaniah is; all evil will one day be judged and put away before the Lord. Delayed judgment gives the people the idea that they are getting away with ignoring God's will for them. Teaching – God is love, yet he is also holy, consequently, justice will be done.

8:25 Zephaniah 1:2-3 A declaration of judgment against man.

9:00 Zephaniah 1:4-6 A specific word to those who are called by his name but ignore his will and purpose.

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10:15 Zephaniah 1:7 Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the LORD is at hand... Reference, Zephaniah 1:14 The great day of the LORD is near... Reference, Zephaniah 1:15-16 15 A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

Teaching on the Lord's message of judgment.

13:00 Zephaniah 2:1-4 The Lord's loving nature makes an appeal for repentance, verse 3, seek humility, seek righteousness and perhaps you will be hidden from the wrath. The name Zephaniah means "one who is hidden by the Lord".

15:00 Zephaniah 2:5-15 The pronouncement of the Day of wrath against all.

Teaching on God's love and its relationship to the judgment to come. Love can be angry – seeing a loved one involved in destructive behavior brings out anger. If there were no love then there would be an indifference to their behavior.

The object of God's love is his people, and any behavior that threatens to destroy them brings anger. God's love is not just a trivial sentimentalism.

God is holy and righteous as well as loving and merciful.

19:00 Zephaniah 3:2 A litany of the failures of God's people:

"She listens to no one" - Disobedience - Teaching.
Reference, Romans 6:23 The wages of sin is death.

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“She accepts no correction” – Stupidity – Reference, 2 Timothy 3:16 The scripture is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.

“She does not trust in the LORD” – unbelief lay at the root of our problem and sin.

“She does not draw near to her God”. Reference, James 4:8 Draw near to God and he will draw near to you. Not to seek nearness with him is to earn his judgment.

God wants us mature enough in our faith that we are able to judge ourselves, confess our sins and come into the intimacy with him that he makes possible.

Teaching on the word “Confess” (to say along together with). Repentance from the place of Godly sorrow over grieving the Spirit within.

29:00 Zephaniah 3:14-17 Joy comes forth from restored fellowship.

Teaching on our response to the Lord.

Zeph. 1:1 The word of the LORD which came to Zephaniah the son of Cushi, son of Gedaliah, son of Amariah, son of Hezekiah, in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah.

Zeph. 1:2 “I will utterly sweep away everything from the face of the earth,” says the LORD. 3 “I will sweep away man and beast; I will sweep away the birds of the air and the fish of the sea. I will overthrow the wicked; I will cut off mankind from the face of the earth,” says the LORD. 4 “I will stretch out my hand against Judah, and against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off from this place the remnant of Baal and the name of the idolatrous priests; 5 those who bow down on the roofs to the host of the heavens; those who bow down and swear to the LORD and yet swear by Milcom; 6 those who have turned back from following the LORD, who do not seek the LORD or inquire of him.”

Zeph. 1:7 Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. 8 And on the day of the LORD’s sacrifice — “I will punish the officials and the king’s sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. 9 On that day I will punish every one who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master’s house with violence and fraud.”

Zeph. 1:10 “On that day,” says the LORD, “a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. 11 Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. 12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are thickening upon their lees, those who say in their hearts, ‘The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.’ 13 Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.”

Zeph. 1:14 The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the mighty man cries aloud there. 15 A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

Zeph. 2:1 Come together and hold assembly, O shameless nation, 2 before you are driven away like the drifting chaff, before there comes upon you the fierce anger of the LORD, before there comes upon you the day of the wrath of the LORD. 3 Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land, who do his commands; seek righteousness, seek humility; perhaps you may be hidden on the day of the wrath of the LORD. 4 For Gaza shall be deserted, and Ashkelon shall become a desolation; Ashdod's people shall be driven out at noon, and Ekron shall be uprooted.

Zeph. 2:5 Woe to you inhabitants of the seacoast, you nation of the Cherethites! The word of the LORD is against you, O Canaan, land of the Philistines; and I will destroy you till no inhabitant is left. 6 And you, O seacoast, shall be pastures, meadows for shepherds and folds for flocks. 7 The seacoast shall become the possession of the remnant of the house of Judah, on which they shall pasture, and in the houses of Ashkelon they shall lie down at evening. For the LORD their God will be mindful of them and restore their fortunes.

Zeph. 2:8 "I have heard the taunts of Moab and the revilings of the Ammonites, how they have taunted my people and made boasts against their territory. 9 Therefore, as I live," says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, "Moab shall become like Sodom, and the Ammonites like Gomorrah, a land possessed by nettles and salt pits, and a waste for ever. The remnant of my people shall plunder them, and the survivors of my nation shall possess them." 10 This shall be their lot in return for their pride, because they scoffed and boasted against the people of the LORD of hosts. 11 The LORD will be terrible against them; yea, he will famish all the gods of the earth, and to him shall bow down, each in its place, all the lands of the nations.

Zeph. 2:12 You also, O Ethiopians, shall be slain by my sword.

Zeph. 2:13 And he will stretch out his hand against the north, and destroy Assyria; and he will make Nineveh a desolation, a dry waste like the desert. 14 Herds shall lie down in the midst of her, all the beasts of the field; the vulture and the hedgehog shall lodge in her capitals; the owl shall hoot in the window, the raven croak on the threshold; for her cedar work will be laid bare. 15 This is the exultant city that dwelt secure, that said to herself, "I am and there is

none else.” What a desolation she has become, a lair for wild beasts! Every one who passes by her hisses and shakes his fist.

Zeph. 3:2 She listens to no voice, she accepts no correction. She does not trust in the LORD, she does not draw near to her God.

Rom. 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

2Tim. 3:16 All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

James 4:8 Draw near to God and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you men of double mind.

Zeph. 3:14 Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! 15 The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has cast out your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear evil no more. 16 On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Do not fear, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. 17 The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing