

A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is a bright yellow orb in the upper right, casting a long, shimmering reflection across the dark, rippling water. The sky is a gradient of orange and yellow. The foreground shows the wet, sandy beach with gentle waves lapping at the shore. The title 'Zephaniah' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font, and 'The Day of YHWH' is written below it in a similar but slightly smaller font. Both lines of text have a subtle drop shadow to make them stand out against the background.

Zephaniah

The Day of YHWH

Key Word

634
343

Day

Zephaniah

Theme

634

Day of the LORD

Zephaniah

Key Verse

634

"Gather together...before the **day of the LORD's wrath comes upon you. Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land, you who do what he commands. Seek righteousness, seek humility; perhaps you will be sheltered on the **day** of the LORD's anger" (2:1-3).**

Zephaniah

Kingdom Statement

343

Judah should repent because of a future **day of judgment (1:1–3:8) and blessing (3:9-20) on the whole earth caused by God as King.**

Zephaniah



Summary Statement

The **day of the LORD judgment upon Judah, the surrounding nations, and the entire earth warns Judah to repent due to God's righteousness and his promise of a remnant in a national restoration.**

Zephaniah

Covenant


347d

After discipline of Jerusalem (3:1-7) and the nations (2:4-15; 3:8), Israel will be restored and prosper in fulfillment of the land and new covenants (3:19-20).

Zephaniah

Redemption

347d



The "day of the LORD" is not only retribution (1:14; etc.) but salvation and restoration as well (2:7; 3:17, 20).

Zephaniah

Messiah

Jesus referred to his second advent as a sweeping away of the wicked (1:3 in Matt. 13:41) and a time of distress for Israel (1:15 in Matt. 24:21).

Zephaniah

Zephaniah: **Day** of the LORD

634

Judgment

1:1–3:8

Day of Punishment

D-Day

Destruction

Ruin

God's Righteousness

Warning

Salvation

3:9-20

Day of Praise

V-Day

Deliverance

Restoration

God's Faithfulness

Encouragement

Earth
1:1-3

Judah
1:4–2:3

Nations
2:4-15

Jerusalem
3:1-7

Earth
3:8

Remnant
Regathered
3:9-10

Redeemed &
Restored
3:11-20

Judah, Nations, & the Whole Earth (about 630 BC)

Zephaniah



- 1 **J**udah's day of wrath
- 2 **E**nemies of Judah punished
- 3 **W**rath and coming judgment

Be Hopeful

Zephaniah

Dr. Rick Griffith, Crossroads International Church Singapore
BibleStudyDownloads.org

Balance



Zephaniah

How should we respond to the LORD's **balance**?



I. God's future judgment
warns us to **repent**.

Zephaniah 1:1–3:8

II. God's future deliverance encourages us to **hope**.



Zephaniah 3:9-20

Main Idea

Be hopeful yet **repentant**.



Zephaniah



Application

1. God's wrath against evildoers should warn us who have turned away.

**While God is compassionate and loving,
He is also a God of justice and holiness.**

**In similar times of national calamity
today, divine discipline should rouse the
indifferent and purify the good.**

Zephaniah

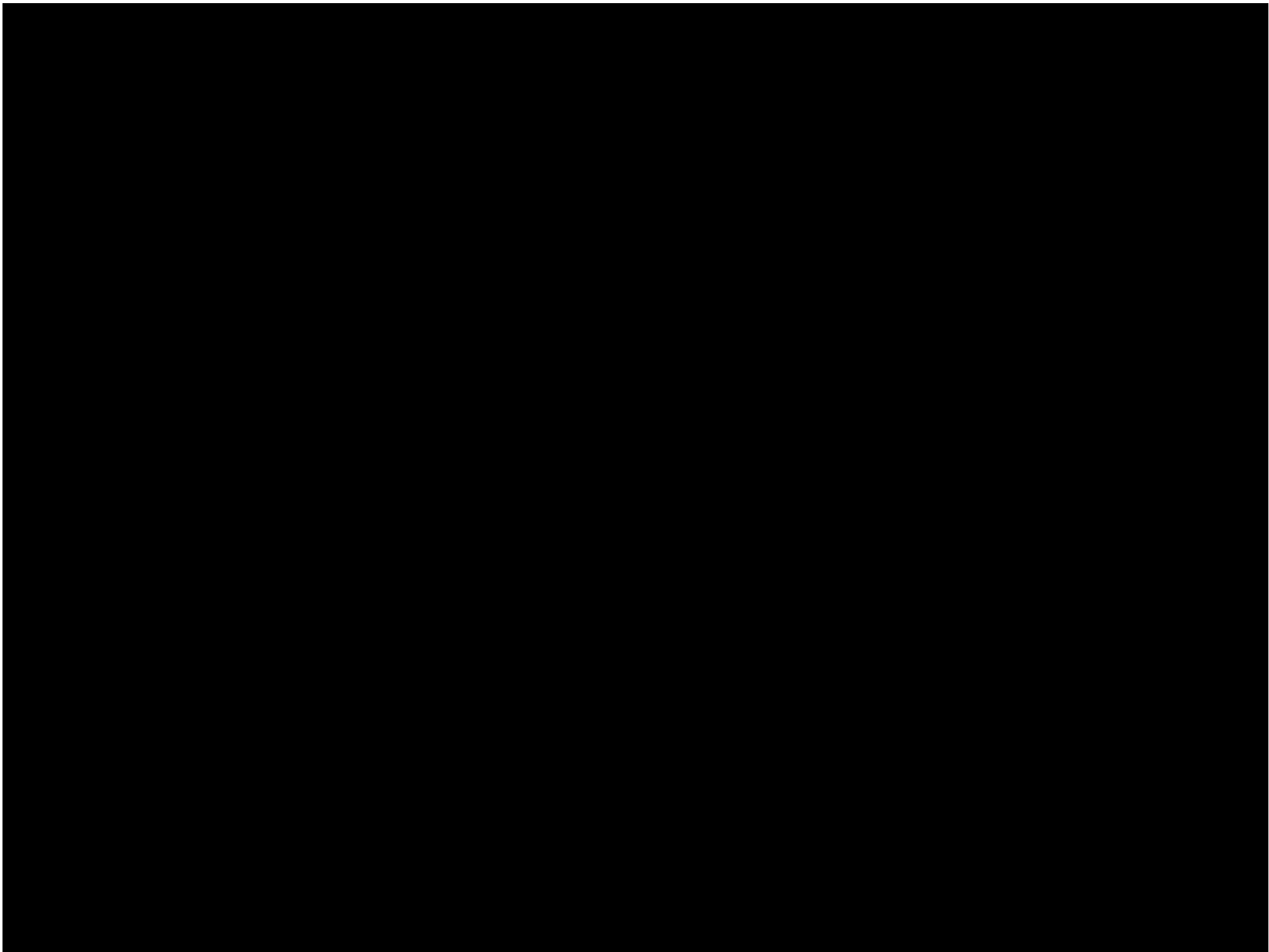
2. God's People as a Sacrifice to Him.

Sacrifice was well understood in Jerusalem. Offerings were made to the one true God, and when the people rebelled against God or had become corrupt, they also offered to the idols.

But now YHWH declared through Zephaniah that the faithless, corrupt and indifferent people should themselves be sacrificed (1:7-8).

We also must examine our lives. We easily quote Romans 12:1-2, "...offering ourselves as a living sacrifice...." but have we truly reckoned what it means to live our lives in holy reverence for the LORD – in purity as a living sacrifice to YHWH?

Zephaniah



OT Pre-exilic Prophets on Chart

232 & 342

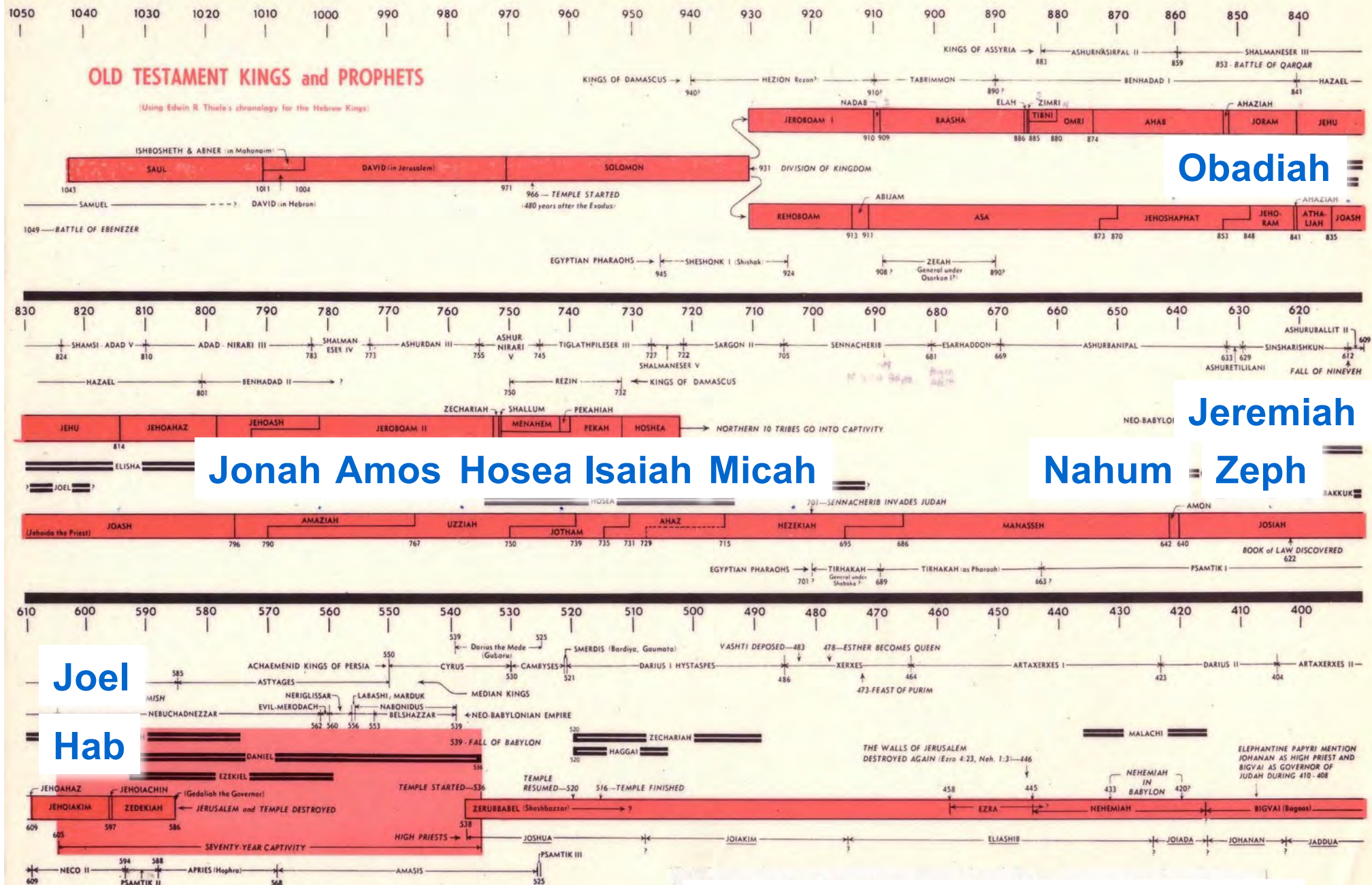


Chart of Old Testament Kings and Prophets

John C. Whitcomb, 4th rev. ed., Winona Lake, IN: BMH Books, 1962, 1968, p. 2

Contrasting Zephaniah, Habakkuk, and Lamentations

Zephaniah	Habakkuk	Lamentations
Decades before the fall of Jerusalem (ca. 630)	Just before the fall of Jerusalem (ca. 607-605)	Just after the fall of Jerusalem (586)
God will judge	God, when will you judge?	God has judged
Preview of trouble	Promise of trouble	Presence of trouble

Contrasting Zephaniah, Habakkuk, and Lamentations

Zephaniah	Habakkuk	Lamentations
Declaration	Dialogue	Dirge
Day of the LORD	Dominion of the LORD	Destruction of the LORD
God is in your midst (3:15, 17)	God is your strength (3:19)	God is your portion (3:24)

Historical Context

- Zephaniah literally means "YHWH hides"
- Occasion: Reign of Josiah, Judean King
- Josiah => 16th King (640 – 609 BC)

**Tried to bring a
reform to restore the
worship of YHWH**

Previous Kings

Manasseh and his son
Amon => godless & wicked

Reform only began in 622 BC. which
was 18 years after Josiah took over!
Only a remnant heeded the call to
return to God

Zephaniah spoke! 630 BC

Introduction

Zephaniah Overview

I. Historical Context

II. Time

III. Theological Themes

1. The Day of Yahweh
2. Universalism
3. Messianic Prophecy
4. God's Presence
5. Creation & 'Decreation'
6. Land in the eyes of the prophets
7. The Remnant

IV. Who are the groups of people prophesized against?

V. Fulfillment of Prophecies

VI. Applications



NT Discipline



Ananias & Sapphira



Acts 5

1 Corinthians 11:30-32 (NLT)

³⁰ That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep.

³¹ But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment.

³² When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world.

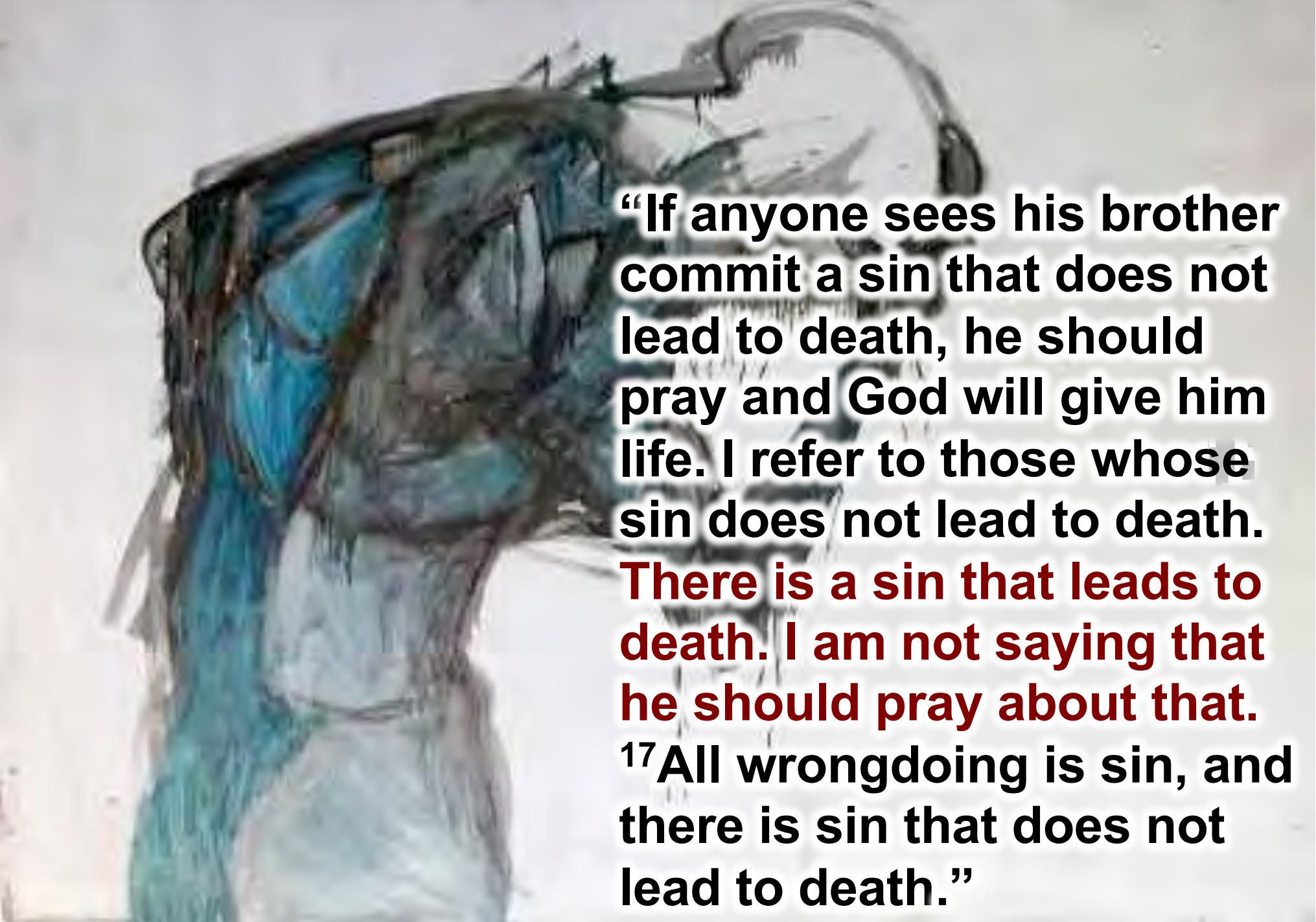


Rewards can be lost!

"Watch out that you do not lose what we have worked so hard to achieve. Be diligent so that you receive your full reward" (2 John 8 NLT)



Some sin leads to premature death (1 John 5:16-17 NIV)



“If anyone sees his brother commit a sin that does not lead to death, he should pray and God will give him life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death.

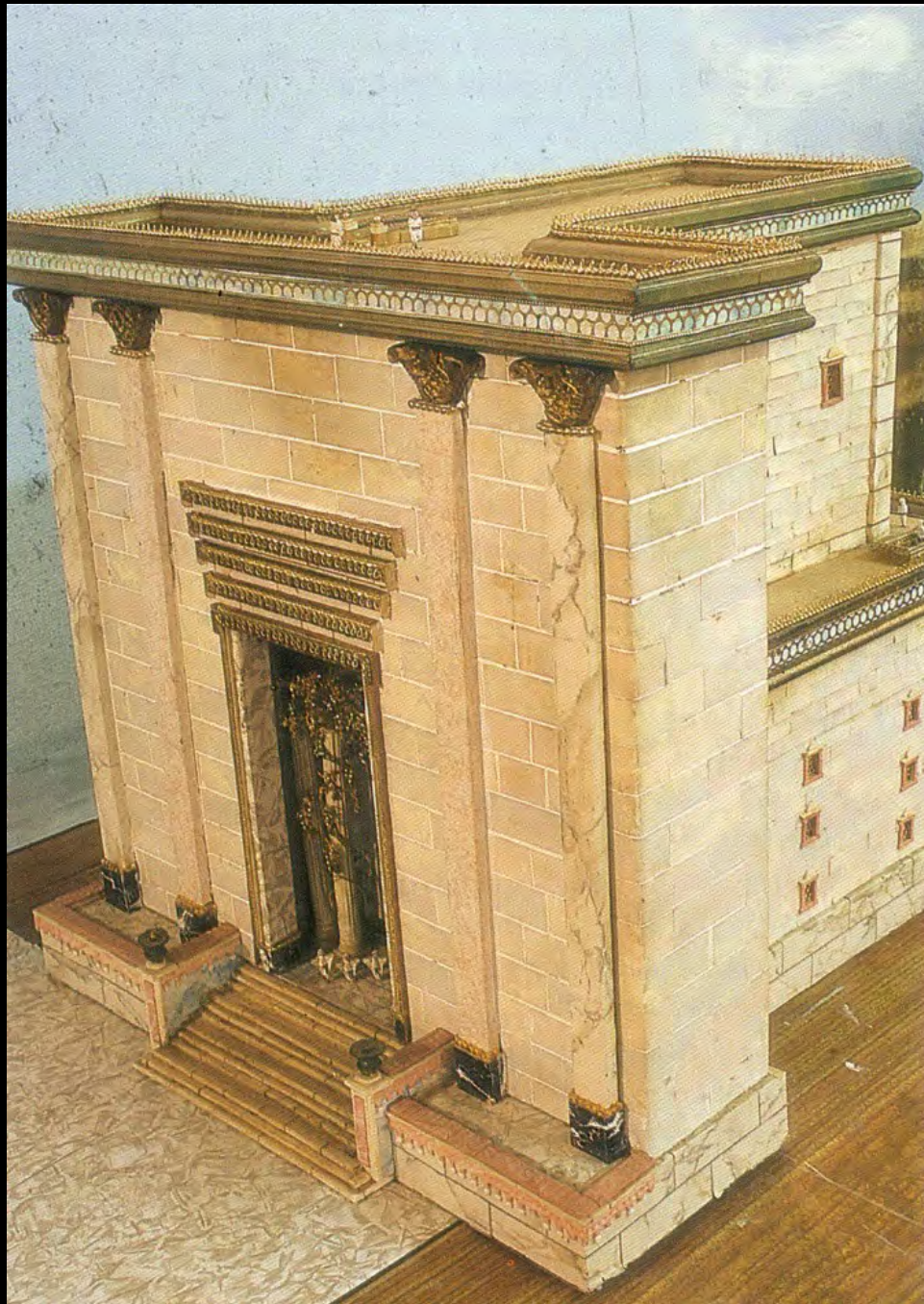
There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that he should pray about that.

¹⁷All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death.”

