

# Zephaniah 3

Chapter 3 of 3 · 20 Verses · Authorized King James Version

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## Woe to Jerusalem

- <sup>1</sup> Woe to her that is filthy and polluted, to the oppressing city!
- <sup>2</sup> She obeyed not the voice; she received not correction; she trusted not in the LORD; she drew not near to her God.
- <sup>3</sup> Her princes within her are roaring lions; her judges are evening wolves; they gnaw not the bones till the morrow.
- <sup>4</sup> Her prophets are light and treacherous persons: her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the law.
- <sup>5</sup> 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.
- <sup>6</sup> 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.
- <sup>7</sup> 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.

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## Jerusalem's Restoration

- <sup>8</sup> 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.

- 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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### **Song of Joy**

- 14** Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem.
- 15** The LORD hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, even the LORD, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more.
- 16** In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Fear thou not: and to Zion, Let not thine hands be slack.
- 17** The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.
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- 18** I will gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly, who are of thee, to whom the reproach of it was a burden.

- 19** Behold, at that time I will undo all that afflict thee: and I will save her that halteth, and gather her that was driven out; and I will get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame.
- 20** At that time will I bring you again, even in the time that I gather you: for I will make you a name and a praise among all people of the earth, when I turn back your captivity before your eyes, saith the LORD.

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## HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

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### God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

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### Holy — קָדוֹשׁ (Qadosh)

Holy, set apart

The Hebrew **qadosh** (קָדוֹשׁ) means holy or set apart—separated from common use for God's purposes. God is 'the Holy One of Israel,' utterly distinct from creation in moral perfection.

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### Judgment — מִשְׁפָּט (Mishpat)

Judgment, justice

The Hebrew **mishpat** (מִשְׁפָּט) means judgment or justice—God's righteous decisions and ordinances. God is the Judge of all the earth who 'shall do right' (Genesis 18:25), executing perfect justice.

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### Kingdom — מַלְכוּת (Malkhut)

Kingdom, reign, royal power

The Hebrew **malkhut** (מַלְכוּת) denotes kingdom or royal rule—the realm and reign of a king. God's kingdom represents His sovereign rule over all creation.

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### Law — תּוֹרָה (Torah)

Law, instruction

The Hebrew **Torah** (תּוֹרָה) means law or instruction—God's revealed will for His people. The Law includes moral, civil, and ceremonial commandments, revealing God's character and humanity's need for a Savior.

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### Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

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## Priest — כֹּהֵן (Kohen)

Priest

The Hebrew **kohen** (כֹּהֵן) denotes a priest—one who mediates between God and people through sacrifices and intercession. Aaron and his descendants served as Israel's priests, foreshadowing Christ the Great High Priest.

## Save — יָשַׁע (Yasha)

To save, deliver, rescue

The Hebrew **yasha** (יָשַׁע) means to save or deliver—rescue from danger or distress. This is the root of 'Jesus' (Yeshua), meaning 'YHWH saves.' God alone is Savior: 'I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour' (Isaiah 43:11).

## Righteous — צַדִּיק (Tzaddik)

Righteous one

The Hebrew **tzaddik** (צַדִּיק) describes one who is righteous, just, or lawful—conforming to God's standard. From the root tzedek (צֶדֶק), meaning righteousness or justice.

## CROSS REFERENCES

### Zephaniah 3:1

**Parallel theme:** Leviticus 1:16; Isaiah 5:7; 30:12; Jeremiah 6:6; 22:17; Ezekiel 22:7; Micah 2:2; Zechariah 7:10; Malachi 3:5. **Sin:** Isaiah 59:13

### Zephaniah 3:2

**References Lord:** Isaiah 29:13; Jeremiah 5:3. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 50:17; Proverbs 5:12; Isaiah 43:22; Jeremiah 2:30; 22:21; 32:33. **Faith:** Psalms 73:28; 78:22

**Zephaniah 3:3** **Parallel theme:** Jeremiah 5:6; Habakkuk 1:8

**Zephaniah 3:4** **Word:** Ezekiel 22:26; Malachi 2:8. **Prophecy:** Isaiah 9:15; Jeremiah 5:31; Lamentations 2:14; Hosea 9:7

