

ZEPHANIAH'S WARNING TO PREPARE

Elder: Cedric Lebrun

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Zephaniah 1: 1 – 18 New Living Translation

1 The LORD gave this message to Zephaniah when Josiah son of Amon was king of Judah. Zephaniah was the son of Cushi, son of Gedaliah, son of Amariah, son of Hezekiah. Coming Judgment against Judah

2 “I will sweep away everything from the face of the earth,” says the LORD. **3** “I will sweep away people and animals alike. I will sweep away the birds of the sky and the fish in the sea.

I will reduce the wicked to heaps of rubble, and I will wipe humanity from the face of the earth,” says the LORD.

4 “I will crush Judah and Jerusalem with my fist and destroy every last trace of their Baal worship. I will put an end to all the idolatrous priests, so that even the memory of them will disappear.

5 For they go up to their roofs and bow down to the sun, moon, and stars. They claim to follow the LORD, but then they worship Molech,[b] too.

6 And I will destroy those who used to worship me but now no longer do. They no longer ask for the LORD's guidance or seek my blessings."

7 Stand in silence in the presence of the Sovereign LORD, for the awesome day of the LORD's judgment is near. The LORD has prepared his people for a great slaughter and has chosen their executioners.[c]

8 "On that day of judgment," says the LORD, "I will punish the leaders and princes of Judah and all those following pagan customs.

9 Yes, I will punish those who participate in pagan worship ceremonies, and those who fill their masters' houses with violence and deceit. **10** "On that day," says the LORD, "a cry of alarm will come from the Fish Gate and echo throughout the New Quarter of the city.[d] And a great crash will sound from the hills. **11** Wail in sorrow, all you who live in the market area,[e] for all the merchants and traders will be destroyed. on earth.

12 “I will search with lanterns in Jerusalem’s darkest corners to punish those who sit complacent in their sins. They think the LORD will do nothing to them, either good or bad. **13** So their property will be plundered, their homes will be ransacked. They will build new homes but never live in them. They will plant vineyards but never drink wine from them. **14** “That terrible day of the LORD is near. Swiftly it comes— a day of bitter tears, a day when even strong men will cry out.

15 It will be a day when the LORD's anger is poured out— a day of terrible distress and anguish, a day of ruin and desolation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness,

16 a day of trumpet calls and battle cries. Down go the walled cities and the strongest battlements!

17 “Because you have sinned against the LORD, I will make you grope around like the blind. Your blood will be poured into the dust, and your bodies will lie rotting on the ground.”

18 Your silver and gold will not save you on that day of the LORD's anger. For the whole land will be devoured by the fire of his jealousy. He will make a terrifying end of all the people on earth.

Zephaniah 1: 2– 3 -New Living Translation

2 “I will sweep away everything from the face of the earth,” says the LORD.

3 “I will sweep away people and animals alike. I will sweep away the birds of the sky and the fish in the sea. I will reduce the wicked to heaps of rubble,[a] and I will wipe humanity from the face of the earth,” says the LORD.

Acts 2:17-18

‘In the last days, God says, I will pour out My Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. / Even on My menservants and maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

1 Thessalonians 5:20 New International Version

Do not treat prophecies with contempt

2 CHRONICLES 20:20

KJ21 And they rose early in the morning and went forth into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the LORD your God; so shall ye be established. Believe His prophets; so shall ye prosper.”

ZEPHANIAH 1:4-6

4 “I will crush Judah and Jerusalem with my fist and destroy every last trace of their Baal worship. I will put an end to all the idolatrous priests, so that even the memory of them will disappear. **5** For they go up to their roofs and bow down to the sun, moon, and stars. They claim to follow the LORD, but then they worship Molech,[b] too. **V 6** And I will destroy those who used to worship me but now no longer do. They no longer ask for the LORD’s guidance or seek my blessings.”

Deuteronomy 6:3-5

The Greatest Commandment

3 Hear, O Israel, and be careful to observe them, so that you may prosper and multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, has promised you.

4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is One.

5 And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength....

John 17:3

**Now this is eternal life, that they may know
You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ,
whom You have sent.**

Zephaniah 1: 7– 18 New Living Translation

7 Stand in silence in the presence of the Sovereign LORD, for the awesome day of the LORD's judgment is near. The LORD has prepared his people for a great slaughter and has chosen their executioners.[c]

8 “On that day of judgment,” says the LORD, “I will punish the leaders and princes of Judah and all those following pagan customs.

9 Yes, I will punish those who participate in pagan worship ceremonies, and those who fill their masters' houses with violence and deceit. **10** "On that day," says the LORD, "a cry of alarm will come from the Fish Gate and echo throughout the New Quarter of the city.[d] And a great crash will sound from the hills. **11** Wail in sorrow, all you who live in the market area,[e] for all the merchants and traders will be destroyed. on earth.

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18 Your silver and gold will not save you on that day of the LORD's anger. For the whole land will be devoured by the fire of his jealousy. He will make a terrifying end of all the people on earth.

Jeremiah 23: 1-2 King James Version

1 Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the LORD.

2 Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the LORD.

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