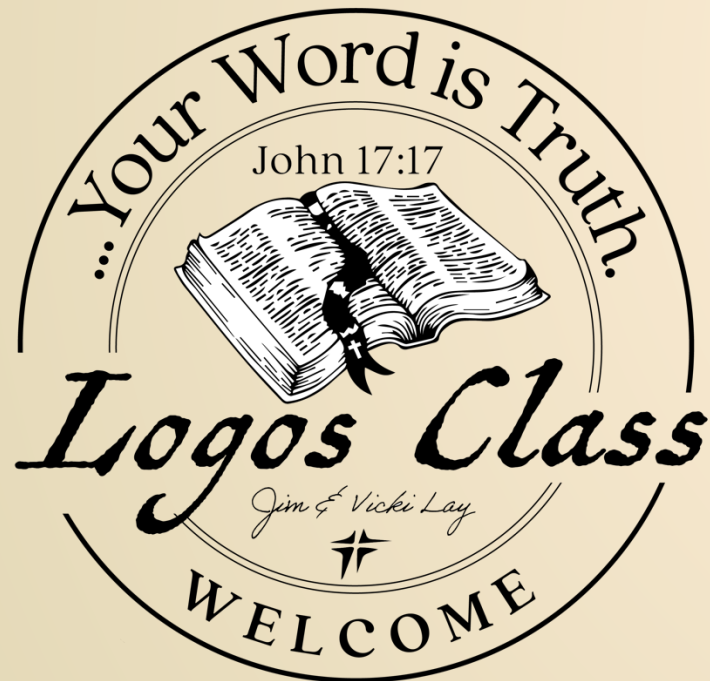




Minor Prophets Book of Zephaniah

*Ch 2B & 3— The Day of the Lord &
the Nations, and the Kingdom*



**Mar 30, 2025
Module 5, Room 1**

Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *Mar 9, 2025 - Gen Ch 11*
- ✓ *Mar 16, 2025 - Gen Ch 12 – Last Chapter in Gen Study*
- ✓ *Mar 23, 2025 - Zephaniah Intro and Ch 1-2A*
- ✓ *Mar 30, 2025 - Zephaniah Ch 2B – Ch 3*
 - ✓ *Apr 1, 2025 - Manor Lake – Dan Ch 11*
- *April 6, 2025 - Wade Williams to teach*
- *April 13, 2025. - Palm Sunday*
 - *Apr 15, 2025 - Manor Lake – Dan Ch 12*
- *April 20, 2025 - Resurrection Sunday*

Quick Update .../CYMI

Middle East

- *Possible Hostage Deal in the works for an extension of the cease fire*
- *Israel continues to bomb Syria, Lebanon, and Gaza*
- *Israel continues efforts in Judah and Samaria to eliminate terrorists.*

US/World

- *A cease fire is coming to pass in Ukraine, not sure the details*
- *DOGE continues to work to root out fraud, waste, and abuse*
- *Fraud, waste, and abuse in Government are shocking, and the detail and neck-deep involvement is almost unbelievable.*
- *Europe is preparing for battles ahead, and preparing people and armies*
- *Tariff war continues with China, Mexico, and Canada*

Zephaniah Messages of the Book

There are 3 chapters in Zephaniah, and this is what they cover:

- ✓ **Chapter 1** – *The Day of the Lord and the Jews*
(1:1-2:3)
- ✓ **Chapter 2** – *The Day of the Lord and the Gentiles*
(2:4-15)
- ✓ **Chapter 3** – *The Day of the Lord and the Kingdom*
(3:1-20)

Zeph Ch 2 Repentance and Judgment of Nations

Zephaniah lays out the wrath of the Lord against Judah, BUT God gives them hope for a reprieve.

Zephaniah asks them to understand what is coming, and BEFORE it comes

- *Seek the Lord, all you humble people who do what He commands*
- *Seek Righteousness...to be right with God*
- *Seek Him in humbleness without pride and arrogance*
- *Perhaps you will be sheltered and saved in this Day of the Lord*

Isn't this great advice for us today?