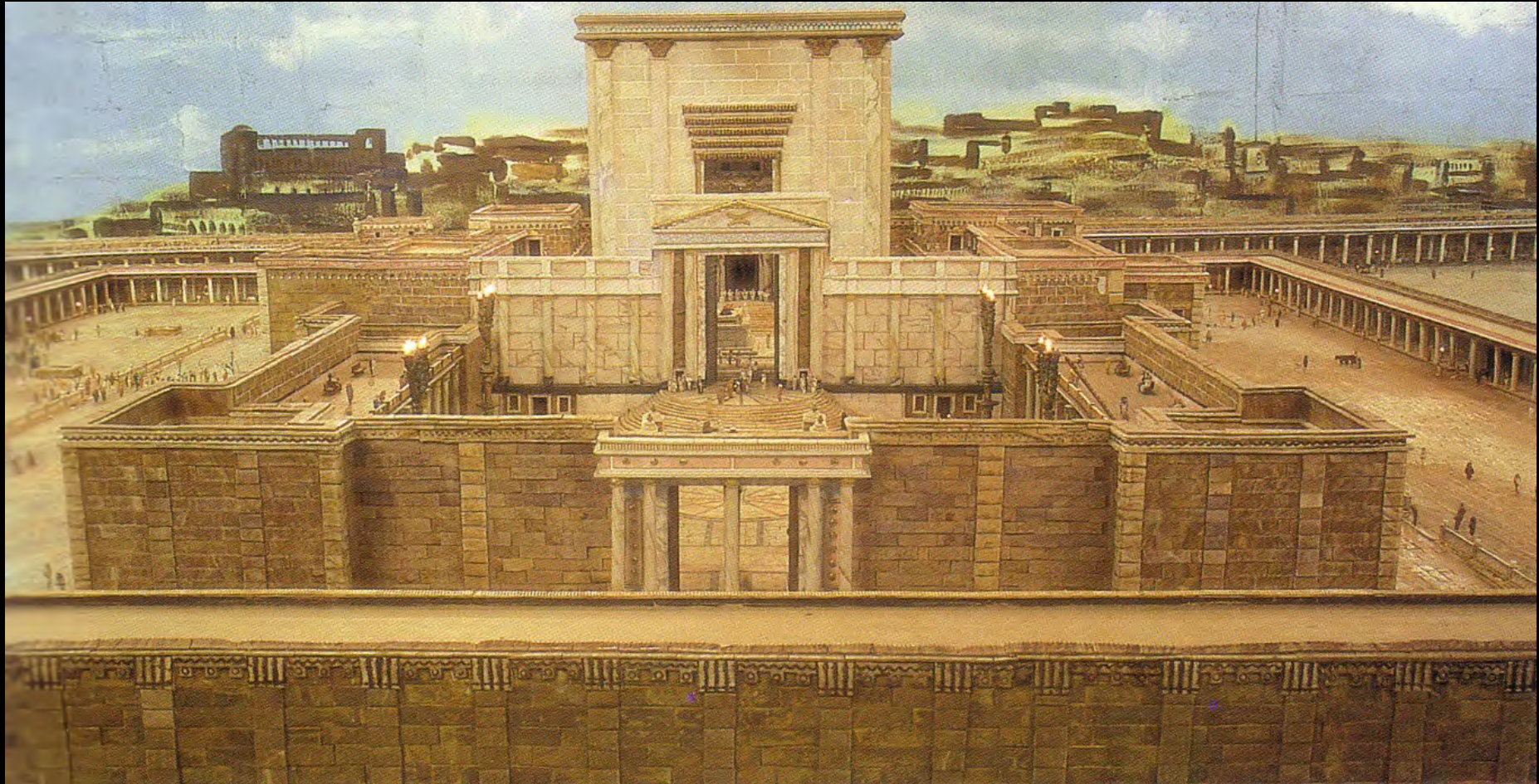
**"For we know the one who said,
'I will take revenge.
I will pay them back.'**

**He also said,
'The LORD will judge his own people.'**

**³¹It is a terrible thing to fall into the
hands of the living God"
(Hebrews 10:30-31 NLT).**



The Temple Sanctuary



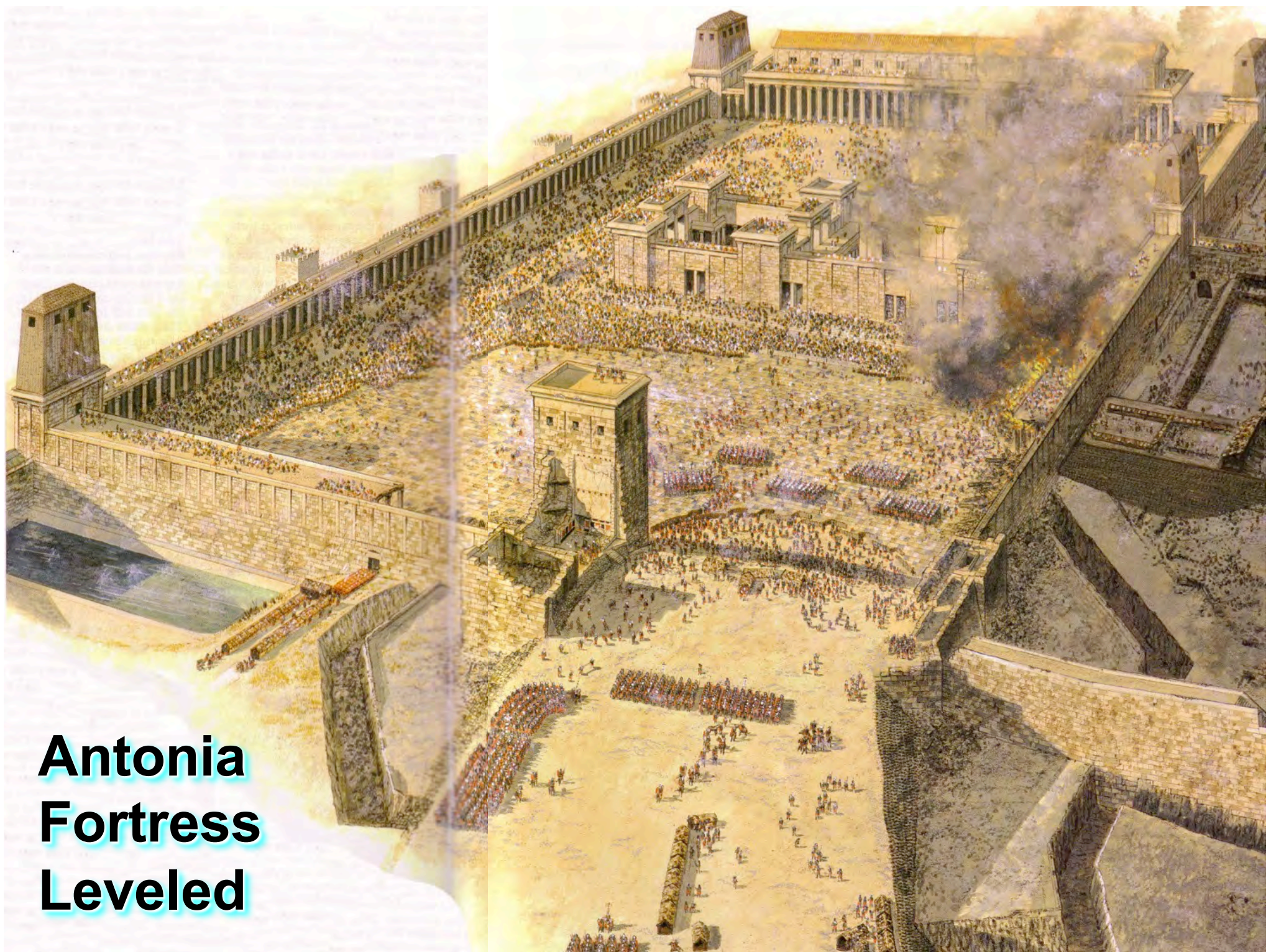
The Temple from the east

Antonia Fortress



Struthion Pool





**Antonia
Fortress
Leveled**

The Temple Assault



The Fire

"Dear friends, if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice that will cover these sins. ²⁷ There is only the terrible expectation of God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies" (Hebrews 10:26-27 NLT).

Hell fire?

No, Jerusalem fire!

Hebrews 8:13

*"By calling this covenant 'new,'
he has made the first one **obsolete**;
and what is obsolete and aging
will soon **disappear**."*

Obsolete

AD 33

Hebrews Written

AD 67-68

Disappeared

AD 70





Be Hopeful

The Book of Zephaniah

Dr. Rick Griffith, Crossroads International Church Singapore
BibleStudyDownloads.org

Balance



Work & Home Life Balance



Eating Balance



The eatwell plate

Use the eatwell plate to help you get the balance right. It shows how much of what you eat should come from each food group.



Balance





Is your view of God balanced?



God is Judge





Hosea

Loyal

Joel

Amos

Just

Obadiah

Humble

Be...

Jonah

Caring

Micah

Generous

Nahum

Patient

Habakkuk

Isaiah

Hopeful

Haggai

Zechariah

Malachi

The Twelve

Minor Prophets

Hosea	Amos	Obad	Micah	Zeph	Hab	Joel	Jonah	Nahum	Zech	Haggai	Mal
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ ✓	✓		✓	✓			
755-710	767-753	845	735-710	630	607-605	590	760	660	538	520	425
Israel		Judah					Assyria		Judah		
Pre-Exile									Post-Exile		

~ 420 years

Destruction of Jerusalem & Temple

Zephaniah



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Zephaniah: **Day** of the LORD

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Judah, Nations, & the Whole Earth (about 630 BC)



"The LORD gave this message to Zephaniah when **Josiah** son of Amon was **king of Judah**" (Zephaniah 1:1a NLT).

Josiah

The Judean Kings

1. Rehoboam
2. Abijam
3. Asa +
4. Jehoshaphat +
5. Jehoram
6. Ahaziah
7. Athaliah (queen)
8. Joash +
9. Amaziah +
10. Uzziah/Azariah +

- | | | | |
|------------|------------------------|----------|-------|
| 11. | Jotham + | | |
| 12. | Ahaz | | |
| 13. | Hezekiah (best king) + | | |
| 14. | Manasseh (worst king) | | |
| 15. | Amon | | |
| 16. | Josiah + | | |
| 17. | Jehoahaz | 3 months | has |
| 18. | Jehoiakim | 11 years | Kim's |
| 19. | Jehoiachin | 3 months | chin |
| 20. | Zedekiah | 11 years | |

+ Good Ruler

"The LORD gave this message to Zephaniah when Josiah son of Amon was king of Judah.
Zephaniah was the son of Cushi, son of Gedaliah, son of Amariah, **son of Hezekiah"**
(Zephaniah 1:1 NLT).



Zephaniah was of Royal Birth!

