

Zephaniah 1:1

The word of the LORD that 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.

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the son of Cushi, son of Gedaliah, son of Amariah,  
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Zephaniah:  
“The LORD has concealed”

Zephaniah 1:2-3

“I will utterly sweep away everything from the face of the earth,” declares the LORD.  
“I will sweep away man and beast;  
I will sweep away the birds of the heavens and the fish of the sea,  
and the rubble with the wicked.  
I will cut off mankind from the face of the earth,”  
declares the LORD.

Zephaniah 1:4-6

“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 along with the priests,  
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,  
those who have turned back from following  
the LORD, who do not seek the LORD  
or inquire of him.”

Zephaniah 1:7-9

Be silent before the Lord GOD!  
For the day of the LORD is near;  
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice  
and consecrated his guests.

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.  
On that day I will punish everyone  
who leaps over the threshold,  
and those who fill their master's house  
with violence and fraud.”

Ezekiel 39:17-21

As for you, son of man, thus says the Lord GOD:  
Speak to the birds of every sort  
and to all beasts of the field,  
“Assemble and come, gather from all around  
to the sacrificial feast that I am preparing for you,  
a great sacrificial feast on the mountains of Israel,  
and you shall eat flesh and drink blood.  
You shall eat the flesh of the mighty,  
and drink the blood of the princes of the earth –  
of rams, of lambs, and of he-goats, of bulls,  
all of them fat beasts of Bashan.”

Ezekiel 39:17-21

“And you shall eat fat till you are filled,  
and drink blood till you are drunk,  
at the sacrificial feast  
that I am preparing for you...

“And I will set my glory among the nations,  
and all the nations shall see my judgment  
that I have executed, and my hand  
that I have laid on them.”

Zephaniah 2:1-2

Gather together, yes, gather, O shameless nation,  
before the decree takes effect –  
before the day passes away like chaff –  
before there comes upon you  
the burning anger of the LORD,  
before there comes upon you  
the day of the anger of the LORD.

Esther 1:18-20; 2:1

“This very day the noble women of Persia and Media who have heard of the queen's behavior will say the same to all the king's officials, and there will be contempt and wrath in plenty. If it please the king, let a royal order go out from him, and let it be written among the laws of the Persians and the Medes so that it may not be repealed, that Vashti is never again to come before King Ahasuerus.”

Esther 1:18-20; 2:1

“And let the king give her royal position to another who is better than she.

So when the decree made by the king is proclaimed throughout all his kingdom, for it is vast, all women will give honor to their husbands, high and low alike.”

After these things, when the anger of King Ahasuerus had abated, he remembered Vashti and what she had done and what had been decreed against her.

Daniel 6:7-8

“All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an injunction, that whoever makes petition to any god or man for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions.

Now, O king, establish the injunction and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked.”

Daniel 6:12-16

Then they came near and said before the king, concerning the injunction, “O king! Did you not sign an injunction, that anyone who makes petition to any god or man within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?”

The king answered and said, “The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked.”

Daniel 6:12-16

Then they answered and said before the king,  
“Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah,  
pays no attention to you, O king,  
or the injunction you have signed,  
but makes his petition three times a day.”

Then the king, when he heard these words,  
was much distressed and set his mind  
to deliver Daniel. And he labored  
till the sun went down to rescue him.

Daniel 6:12-16

Then these men came by agreement to the king and said to the king, “Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no injunction or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed.”

Then the king commanded, and Daniel was brought and cast into the den of lions. The king declared to Daniel, “May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver you!”

Zephaniah 2:1-3

Gather together, yes, gather, O shameless nation,  
before the decree takes effect –  
before the day passes away like chaff –  
before there comes upon you  
the burning anger of the LORD,  
before there comes upon you  
the day of the anger of the LORD.

Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land,  
who do his just commands; seek righteousness;  
seek humility; perhaps you may be hidden  
on the day of the anger of the LORD.

Romans 2:4

Or do you presume on the riches  
of his kindness and forbearance and patience,  
not knowing that God's kindness  
is meant to lead you to repentance?

Colossians 3:3

For you have died,  
and your life is hidden with Christ  
in God.

Zephaniah 3:8

“Therefore wait for me,” declares the LORD,  
“for the day when I rise up to seize the prey.  
For my decision is to gather nations,  
to assemble kingdoms,  
to pour out upon them my indignation,  
all my burning anger;  
for in the fire of my jealousy  
all the earth shall be consumed.”

