

Zephaniah 1

- ¹ The word of the **LORD** which came unto **Zephaniah** the son of *Cushi*, the son of **Gedaliah**, the son of **Amariah**, the son of **Hizkiah**, in the days of **Josiah** the son of **Amon**, king of **Judah**.
- ² I will utterly consume all things from off the land, saith the **LORD**.
- ³ I will consume man and beast; I will consume the fowls of the heaven, and the fishes of the sea, and the stumbling blocks with the wicked: and I will cut off man from off the land, saith the **LORD**.
- ⁴ I will also stretch out mine hand upon **Judah**, and upon all the inhabitants of **Jerusalem**; and I will cut off the remnant of **Baal** from this place, and the name of the **Chemarims** with the priests;
- ⁵ And them that worship the host of heaven upon the housetops; and them that worship and that swear by the **LORD**, and that swear by **Malcham**;
- ⁶ And them that are turned back from the **LORD**; and those that have not sought the **LORD**, nor enquired for him.
- ⁷ Hold thy peace at the presence of the **Lord GOD**: for the day of the **LORD** is at hand: for the **LORD** hath prepared a sacrifice, he hath bid his guests.
- ⁸ And it shall come to pass in the day of the **LORD's sacrifice**, that I will punish the princes, and the king's children, and all such as are clothed with strange apparel.
- ⁹ In the same day also will I punish all those that leap on the threshold, which fill their masters' houses with violence and deceit.
- ¹⁰ And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the **LORD**, that there shall be the noise of a cry from the fish gate, and an howling from the second, and a great crashing from the hills.
- ¹¹ Howl, ye inhabitants of **Maktesh**, for all the merchant people are cut down; all they that bear silver are cut off. ¹² And it shall come to pass at that time, that I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men that are settled on their lees: that say in their heart, **The LORD will not do good, neither will he do evil**. ¹³ Therefore their goods shall become a booty, and their houses a desolation: they shall also build houses, but not inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, but not drink the wine thereof. ¹⁴ The great day of the **LORD** is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of the **LORD**: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly. ¹⁵ That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶ A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. ¹⁷ And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the **LORD**: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung. ¹⁸ Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of the **LORD's wrath**; but the whole land shall be devoured by the fire of his jealousy: for he shall make even a speedy riddance of all them that dwell in the land.

Zephaniah 2

- ¹ Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O nation not desired;
- ² *Before* the decree bring forth, *before* the day pass as the chaff, *before* the fierce anger of the **LORD** come upon you, *before* the day of the **LORD's** anger come upon you.
- ³ Seek ye the LORD, *all ye meek of the earth*, which have wrought his judgment; seek righteousness, seek meekness: it may be ye shall be hid in the day of the **LORD's** anger.
- ⁴ For **Gaza** shall be forsaken, and **Ashkelon** a desolation: they shall drive out Ashdod at the noon day, and **Ekron** shall be rooted up.
- ⁵ Woe unto the inhabitants of the sea coast, the nation of the **Cherethites**! the word of the **LORD** is against you; O **Canaan**, the land of the **Philistines**, I will even destroy thee, that there shall be no inhabitant.
- ⁶ And the sea coast shall be dwellings and cottages for shepherds, and folds for flocks.
- ⁷ And the coast shall be for the remnant of the house of **Judah**; they shall feed thereupon: in the houses of **Ashkelon** shall they lie down in the evening: for the **LORD** their **God** shall visit them, and turn away their captivity.
- ⁸ I have *heard* the reproach of **Moab**, and the revilings of the children of **Ammon**, whereby they have reproached my people, and magnified themselves against their border.
- ⁹ Therefore as I live, saith the **LORD** of hosts, the **God** of **Israel**, *Surely Moab* shall be as **Sodom**, and the children of **Ammon** as **Gomorrhah**, even the breeding of nettles, and saltpits, and a perpetual desolation: the residue of my people shall spoil them, and the remnant of my people shall possess them.
- ¹⁰ This shall they have for their pride, because they have reproached and magnified themselves against the people of the **LORD** of hosts.
- ¹¹ The **LORD** will be terrible unto them: for he will famish all the gods of the earth; and men shall worship him, every one from his place, even *all* the isles of the heathen.
- ¹² Ye **Ethiopians** also, ye shall be slain by my sword.
- ¹³ And he will stretch out his hand against the *north*, and destroy Assyria; and will make **Nineveh** a desolation, and dry like a wilderness.
- ¹⁴ And flocks shall lie down in the midst of her, *all* the beasts of the nations: both the cormorant and the bittern shall lodge in the upper lintels of it; their voice shall sing in the windows; desolation shall be in the thresholds; for he shall uncover the cedar work.
- ¹⁵ This is the rejoicing city that dwelt carelessly, that said in her heart, I am, and there is none beside me: how is she become a desolation, a place for beasts to lie down in! every one that passeth by her shall hiss, and wag his hand.

Zephaniah 3

- ¹ Woe to her that is filthy and polluted, to the oppressing city!
- ² She obeyed not the voice; she received not correction; she trusted not in the LORD; she drew not near to her God.
- ³ Her princes within her are roaring lions; her judges are evening wolves; they gnaw not the bones till the morrow.
- ⁴ Her prophets are light and treacherous persons: her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the law.
- ⁵ The just LORD is in the midst thereof; he will not do iniquity: every morning doth he bring his judgment to light, he faileth not; but the unjust knoweth no shame.
- ⁶ I have cut off the nations: their towers are desolate; I made their streets waste, that none passeth by: their cities are destroyed, so that there is no man, that there is none inhabitant. ⁷ I said, Surely thou wilt fear me, thou wilt receive instruction; so their dwelling should not be cut off, howsoever I punished them: but they rose early, and corrupted all their doings. ⁸ Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy. ⁹ For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him with one consent. ¹⁰ From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia my suppliants, even the daughter of my dispersed, shall bring mine offering. ¹¹ In that day shalt thou not be ashamed for all thy doings, wherein thou hast transgressed against me: for then I will take away out of the midst of thee them that rejoice in thy pride, and thou shalt no more be haughty because of my holy mountain. ¹² I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the LORD. ¹³ The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth: for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid. ¹⁴ Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. ¹⁵ The LORD hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, even the LORD, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more. ¹⁶ In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Fear thou not: and to Zion, Let not thine hands be slack. ¹⁷ The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing. ¹⁸ I will gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly, who are of thee, to whom the reproach of it was a burden. ¹⁹ Behold, at that time I will undo all that afflict thee: and I will save her that halteth, and gather her that was driven out; and I will get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame. ²⁰ At that time will I bring you again, even in the time that I gather you: for I will make you a name and a praise among all people of the earth, when I turn back your captivity before your eyes, saith the LORD.