Hezekiah

King of Judah
(Line of David)

Sons who Ruled

*Sons who Did
Not Rule*

Manasseh

Amon

Josiah

Amariah

Gedaliah

Cushi

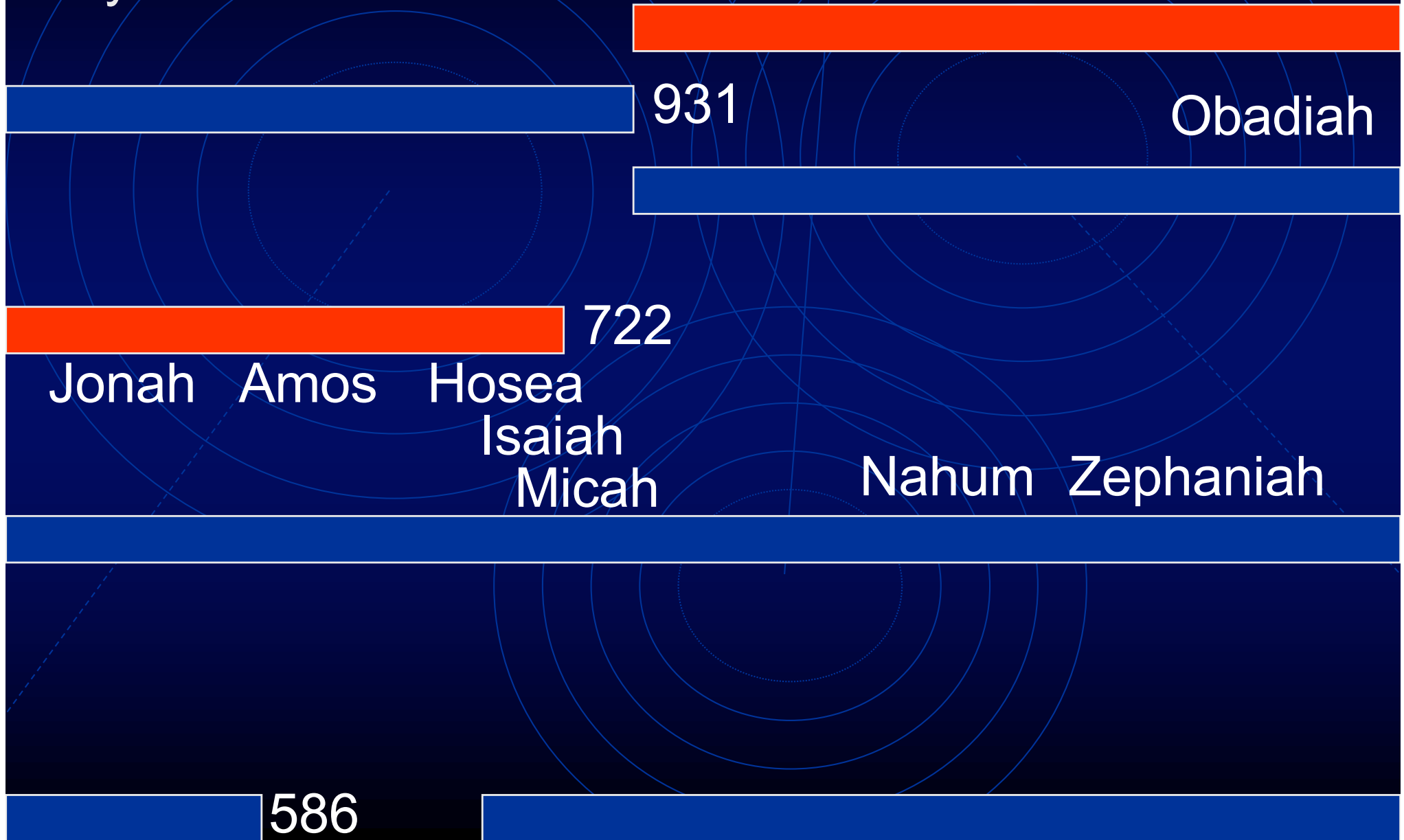
Zephaniah

Righteous in white; **Godless in yellow**

Placing the Prophets

342

Key Dates



Zephaniah preached just after Manasseh filled both courts with idols



Jerusalem's Fall

232
342
560

Key Dates

627

Jeremiah

605

Daniel

597

Ezekiel

Jerusalem's
Fall

Zephaniah

630

Habakkuk

606

Joel

590

586

Lamentations

538

How should we respond to the LORD's **balance**?



I. God's future judgment
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Zephaniah 1:1–3:8

Zephaniah 1

Zephaniah: **Day** of the LORD

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Judah, Nations, & the Whole Earth (about 630 BC)

"I will sweep away everything from the face of the earth," says the LORD.

³"I will sweep away people and animals alike. I will sweep away the birds of the sky and the fish in the sea.

I will reduce the wicked to heaps of rubble, and I will wipe humanity from the face of the earth,' says the LORD" (Zeph. 1:2-3).



God's Creation...Day 6

**"So God created man in
his own image**

**in the image of God he
created him**

**male and female he created
them" (Gen. 1:27).**



and over the **birds**
of the air

and have dominion over the
fish of the sea

and over every living thing that
moves upon the earth'" (Gen. 1:28 NLT).

"And God
blessed them,
and God said to
them, 'Be
fruitful and
multiply, and fill
the earth and
subdue it;



"I will sweep away everything from the face of the earth," says the LORD.

³"I will sweep away people and animals alike. I will sweep away the birds of the sky and the fish in the sea.

I will reduce the wicked to heaps of rubble, and I will wipe humanity from the face of the earth,' says the LORD" (Zeph. 1:2-3).



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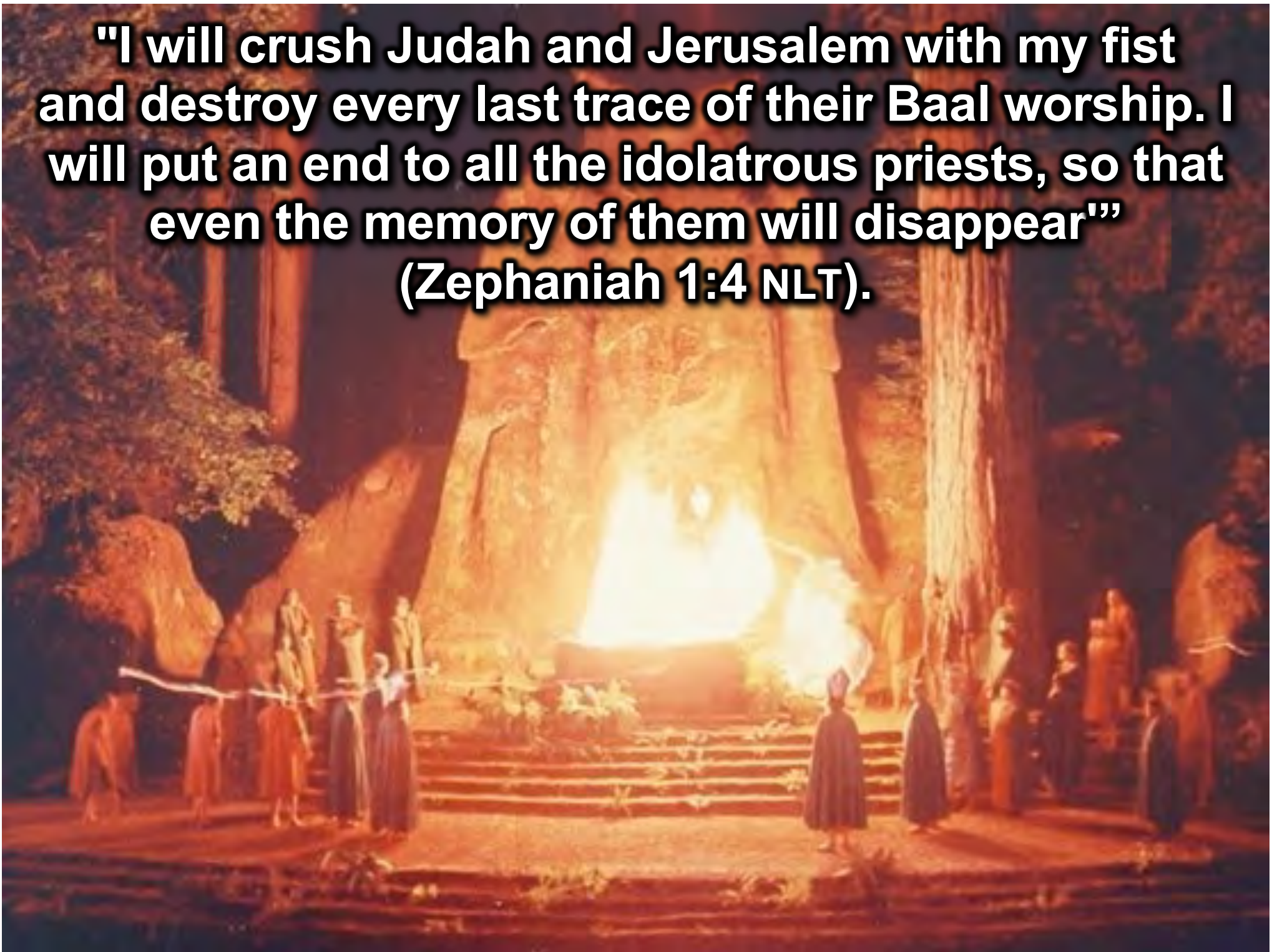
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Judah, Nations, & the Whole Earth (about 630 BC)

**"I will crush Judah and Jerusalem with my fist
and destroy every last trace of their Baal worship. I
will put an end to all the idolatrous priests, so that
even the memory of them will disappear"
(Zephaniah 1:4 NLT).**



**"For they go up to their roofs
and bow down to the sun, moon, and stars. They
claim to follow the LORD,
but then they worship Molech, too"
(Zephaniah 1:5 NLT).**