- *Seek God, pursue Him like a thirsty deer pants for water*
- *Follow Him in Obedience and seek to be in the right relationship with Him*
- *Come without pretension, status, accomplishments, money and*
- *Repent and Return*

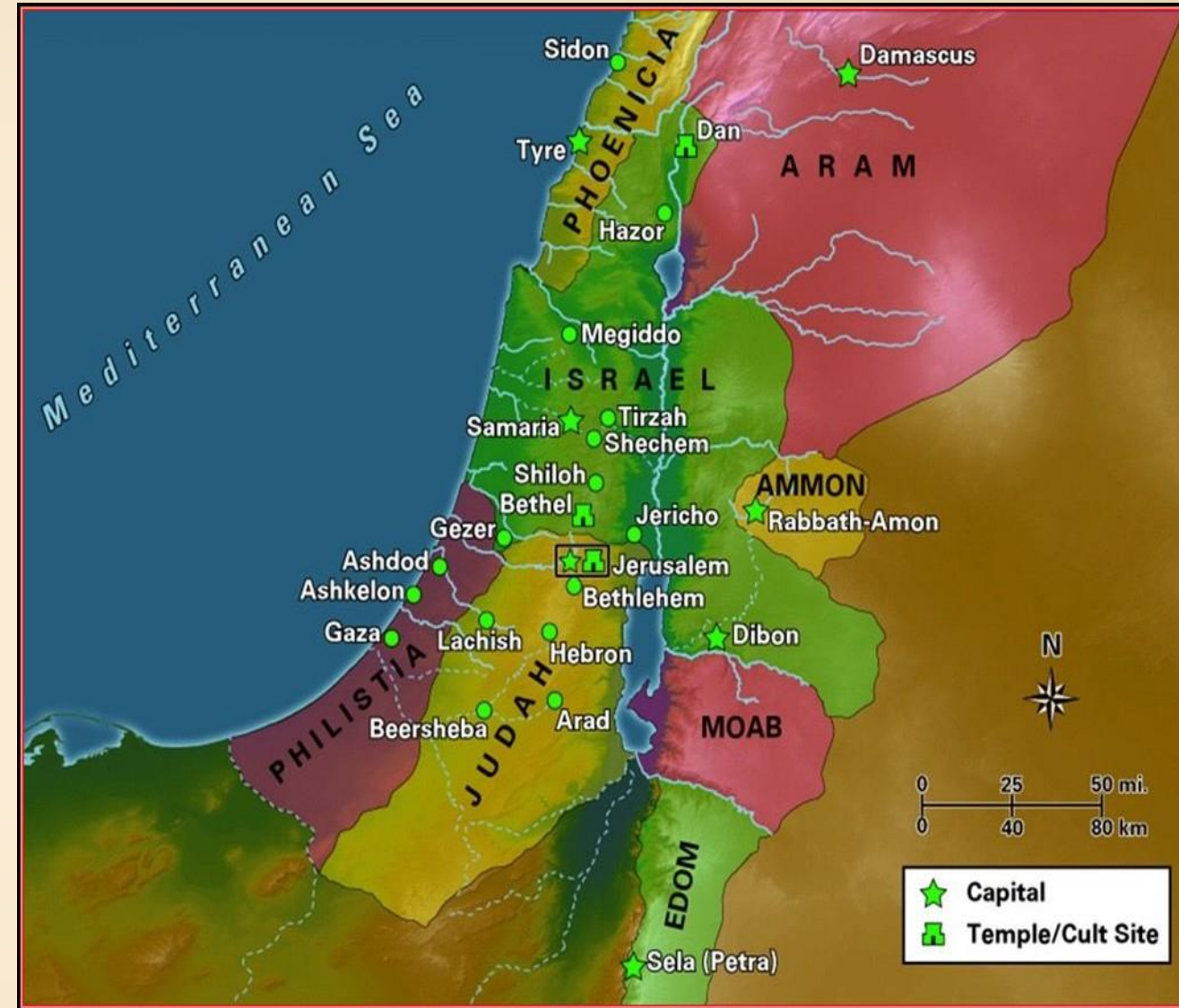
Zeph Ch 2B and Ch 3

*Today we will finish Ch 2B and Ch 3,
and we will look at*

- Other countries in the crosshairs of
God's Wrath on this **Day of the Lord***

The Day of the Lord and the Kingdom

- Jerusalem: God's Jealous Anger*
- The Gentiles: graciousness and
forgiveness*
- The Remnant and Blessing*



Zephaniah 2- Who are the Nations in View?