Zephaniah 3:9-10

“For at that time I will change the speech  
of the peoples to a pure speech, that all of them  
may call upon the name of the LORD  
and serve him with one accord.

From beyond the rivers of Cush my worshipers,  
the daughter of my dispersed ones,  
shall bring my offering.

Isaiah 19:18-22

In that day there will be five cities  
in the land of Egypt that speak  
the language of Canaan and swear allegiance  
to the LORD of hosts...

In that day there will be an altar to the LORD  
in the midst of the land of Egypt,  
and a pillar to the LORD at its border.  
It will be a sign and a witness to the LORD of hosts  
in the land of Egypt.

Isaiah 19:18-22

When they cry to the LORD because of oppressors,  
he will send them a savior and defender,  
and deliver them. And the LORD will make  
himself known to the Egyptians,  
and the Egyptians will know the LORD in that day  
and worship with sacrifice and offering,  
and they will make vows to the LORD  
and perform them.

Isaiah 19:18-22

And the LORD will strike Egypt,  
striking and healing,  
and they will return to the LORD,  
and he will listen to their pleas for mercy  
and heal them.

Zephaniah 3:11

“On that day you shall not be put to shame because of the deeds by which you have rebelled against me; for then I will remove from your midst your proudly exultant ones, and you shall no longer be haughty in my holy mountain.”

Zephaniah 3:12-13

“But I will leave in your midst  
a people humble and lowly.  
They shall seek refuge in the name of the LORD,  
those who are left in Israel;  
they shall do no injustice and speak no lies,  
nor shall there be found in their mouth  
a deceitful tongue.  
For they shall graze and lie down,  
and none shall make them afraid.”

Zephaniah 3:14-15

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel!  
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter of Jerusalem!

The LORD has taken away  
the judgments against you;  
he has cleared away your enemies.  
The King of Israel, the LORD,  
is in your midst;  
you shall never again fear evil.

Zephaniah 3:16-17

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
“Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak.  
The LORD your God is in your midst,  
a mighty one who will save;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
he will quiet you by his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing.

“I will gather those of you who mourn  
for the festival, so that you will no longer  
suffer reproach.”

Zephaniah 3:18-20

Behold, at that time  
I will deal with all your oppressors.  
And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

At that time I will bring you in,  
at the time when I gather you together;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes before your eyes,”  
says the LORD.

Zephaniah 2:3

Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land,  
who do his just commands;  
seek righteousness; seek humility;  
perhaps you may be hidden  
on the day of the anger of the LORD.

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Amos 5:24

But let justice roll down like waters,  
and righteousness  
like an ever-flowing stream.

Ravi Zacharias

“There is a sequence in the Christian faith that is very unique. The sequence is this: Redemption, Righteousness, and Worship. It’s not just logical, but chronological; you cannot alter that sequence.

“In other words, righteousness is never talked about unless one is first redeemed, and worship is never enjoined until one is redeemed and righteous. ‘For who shall ascend to the hill of the LORD... but he that has clean hands and a pure heart?’”

# 1. Remember: judgment is decreed vs. the world

Acts 17:30-31:

“The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

# 1. Remember: judgment is decreed vs. the world

2 Peter 3:10-11:

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief,  
and then the heavens will pass away with a roar,  
and the heavenly bodies will be burned up  
and dissolved, and the earth and the works  
that are done on it will be exposed.

# 1. Remember: judgment is decreed vs. the world

1 Peter 4:12-19:

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

# 1. Remember: judgment is decreed vs. the world

1 Peter 4:12-19:

If you are insulted for the name of Christ,  
you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory  
and of God rests upon you.

But let none of you suffer as a murderer  
or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler.

Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian,  
let him not be ashamed,

but let him glorify God in that name.

# 1. Remember: judgment is decreed vs. the world

1 Peter 4:12-19:

For it is time for judgment to begin  
at the household of God;  
and if it begins with us,  
what will be the outcome for those  
who do not obey the gospel of God?  
And “If the righteous is scarcely saved,  
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”  
Therefore let those who suffer  
according to God’s will entrust their souls  
to a faithful Creator while doing good.

1. Remember: judgment is decreed vs. the world
2. Repent: be covered by the blood of the Lamb!

Zephaniah 2:3:

Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land,  
who do his just commands;  
seek righteousness; seek humility;  
perhaps you may be hidden  
on the day of the anger of the LORD.

1. Remember: judgment is decreed vs. the world
2. Repent: be covered by the blood of the Lamb!
3. Rejoice (again I will say, Rejoice!):

Zephaniah 3:19b:

I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.