Pope Francis worshipping the sun god



False Prophets

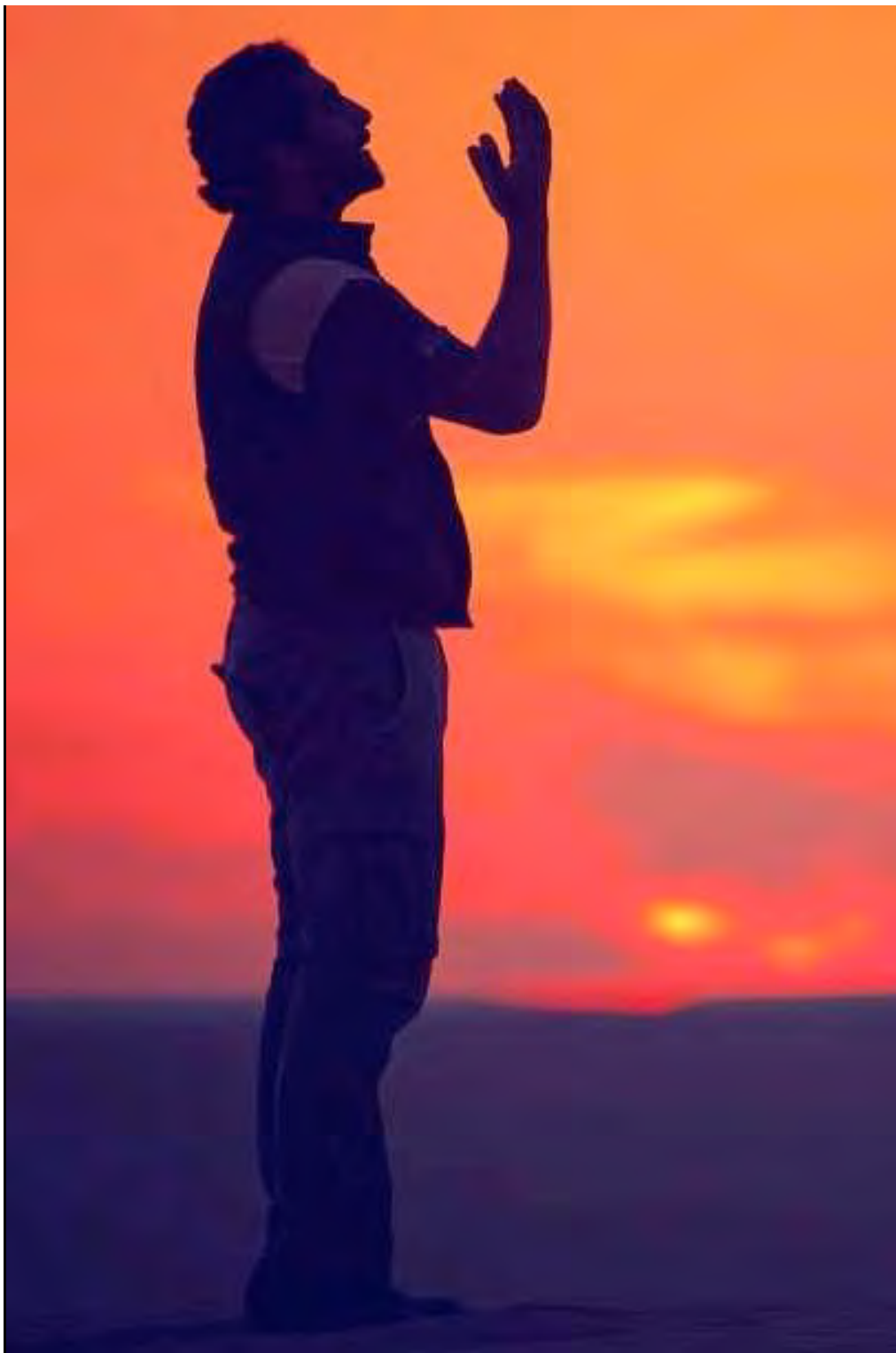
False Prophets

Osteen stands against apostles



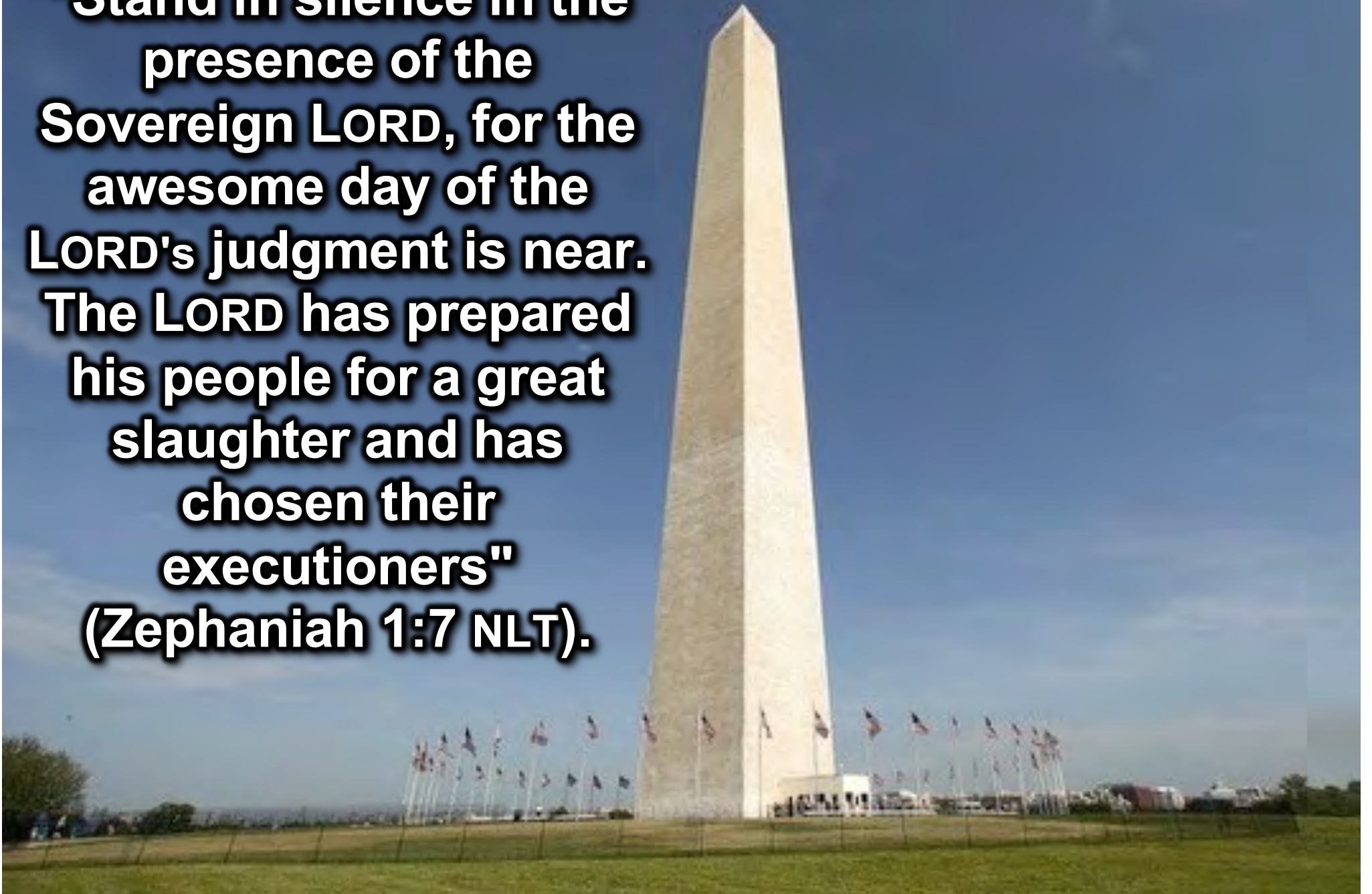


False Prophets



**"And I will destroy those who used to worship me but now no longer do. They no longer ask for the LORD's guidance or seek my blessings"
(Zephaniah 1:6 NLT).**

**"Stand in silence in the
presence of the
Sovereign LORD, for the
awesome day of the
LORD's judgment is near.
The LORD has prepared
his people for a great
slaughter and has
chosen their
executioners"
(Zephaniah 1:7 NLT).**



**"'On that day of judgment,' says the LORD,
'I will punish the leaders and princes of Judah and
all those following pagan customs.
⁹Yes, I will punish those who participate in pagan
worship ceremonies, and those who fill their
masters' houses with violence and deceit"
(Zephaniah 1:8-9 NLT).**



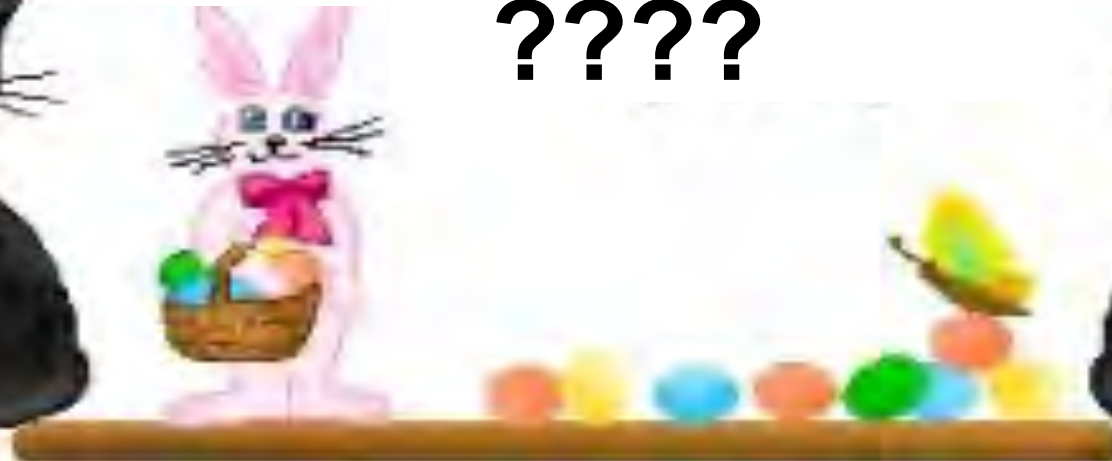


"I will punish...all those following pagan customs"

Zephaniah 1:8 (NLT)



?????



"On that day,' says the LORD, 'a cry of alarm will come from the Fish Gate and echo throughout the New Quarter of the city. And a great crash will sound from the hills. ¹¹Wail in sorrow, all you who live in the market area, for all the merchants and traders will be destroyed" (Zephaniah 1:10-11 NLT).



**"I will search with lanterns in Jerusalem's
darkest corners
to punish those who sit complacent in their sins.
They think the LORD will do nothing to them,
either good or bad.**

**¹³So their property will be plundered,
their homes will be ransacked.**

**They will build new homes
but never live in them.**

**They will plant vineyards
but never drink wine from them"**

(Zephaniah 1:12-13 NLT).

"That terrible **day** of the LORD is near.

Swiftly it comes—

a **day** of bitter tears,

a **day** when even strong men will cry out.

¹⁵It will be a **day** when the LORD's anger is poured out—

a **day** of terrible distress and anguish,

a **day** of ruin and desolation,

a **day** of darkness and gloom,

a **day** of clouds and blackness,

¹⁶a **day** of trumpet calls and battle cries.

Down go the walled cities

and the strongest battlements!"

(Zephaniah 1:14-16 NLT).

day

**"Because you have sinned against the LORD,
I will make you grope around like the blind.**

**Your blood will be poured into the dust,
and your bodies will lie rotting on the ground.**

**¹⁸Your silver and gold will not save you
on that day of the LORD's anger.**

**For the whole land will be devoured
by the fire of his jealousy.**

**He will make a terrifying end
of all the people on earth"**

(Zephaniah 1:17-18 NLT).