**Zephaniah 3:5** **Righteousness:** Deuteronomy 32:4; Psalms 37:6; 145:17. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 12:6; 28:19; Lamentations 3:23. **Judgment:** Zephaniah 3:15. **References Lord:** Deuteronomy 23:14. **Sin:** Zephaniah 3:17; Job 34:10

**Zephaniah 3:6** **Parallel theme:** Zephaniah 2:5; 1 Corinthians 10:6; 10:11

**Zephaniah 3:7** **Parallel theme:** Zephaniah 3:2; Jeremiah 7:7; 25:5; 36:3; Hosea 9:9

**Zephaniah 3:8** **Parallel theme:** Hosea 12:6; Joel 3:2; Habakkuk 2:3; Matthew 25:32.

**References Lord:** Zephaniah 1:18; Psalms 27:14; Micah 7:7; 2 Peter 3:10. **Kingdom:** Revelation 16:14

**Zephaniah 3:9** **Parallel theme:** Genesis 11:1; Matthew 12:35; Ephesians 4:29. **References**

**Lord:** Psalms 22:27; Isaiah 19:18; Habakkuk 2:14; Zechariah 2:11; 14:9

**Zephaniah 3:10** **Parallel theme:** Psalms 68:31; Isaiah 11:11; 18:1; 1 Peter 1:1. **Sacrifice:**

Romans 15:16

**Zephaniah 3:11** **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 45:17; 54:4; 61:7; Jeremiah 7:4; Matthew 3:9;

Romans 9:33; 1 Peter 2:6. **Holy:** Isaiah 11:9; Daniel 9:16

**Zephaniah 3:12**

**Faith:** Isaiah 14:32; 50:10; Nahum 1:7; James 2:5. **Parallel theme:** Matthew 5:3

**Zephaniah 3:13** **Parallel theme:** Zephaniah 2:7; Isaiah 17:2; 54:14; 60:21; Jeremiah 23:4;

Micah 4:4; 4:7; Revelation 14:5. **References Israel:** Jeremiah 30:10; 31:33

**Zephaniah 3:14**

**References Israel:** Isaiah 12:6. **References Jerusalem:** Isaiah 40:9; Micah 4:8. **Sin:** Isaiah 35:2; 51:11; 54:1

**Zephaniah 3:15** **References Lord:** Isaiah 51:22; Ezekiel 39:29; Amos 9:15. **Judgment:**

Zephaniah 3:5; Psalms 85:3; Isaiah 33:22. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 60:18; Zechariah 12:3; 14:11.

**Kingdom:** John 1:49

**Zephaniah 3:16** **Parallel theme:** Job 4:3; Isaiah 41:10; 44:2; 54:4; Galatians 6:9; Ephesians

3:13; Hebrews 12:12; Revelation 2:3. **References Jerusalem:** Isaiah 40:9; Zechariah 8:15

**Zephaniah 3:17** **Salvation:** Psalms 149:4; Isaiah 12:2; Hebrews 7:25. **References Lord:**

Zephaniah 3:15; Numbers 14:8; Psalms 147:11. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 65:19; Jeremiah 32:41;

John 15:11. **References God:** Deuteronomy 30:9

**Zephaniah 3:18** **Parallel theme:** Lamentations 1:4; Ezekiel 36:24

**Zephaniah 3:19**

**Parallel theme:** Zephaniah 3:15; Isaiah 60:14; 61:7; Jeremiah 30:16; Ezekiel 34:16; 39:26; Micah 7:10; Hebrews 12:13. **Resurrection:** Jeremiah 33:9. **Salvation:** Isaiah 60:18

## **Zephaniah 3:20**

**References Lord:** Isaiah 61:9; 66:22; Jeremiah 29:14; Malachi 3:12. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 56:5; 60:15; Ezekiel 34:16; Joel 3:1; Amos 9:14. **Resurrection:** Zephaniah 3:19

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