Philistia

Moab

Ammon

Cush

Assyria

*All nations that have
Cursed the Jews*



Zephaniah 2:8-11. ***Moab and Ammon***

⁸ “I have heard the insults of Moab and the taunts of the Ammonites, who insulted my people and made threats against their land.

*⁹ **Therefore, as surely as I live,**” declares the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel “surely Moab will become like Sodom, the Ammonites like Gomorrah—a place of weeds and salt pits, a wasteland forever.*

The remnant of my people will plunder them; the survivors of my nation will inherit their land.”

¹⁰ This is what they will get in return for their pride, for insulting and mocking the people of the Lord Almighty.

¹¹ The Lord will be awesome to them when he destroys all the gods of the earth. Distant nations will bow down to him, all of them in their own lands.

Zephaniah 2:12-15 Cush and Assyria

Cush

12 “You Cushites, too, will be slain by my sword.”

Assyria

*13 He will stretch out his hand against the north and destroy Assyria, leaving **Nineveh utterly desolate and dry as the desert.***

*14 **Flocks and herds will lie down there, creatures of every kind. The desert owl and the screech owl will roost on her columns. Their hooting will echo through the windows, rubble will fill the doorways, the beams of cedar will be exposed.***

*15 **This is the city of revelry that lived in safety.** She said to herself, **“I am the one! And there is none besides me.”** What a ruin she has become, a lair for wild beasts! **All who pass by her scoff and shake their fists.***

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Put and Cush



Not much space is given to Cush, but it is important to locate it on the map. It is the modern location of Sudan, Ethiopia, and Somalia.

*Egypt called Egypt or **Mizraim** (son of Ham) in old texts and maps. Depending on its use, these names place Egypt in the cultural, and ancestral lines from Genesis.*

*In this context of its use, the term **Cush can be translated as people along the upper Nile, so it means the peoples all up and down the Red Sea to the Nile Delta.***

- **Put** is what we call Libya today and is not in these Biblical References, but it is others. It is just on this map so you can see where it is.*

Assyria



- Assyria conquered the Northern Kingdom in 722 BC. This map shows Israel as part of Assyria

*This is a picture of complete destruction, and even the city of Nineveh would be destroyed, its buildings ravaged in such a way that animals would roost and inhabit the buildings. **It would become a specter for all who passed by for derision.***

Nineveh, the capital of Assyria, was destroyed in 612 B.C. by the Medes. This was in fulfillment of the prophet Nahum's prediction that God would completely destroy the city (Nahum 1). A number of factors combine to determine both the date and manner of Nineveh's destruction.

An ancient account called The Fall of Nineveh Chronicle reveals an account of this time period, providing firsthand, extra-biblical documentation.

*Despite Nineveh's great power, the city fell just as Nahum had prophesied. **It would not be until the 1800s that archaeologists would excavate portions of the ancient city.** Nineveh had indeed been "hidden," as Nahum predicted long ago (Nahum 3:11).*

With these verses we finish the Nations judgment in Zephaniah

Zephaniah 3:1-5 Jerusalem – Ripe for Judgment

¹ Woe to the city of oppressors, rebellious and defiled!

*² **She obeys no one, she accepts no correction.***

She does not trust in the Lord, she does not draw near to her God.

*³ Her officials within her are roaring lions;
her rulers are evening wolves, **who leave nothing for the morning.***

*⁴ **Her prophets are unprincipled; they are treacherous people.**
Her priests profane the sanctuary and do violence to the law.*

*⁵ The Lord **within her** is righteous; he does no wrong.*

***Morning by morning he dispenses his justice,
and every new day he does not fail, yet the unrighteous know no
shame***

Zephaniah 3:6-8 Jerusalem unrepentant

*⁶ “I have destroyed nations; their strongholds are demolished.
I have left their streets deserted, with no one passing through.
Their cities are laid waste; they are deserted and empty.*

*⁷ Of Jerusalem **I thought**, ‘**Surely you will fear me and accept correction!**’
Then her place of refuge would not be destroyed,
nor all my punishments come upon her.
But they were still eager to act corruptly in all they did.*

*⁸ **Therefore wait for me**, "declares the Lord, “**for *the day* I will stand up to testify.**” (rise up and take action)
**I have decided to assemble the nations, to gather the kingdoms
and to pour out my wrath on them— all my fierce anger.**
The whole world will be consumed by the fire of my jealous anger.*

A Deeper Dive

*This is a sobering promise of judgment. We know this has not happened to Jerusalem yet, and to the world yet...but God says “**wait for me**”. **And we are still waiting for Him to act against them.***

*But when He acts, it will be a Day of Judgment **and Restoration**. The Day of the Lord for Judah and for the Kingdom.*

Remember me saying that the Day of the Lord had a component of Judgment, and also a day of deliverance or restoration. We have both here in these verses.