Earthquakes



Zephaniah 2

**"Gather together—yes, gather together,
you shameless nation.**

**²Gather before judgment begins,
before your time to repent is blown away like chaff.
Act now, before the fierce fury of the LORD falls
and the terrible day of the LORD's anger begins.**

**³Seek the LORD, all who are humble,
and follow his commands.**

**Seek to do what is right and to live humbly.
Perhaps even yet the LORD will protect you—
protect you from his anger on that day of
destruction" (Zephaniah 2:1-3 NLT).**

Zephaniah: **Day** of the LORD

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Judah, Nations, & the Whole Earth (about 630 BC)

Judgment of the Nations (Zephaniah 2:4-15)

637



Judgment of Philistia (Zephaniah 2:4-7)

637



**"Gaza and Ashkelon will be abandoned,
Ashdod and Ekron torn down.**

**⁵And what sorrow awaits you Philistines
who live along the coast and in the land of Canaan,
for this judgment is against you, too!**

**The LORD will destroy you
until not one of you is left.**

**⁶The Philistine coast will become a wilderness
pasture, a place of shepherd camps
and enclosures for sheep and goats.**

**⁷The remnant of the tribe of Judah will pasture there.
They will rest at night in the abandoned houses in
Ashkelon. For the LORD their God will visit his
people in kindness and restore their prosperity
again" (Zephaniah 2:4-7 NLT).**

Judgment of Moab & Ammon (Zephaniah 2:8-11)

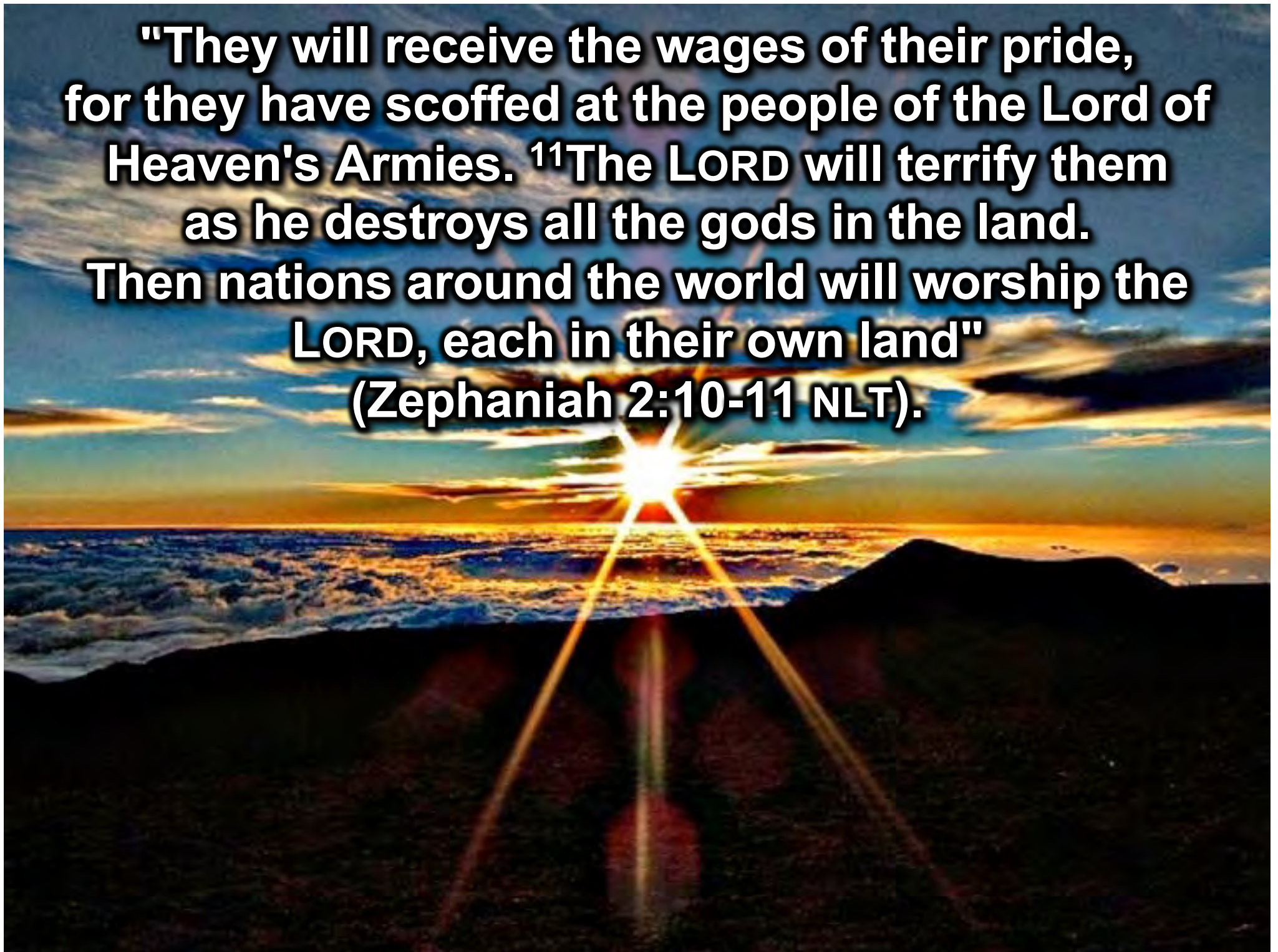
637



**"I have heard the taunts of the Moabites
and the insults of the Ammonites,
mocking my people and invading their borders.**

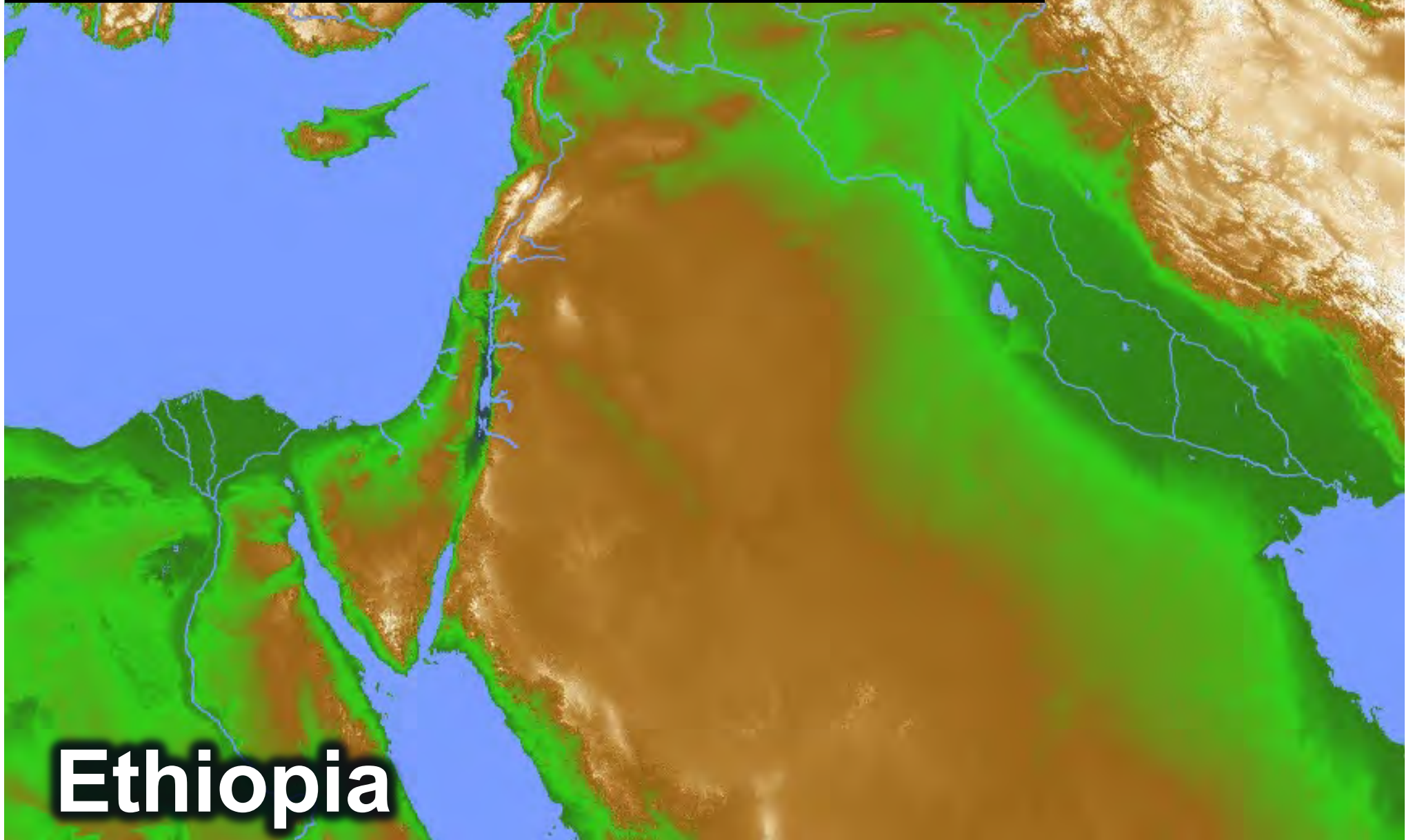
**⁹Now, as surely as I live,'
says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, the God of Israel,
'Moab and Ammon will be destroyed—
destroyed as completely as Sodom and Gomorrah.
Their land will become a place of stinging nettles,
salt pits, and eternal desolation.
The remnant of my people will plunder them
and take their land'"**
(Zephaniah 2:8-9 NLT).

**"They will receive the wages of their pride,
for they have scoffed at the people of the Lord of
Heaven's Armies. ¹¹The LORD will terrify them
as he destroys all the gods in the land.
Then nations around the world will worship the
LORD, each in their own land"
(Zephaniah 2:10-11 NLT).**



Judgment of Ethiopia (Zephaniah 2:12)

637



**"'You Ethiopians will also be slaughtered
by my sword,' says the LORD"
(Zephaniah 2:12 NLT).**



Judgment of Assyria (Zephaniah 2:13-15)

637



"And the LORD will strike the lands of the north with his fist, destroying the land of Assyria.

He will make its great capital, Nineveh, a desolate wasteland, parched like a desert.

¹⁴The proud city will become a pasture for flocks and herds, and all sorts of wild animals will settle there.

The desert owl and screech owl will roost on its ruined columns,

their calls echoing through the gaping windows.

Rubble will block all the doorways, and the cedar paneling will be exposed to the weather" (Zephaniah 2:13-14 NLT).

Nineveh's Water System Destroyed

- *"And He will stretch out His hand against the north and destroy Assyria, and He will make Nineveh a desolation, parched like the wilderness" (Zeph. 2:13)*
- The prophesied destruction of Nineveh (Zeph. 2:13), the capital of Assyria in what is now Iraq, fell in 612 BC into the hands of the neighboring Babylonians, with the whole empire taken by 605 BC. The prediction that God would leave Nineveh "dry as a desert" is remarkable in view of the fame of the city's great irrigation system.

The Assyrian Threat



100 Years

Later...

