**Zephaniah – the Coming Day of the Lord**

Zephaniah’s name = God is hidden – He was the great, great grandson of King Hezekiah

Hab. 3:16 – I must wait quietly for the day of distress for the people to arise who will invade us

The Book of Twelve continues with the theme of the coming day of judgment in Zephaniah

**The day of the Lord – 1: 2 -18**

*The utter devastation of the Day of the Lord*

1:2 – I will completely remove all things from the face of the earth, declares the Lord

1: 3 – I will remove man & beast, the birds of the sky and fish of the sea, and the ruins along with the wicked, and I will cut off man from the face of the earth, declares the Lord

1:4 – 6 God will judge Judah for her idolatry

1:6 – God’s people had turned their back from following the Lord, and those who have not sought the Lord or inquired of the Lord

*Joshua and Caleb followed the Lord fully – Num. 32:13, Josh 14:8-9, 14*

1: 7 - 8 -The day of the Lord is near

1: 9 – 13 God will punish all the people from the rulers to the idolaters

1:12 – God will punish those who do not trust the Lord

*The people said in their heart, “The Lord will not do good or evil” – Ezek. 8:12, 9:9*

1: 14 – 18 – The day of the Lord is coming quickly

1:15 – description of the day of the Lord

*A day of wrath, of trouble, distress, destruction, desolation, darkness, gloom, clouds & darkness.*

1:16 - A day of trumpet & battle cry against fortified cities & high corners

1:17 – distress will come on men, they will walk in blindness – because of their sinfulness

1:18 – He will make a complete end in judgment

**The call to the righteous – 2: 1-3**

2:3 – Seek the Lord all you humble of the earth…seek righteousness, seek humility – Ps. 105:4

Amos 5:6 – Seek the Lord that you may live

Isa. 55:6 – 7 - Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake His way and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and let him return to the Lord, and He will have compassion on him and to our God for He will abundantly pardon

**Judgments against the nations – 2: 4-15**

*The nations who have opposed and battled Israel will be judge*

Philistia – 2: 4-7

Moab and Ammon – 2:8 -11

Cush or Egypt – 2:12

Assyria – 2:13 -14

2:15 – the sinfulness of false security & self confidence

Who says in their heart, “I am and there is no one besides me – Isa. 47:8,10

**Woe to Jerusalem – 3: 1-7**

*God reason for judging Jerusalem*

3:2 – She heeded no voice, accepted no instruction, did not trust in the Lord, did not draw near to her God – Ps. 78:22

3:5 - God is present among the unbelieving people

3:7 – but God’s people were eager to corrupt all their deeds - Hosea 9:9 – they are gone deep in depravity

**Salvation to the nations – 3: 8 -13**

3: 8 -9 - God judges in order to save

3:9 – for then I will give to the peoples purified lips, that all of them may call on the name of the Lord, to serve Him shoulder to shoulder

3:10 -11 - During the millennial reign of the Lord all nations will worship the Lord

3: 12 -13 - The remnant of Israel will be humble and seek refuge in the name of the Lord

**Salvation to Israel – 3:14 -20**

*These prophetic words go far beyond the promise of Israel’s return from Babylon to the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ*

3:14 – 16 – When the Lord brings salvation it brings rejoicing!

3:17 - The King of Israel is in their midst! A victorious warrior. He will exult over you with joy, He will be quiet in His love, He will rejoice over you with shouts of joy

Isa. 63:1 – who is this who comes from Edom, with garments of glowing colors from Bozrah, this One who is majestic in His apparel, marching in the greatness of His strength? “It is I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save.”

3:18 -20 – God will gather His people again in Jerusalem

3:18 – I will gather those who grieve about the appointed feasts

3:19 – I will gather the outcasts, and I will turn their shame into praise and renown in the earth

3:20 - At that time I will bring you in, even at the time when I gather you in…when I restore your fortunes before your eyes.

Ezek. 37: 21 -23 – Praise the Lord – Come Lord Jesus!