Zephaniah 3:9-13 Restoration of the Remnant

⁹ *“Then I will purify the lips of the peoples, that all of them may call on the name of the Lord and serve him shoulder to shoulder.*

¹⁰ *From beyond the rivers of Cush my worshipers, my scattered people, will bring me offerings.*

¹¹ *On that day you, Jerusalem, will not be put to shame for all the wrongs you have done to me, because I will remove from you your arrogant boasters. Never again will you be haughty on my holy hill.*

¹² *But I will leave within you the meek and humble. The remnant of Israel will trust in the name of the Lord.*

¹³ *They will do no wrong; they will tell no lies. A deceitful tongue will not be found in their mouths. They will eat and lie down and no one will make them afraid.”*

Zephaniah 3:14-18. Sing to the Lord

14 Sing, Daughter Zion;

shout aloud, Israel!

*Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,
Daughter Jerusalem!*

***15 The Lord has taken away your
punishment,***

he has turned back your enemy.

*The Lord, the King of Israel, is with you;
never again will you fear any harm.*

16 On that day

they will say to Jerusalem,

“Do not fear, Zion;

do not let your hands hang limp.

***17 The Lord your God is with you,
the Mighty Warrior who saves.***

*He will take great delight in you;
in his love he will no longer*

rebuke you,

***but will rejoice over you with
singing.”***

18 “I will remove from you

***all who mourn over the loss of
your appointed festivals,***

***which is a burden and reproach
for you.***

Zephaniah 3:14-18 A closer look

God will remove all those who want to continue the form of religion by performing Rituals.

As in Christianity, the Law will be written on their hearts, not performed for all to see for personal status.

God instructs the people of Judah to sing of their redemption.

Q:*I wonder about us, have we lost our song. Do we sing of our blessings and salvation? I hope we are like the people of Judah and will sing our song to each other and to the world careening towards eternal punishment.*

*Can we with a joyful heart? **I pray so.***

Zephaniah 3:19-20 *At THAT Time*

19 At that time I will deal
 with all who oppressed you.
I will rescue the lame;
 I will gather the exiles.
I will give them praise and honor
 in every land where they have suffered shame.

20 At that time I will gather you;
 at that time I will bring you home.
I will give you honor and praise
 among all the peoples of the earth
when I restore your fortunes
 before your very eyes,”
says the Lord.

Zephaniah – An Epilogue

What we see here is a future judgment and future restoration. If you are a student of prophecy, you will recognize this period as the time of Jacob's Trouble, or what we call the Tribulation Period. But we are also aware of God moving to restore Israel in 1948 and draw her people home. The Aliyah or "return" is an ongoing and ever-present reality from all the countries where her people were scattered. We see her gathering power, wealth, strength, and capability in all phases that count as a country.

What we have not seen yet is the revival that is to come during the Tribulation time, and the presence of the 2 witnesses, and the 144,000 evangelical Jews that witness and bring the Gospel to the Jews, and indeed the world that is remaining.

All those countries and groups that come against Israel are being dealt with now, and when God vents his wrath against them, they will be destroyed completely. This comes in the war of Gog/ Magog against Israel and the rise of the Antichrist who turns on them and tries to destroy them.

This all happens in that final week of Daniel, the 70th week, and is generally promised in Zephaniah to the Jews.

I wanted to teach this book because it mirrors both God and His patience with us, His people, and the Jews...but also shows punishment and restoration.

My own personal belief is that we are close to the time when believers are called home, and world career to its final scene...the Day of the Lord

Next week, Wade Williams will teach for me

- *Pray for the US, Israel, and the Peace of Jerusalem*
- *Pray for peace in Ukraine*
- *Pray for First Redeemer Pastors, staff, teachers, and all who lead*
- *Pray for our new building to finish and be glory to God and His mission in this church.*
- *Praise God for his healing and successful surgeries/procedures in the class*
- *Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to fill the land*