ASSYRIA

Tiglath-Pileser

Assyria Strong

Jonah 760

Israel's Fall 722

Nahum 660

Zephaniah 630

Nineveh's Fall 612

0011

900

850

800

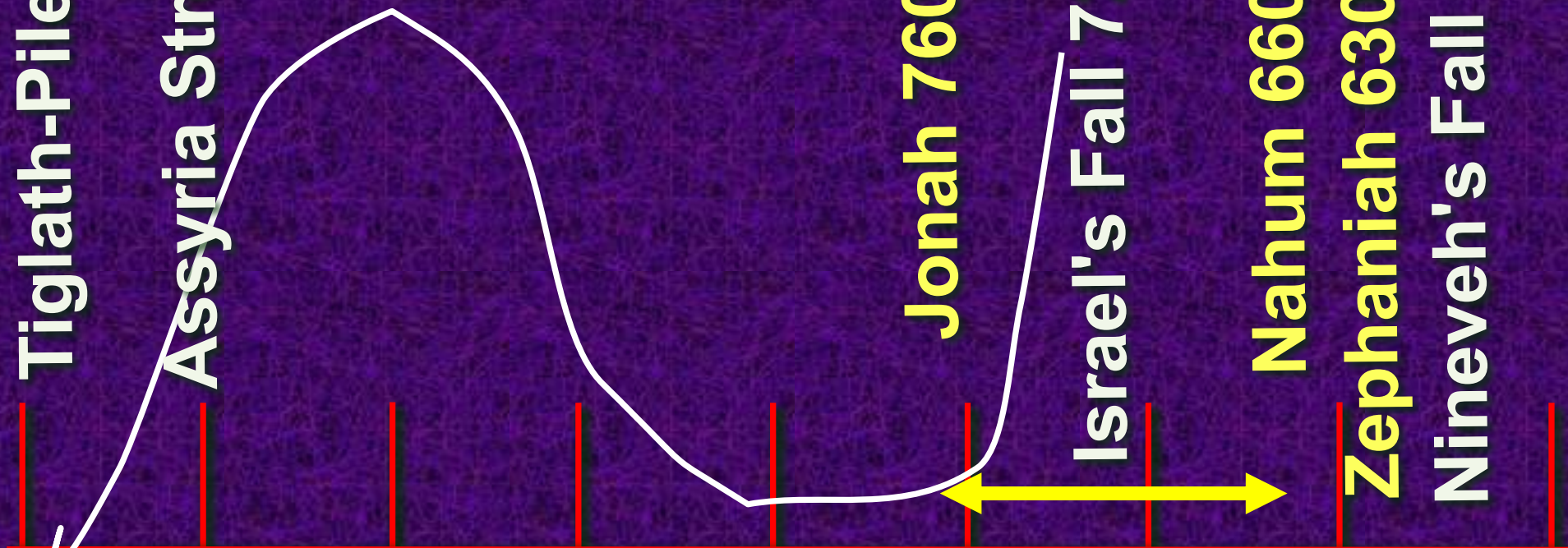
750

700

650

600

**Nineveh's
Relapse**



660 650 640 630 620 610 600 590 580 570 560 550 540 530 520

Nahum, Zephaniah, & Their Contemporaries

KINGS OF
ASSYRIA

ASHURBANIPAL

ASHURETILANI

SINSHARISKUN

ASHURBALIT II

663 BC
Fall of
ThebesNAHUM
660Fall of
Nineveh

612 609 605

539

WORLD
POWERS

ASSYRIAN

ZEPHANIAH
630

BABYLONIAN

PERSIAN

Fall of
Jerusalem
586CAPTIVITY OF
JUDAH TO
BABYLON (586)RETURN
FROM EXILEKINGS
OF
JUDAH

MANASSEH

JOSIAH

JEHOIAKIM

ZEDEKIAH

AMON

JEHOAHAZ

JEHOIACHIN

HABAKKUK
606



Nineveh:

Destroyed by Flood and Fire

An aerial satellite image of Mosul, Iraq. The Tigris River is prominent, winding through the city and forming a large loop in the center. The surrounding area is densely packed with buildings and infrastructure, typical of a large urban center. The river's banks are visible, and the water appears dark. The overall scene shows a mix of urban development and natural features.

Modern Map

**Mosul, Iraq, surrounds
Nineveh's ancient ruins**

**"This is the boisterous city,
once so secure.**

'I am the greatest!' it boasted.

'No other city can compare with me!'

**But now, look how it has become an utter ruin,
a haven for wild animals.**

**Everyone passing by will laugh in derision
and shake a defiant fist"**

(Zephaniah 2:15 NLT).



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Judah, Nations, & the Whole Earth (about 630 BC)

Zephaniah 3

**"What sorrow awaits rebellious, polluted Jerusalem,
the city of violence and crime!
No one can tell it anything; it refuses all correction.
It does not trust in the LORD or draw near to its God"
(Zephaniah 3:1-2 NLT).**



**"Its leaders are like roaring lions
hunting for their victims.
Its judges are like ravenous
wolves at evening time,
who by dawn have left no trace
of their prey"
(Zephaniah 3:3 NLT).**

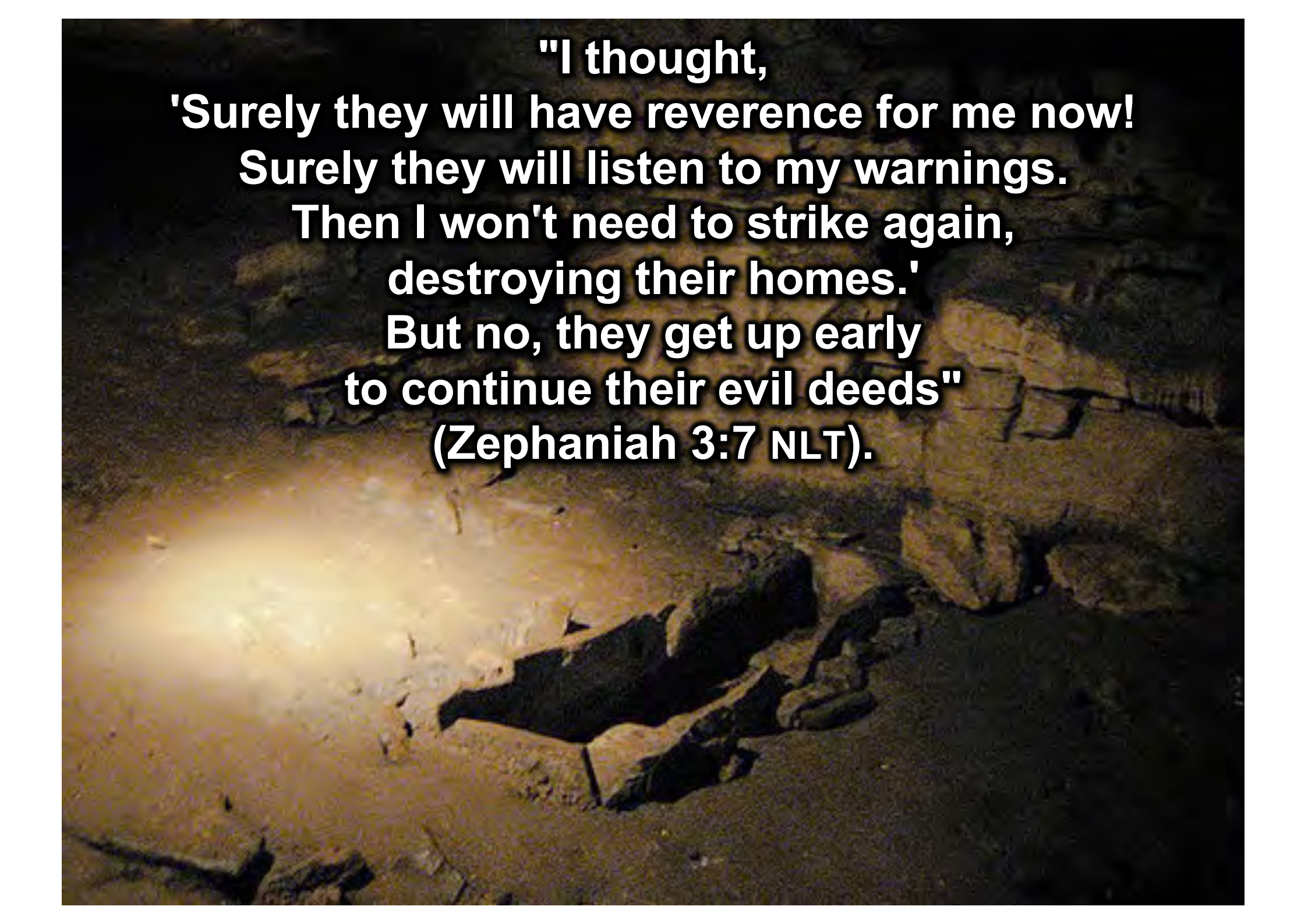


**"[Jerusalem's] prophets
are arrogant liars
seeking their own gain.
Its priests defile the
Temple by disobeying
God's instructions.
⁵But the LORD is still
there in the city,
and he does no wrong.
Day by day he hands
down justice,
and he does not fail.
But the wicked know no
shame"
(Zephaniah 3:4-5 NLT).**



**"I have wiped out many nations,
devastating their fortress walls and towers.
Their streets are now deserted;
their cities lie in silent ruin.
There are no survivors—none at all"
(Zephaniah 3:6 NLT).**



The background of the image is a dark, textured surface, possibly a cave wall or a rocky landscape at night. A bright, warm light source is visible on the left side, casting a glow across the scene. The text is overlaid in the upper half of the image.

**"I thought,
'Surely they will have reverence for me now!
Surely they will listen to my warnings.
Then I won't need to strike again,
destroying their homes.'
But no, they get up early
to continue their evil deeds"
(Zephaniah 3:7 NLT).**

Zephaniah: **Day** of the LORD

634

Judgment

1:1–3:8

Day of Punishment

D-Day

Destruction

Ruin

God's Righteousness

Warning

Salvation

3:9-20

Day of Praise

V-Day

Deliverance

Restoration

God's Faithfulness

Encouragement

Earth
1:1-3

Judah

1:4–2:3

Nations

2:4-15

Jerusalem

3:1-7

Earth
3:8

Remnant
Regathered
3:9-10

Redeemed &
Restored
3:11-20

Judah, Nations, & the Whole Earth (about 630 BC)

**"Therefore, be patient,' says the LORD.
'Soon I will stand and accuse these evil nations.
For I have decided to gather the kingdoms of the
earth and pour out my fiercest anger and fury on
them. All the earth will be devoured
by the fire of my jealousy"
(Zephaniah 3:8 NLT).**



**PEOPLE ON
EARTH**

HATE TO HEAR THE WORD

REPENT!

THOSE IN

HADES

WISH THEY COULD

HEAR IT

JUST ONCE MORE

How should we respond to the LORD's **balance**?



