

Minor Prophets...

THE MINOR PROPHETS

The Book of Zephaniah

Zeph. 3:5-13

...Major Message

Minor Prophets...

Zeph. 3:5 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.

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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.

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Zeph. 3:5 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.

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(1) No Regard for God's Presence,
3:5

Zeph. 3:5 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.

Deut. 32:4 **He is the Rock, his work is perfect:** for all his ways are judgment: a **God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.**

Jer. 3:3 Therefore the showers have been withholden, and there hath been no latter rain; and thou hadst a whore's forehead, **thou refusedst to be ashamed.**

Prov. 11:2 *When* **pride cometh, then cometh shame:** but with the lowly *is* wisdom.

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(2) No Response to God's
Patience, 3:6

Zeph. 3:6 **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.

(3) No Repentance at God's
Persistence, 3:7

Zeph. 3:7 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.** *...Major Message*

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Heb. 3:12 Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; **lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.**

(4) No Realization o God's Purpose,
3:8

Zeph. 3:8 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.**

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(a) To Assemble the Nations for Judgment, 3:8a

Zeph. 3:8 “Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey...”

Zech. 14:2 For **I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle...**

Rev. 16:14 For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, *which* go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, **to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty....**

16 And **he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon. ...Major Message**

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(b) To Assail the Nations in
Judgment, 3:8b

Zeph. 3:8b "...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.**"

Zech. 14:2 For **I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle**; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city.

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Isa. 30:27 Behold, the name of the LORD cometh from far, **burning with his anger**, and the burden *thereof is* heavy: his lips are **full of indignation**, and his tongue as **a devouring fire**:

28 And his breath, as an overflowing stream, shall reach to the midst of the neck, to sift the nations with the sieve of vanity: and *there shall be* a bridle in the jaws of the people, causing *them* to err.

Mt. 13:30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, **Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them**: but gather the wheat into my barn.

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III. THE DELIVERANCE OF THE LORD, 3:9-20

A. Israel's Responsibility, 3:9-10

Zeph. 3:9 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 supplants, even the daughter of my dispersed, shall bring mine offering.

1. The Conversion of the Nations, 3:9

Zeph. 3:9 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.

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Acts 26:14 And when we were all fallen to the earth, **I heard a voice speaking unto me, and saying in the Hebrew tongue**, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? *it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.*

2. The Cooperation of the Nations, 3:10

Zeph. 3:10 From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia my suppliants, even the daughter of my dispersed, shall bring mine offering.

B. Israel's Repentance, 3:11-13

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Zeph. 3:11 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.

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1. A New Humility, 3:11-12

Zeph. 3:11 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.

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2. A New Holiness, 3:13

Zeph. 3:13 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.

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Conclusion

Three ways to know that we are God's children:

• 3:9 ...when we are in fellowship with the Lord via prayer and service — “...call upon the name of the LORD, to serve him...”

• 3:11 ...when we are humble with a meek spirit — “...thou shalt no more be haughty...”

• 3:13 ...when we are living a holy life of obedience — “...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.”

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Jn. 14:15 **If ye love me, keep my commandments.**

22 Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world?

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, **If a man love me, he will keep my words:** and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

24 **He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings:** and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.

1 Jn. 5:2 **By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments.**

3 **For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments:** and his commandments are not grievous.

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