

Welcome to the Prophet Zephaniah!

We have chosen 2:3 as a key verse: "Seek the Lord, all you humble of the earth who have carried out His ordinances; seek righteousness, seek humility. Perhaps you will be hidden in the day of the Lord's anger". Once again we see repentance based upon humbling of heart and humanity before the awesome authority of our Creator. Only true repentance assures escape from the wrath that will surely come.

Also note the passages listed within the overview chart below. How does each passage relate to the corresponding section title? What do you think about the purpose of the book of Zephaniah?

ZEPHANIAH Last Chance

BE SILENT

1:7-13

**SEEK THE
LORD**

2:3,10

BE PURE

3:

2,8,12,13,20

1

2

3

"Seek the Lord, perhaps you will be hidden." 2:3

Open your heart as you read!

The times of King Josiah were times of renewal through repentance. You can read about Josiah in 1 Kings 22-23. By rediscovering God's Word, the people rediscovered God.

Zephaniah offers us an opportunity to learn more about the character of God as He continually offers chances for repentance - at least up to a point! He challenges us to be silent where we are to be silent, to be pure where He requires purity, and to seek Him diligently during these days of last chances!



Zephaniah Chapter Chart

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Here are some questions that will help you to dig deeply for interpretation in the book of Zephaniah. You may wish to answer these questions as you read and title chapters.

CHAPTER 1

What was God's problem with Judah? What was His strategy for helping them turn away from their idolatry? What time period does this seem to be referring? What do the people seem to think that God will not do?

TITLE _____ KEY VERSE _____

What about today?

It is easy to fashion the Living God in our own image and to speak for Him concerning what He will and will not do. Judgment for choices made is not a popular outcome for us because we ultimately hate to be accountable to anyone. What about you? Are you satisfied to live your life as someone who will give an account to your Creator?

CHAPTER 2

What was God's advice to those who were willing to listen? Judah's enemies were not exempted from judgment concerning their idols. In fact, many of the nations of the prophets days disappeared permanently because of their idolatry toward the Living God. What will God do to the gods of the earth?

TITLE _____ KEY VERSE _____

What about today?

Idolatry is not passive. If we listen to her voice we gain insight into the wandering nature of our hearts. What were the attributes of the idols of Zephaniah's times? What are the attributes and voices of the seductive idols that surround you?

CHAPTER 3

What is the "remnant" and what is God's purpose for her? What is God's advice to Judah? How does this reflect a spiritual principle? How will they know that God is in their midst?

TITLE _____ KEY VERSE _____

What about today?

How do you see God as a "victorious warrior" in your life? In what ways do you feel you are waiting for God? How have you observed God to be quiet in His love?