

# Zephaniah

# THE MINOR PROPHETS

# 6-Day Devotional

## Day 1 — *The Day of the Lord Begins*

**Scripture Reading:** Zephaniah 1:7–18

**Summary/Reflection:** Zephaniah warns that **God's righteous judgment** is coming on Judah. God's righteous judgment comes in the form of Babylon invading and capturing Jerusalem and is a response to Judah's idolatry and sinfulness. This "Day of the LORD" is described as intense and unavoidable, a reminder that God detests sin and idolatry. How do you handle the idea of God being both loving and just? What thoughts does this passage bring to mind?

**Prayer:** *Lord, open my eyes to Your truth. Help me recognize Your justice not as something to fear alone, but as a call to holiness and alignment with Your Word.*

**Activity:** Underline or write down words in the passage that describe God's judgment. Reflect on what they teach you about His character.

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## Day 2 — *Recognizing Our Need for Repentance*

**Scripture Reading:** Zephaniah 2:1–3

**Summary/Reflection:** Zephaniah calls the people to **seek the Lord**, before judgment comes. Turn away from sin and idolatry and turn towards righteousness and humility. God gives a chance to turn back to Him. Are there areas of your life where pride or self-reliance keep you from seeking God first? What would humility look like for you this week?

**Prayer:** *Father, give me a humble heart. Teach me to seek You first—not after everything else fails. Teach me to seek you, not just in my moments of desperation, but always.*

**Activity:** Make a short list of attitudes or habits you feel led to "repent" of (turn away from). Pray over each one, asking God for strength to change.

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## Day 3 — *Judgment on All Nations, Including Us*

**Scripture Reading:** Zephaniah 2:4–15

**Summary/Reflection:** The bulk of **Zephaniah 2** refers to a future Day of the LORD. This time, God's judgment isn't only on Judah, but **all nations and people**. Different tribes and nations are referred to and their impending doom is predicted. It's here we see that God cares about the conduct of all people and will hold every person accountable for their actions. How does knowing God cares about all people shape the way you view the world? Where can you reflect His justice and compassion?

**Prayer:** *Lord, make me a person who seeks justice, loves mercy, and walks humbly with You. Refine my heart to reflect Your righteousness.*

**Activity:** Reach out to someone you've avoided or treated unfairly. Offer a simple act of kindness or reconciliation.

## Day 4 — God's Judgment Leads to Purification

**Scripture Reading:** Zephaniah 3:1–8

**Summary/Reflection:** This is the final section of Zephaniah's writing that focuses on God's Judgment of the nations. We see that God's Judgement serves a purpose—to remove evil and open doors to new life. When sin is dealt with, God can bring peace and flourishing. How has God used correction or hardship to grow you?

**Prayer:** *God of mercy, purify me where I am broken. Help me trust that You bring life, not abandonment.*

**Activity:** Write or pray a “surrender prayer” over one personal struggle, offering it to God and asking for His transforming work.

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## Day 5 — The Humble Inherit the Earth

**Scripture Reading:** Zephaniah 3:9–13

**Summary/Reflection:** Zephaniah celebrates a **remnant of humble, obedient people** who trust the Lord and experience His blessing and peace. This is a representation of a new, future Kingdom after the final Day of the LORD. What does it mean to be humble in a world that celebrates pride and self-promotion? How is humility a strength in your life?

**Prayer:** *Lord, cultivate in me meekness and trust. May my steps be guided by You, not by self-will.*

**Activity:** Practice humility today: let someone speak first in a conversation, or offer sincere praise without expectation of return.

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## Day 6 — Hope, Restoration, and Joy

**Scripture Reading:** Zephaniah 3:14–20

**Summary/Reflection:** The book ends with a vision of God **restoring His people, removing shame, and dwelling with them in peace and joy**. God rejoices over His people with compassion. There is a hopeful message at the end of Zephaniah's writing reminding us that God has a plan for restoration and redemption. What joys and comforts can you claim today because God restores and redeems? How does His presence change your outlook?

**Prayer:** *Thank You, Lord, for Your unfailing love. Restore joy where I've lost hope, and fill my heart with peace as You dwell with me.*

**Activity:** Celebrate God's restoration—sing, write gratitude notes, or share a joyful moment with someone in your life.

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