II. God's future deliverance encourages us to **hope**.



Zephaniah 3:9-20

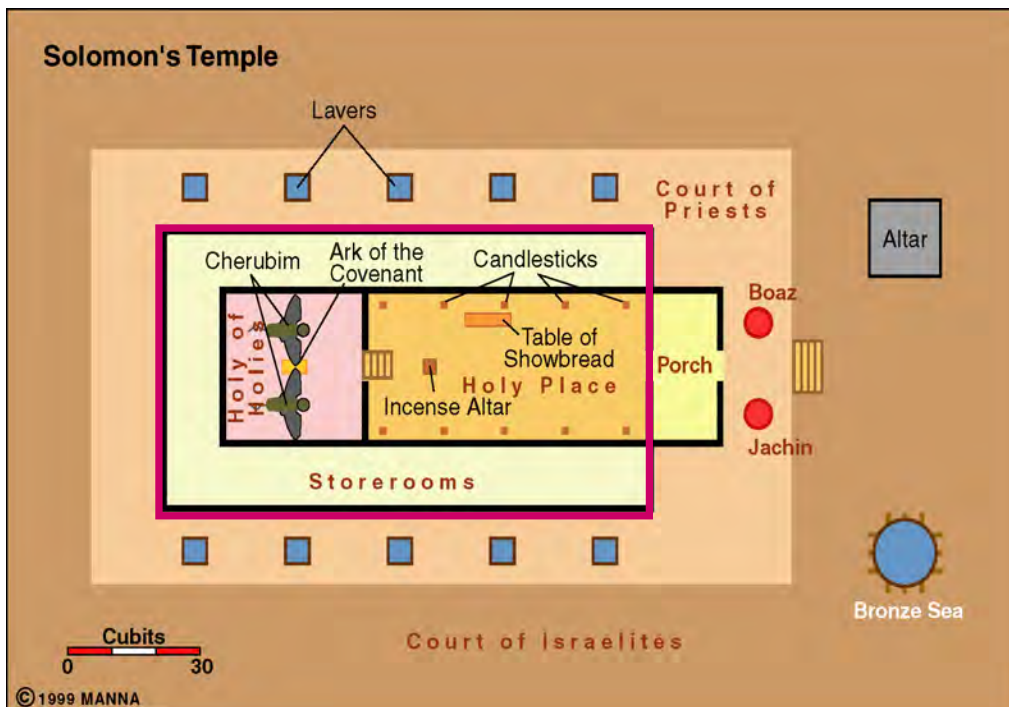


Ethiopia Worship (Zephaniah 3:9-11)

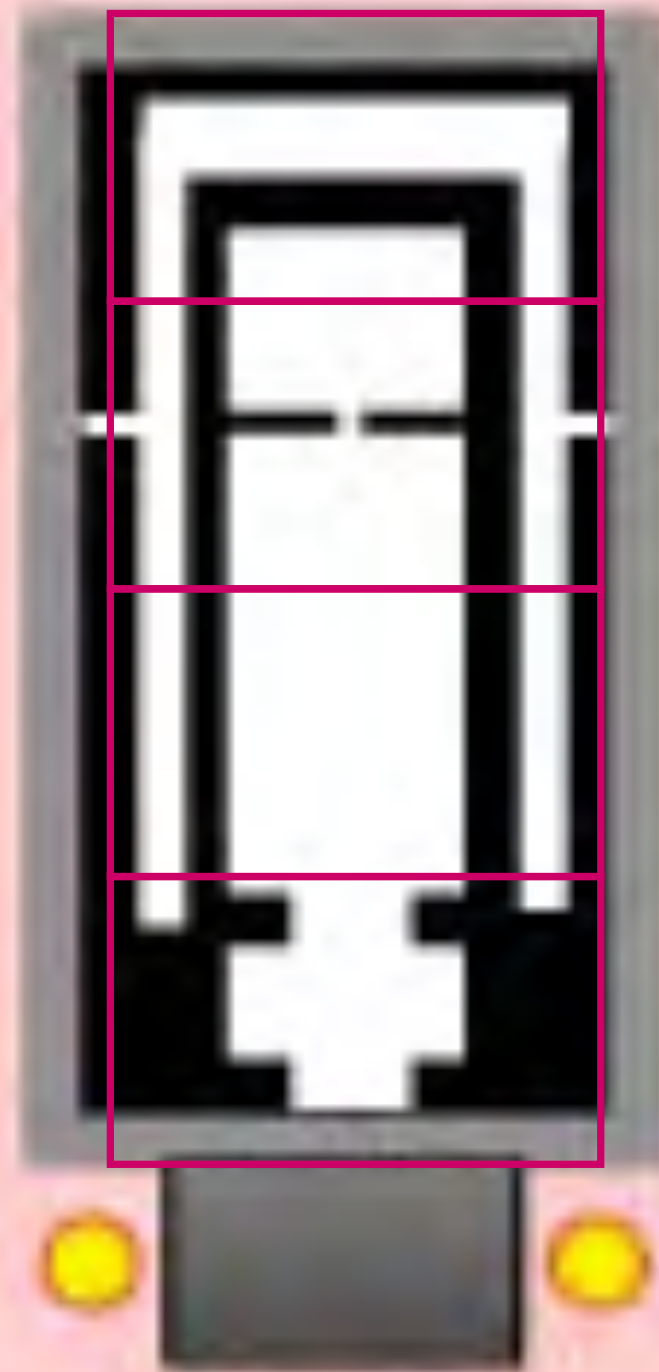
Israel

Ethiopia

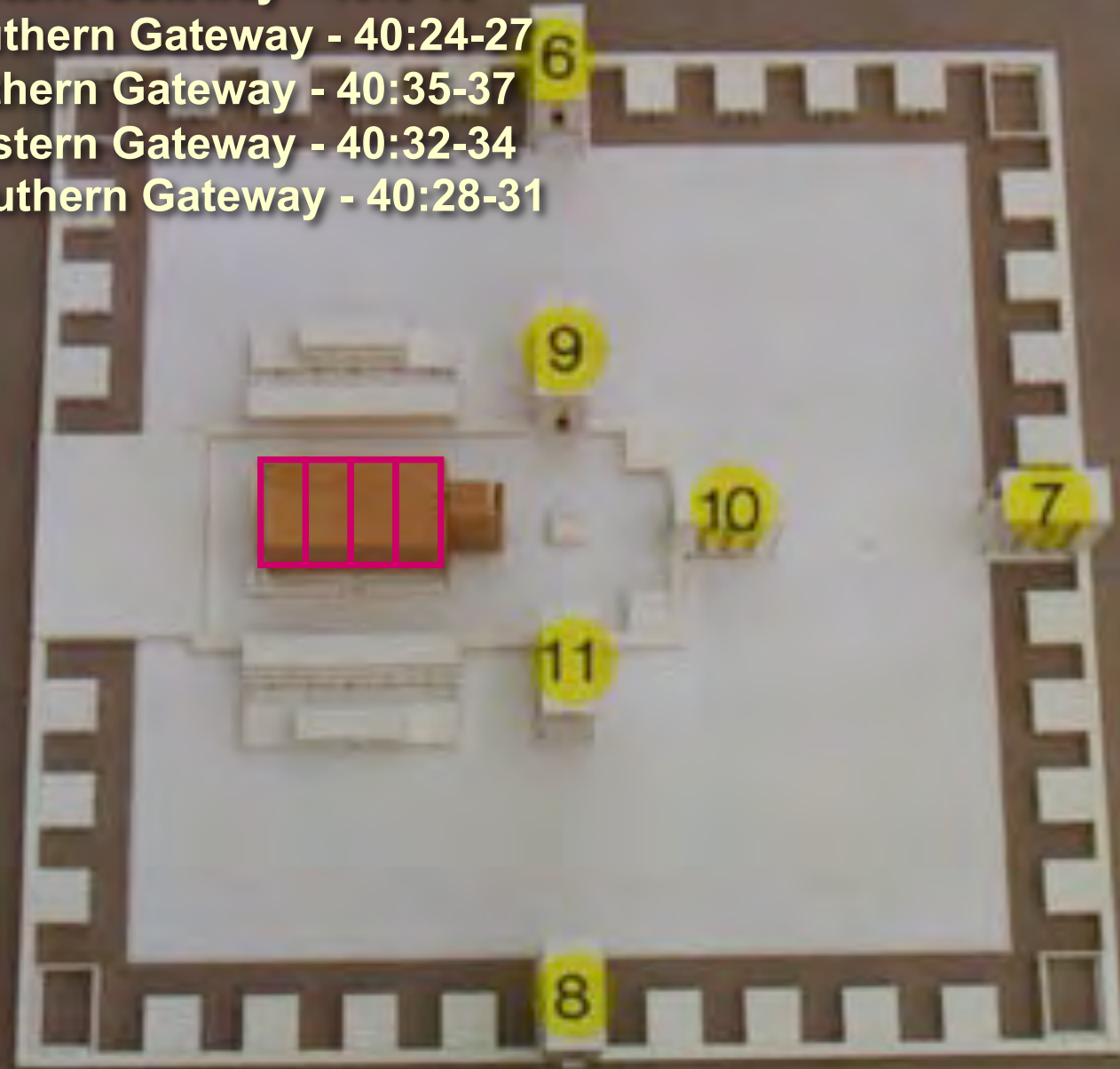
"Then I will purify the speech of all people, so that everyone can worship the LORD together. ¹⁰My scattered people who live beyond the rivers of Ethiopia will come to present their offerings. ¹¹On that **day** you will no longer need to be ashamed, for you will no longer be rebels against me. I will remove all proud and arrogant people from among you. There will be no more haughtiness on my holy mountain."



Solomon's & Ezekiel's Temples Contrasted



6. Outer Court Northern Gateway - 40:20-23
7. Outer Court Eastern Gateway - 40:6-16
8. Outer Court Southern Gateway - 40:24-27
9. Inner Court Northern Gateway - 40:35-37
10. Inner Court Eastern Gateway - 40:32-34
11. Inner Court Southern Gateway - 40:28-31



Passion Week

Bethany, the Mount of Olives and Jerusalem

521

656

4. Clearing of the temple MONDAY

Mt 21:10—17
Mk 11:15—18
Lk 19:45—48

The next day he returned to the temple and found the court of the Gentiles full of traders and money changers making a large profit as they gave out Jewish coins in exchange for "pagan" money. Jesus drove them out and overturned their tables.

5. Day of controversy and parables

TUESDAY Mt 21:23—24:51;
Mk 11:27—13:37; Lk 20:1—21:36

IN JERUSALEM

Jesus evaded the traps set by the priests.

ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES
OVERLOOKING JERUSALEM
(Tuesday afternoon,
exact location unknown)

He taught in parables and warned the people against the Pharisees. He predicted the destruction of Herod's great temple and told his disciples about future events, including his own return.

6. Day of rest WEDNESDAY

Not mentioned in the Gospels

The Scriptures do not mention the day, but the counting of the omer (Mk 14:1; Jn 12:1) suggests that there was another day concerning which the Gospels record nothing.

7. Passover Last Supper THURSDAY

Mt 26:17—30; Mk 14:12—26;
Lk 22:7—23; Jn 13:1—30

In an upper room Jesus prepared both himself and his disciples for his death. He gave the Passover meal a new meaning. The loaf of bread and cup of wine represented his body soon to be sacrificed and his blood soon to be shed. And so he instituted

1. Arrival in Bethany

FRIDAY Jn 12:1

Jesus arrived in Bethany six days before the Passover to spend some time with his friends, Mary, Martha and Lazarus. While here, Mary anointed his feet with costly perfume as an act of humility. This tender expression indicated Mary's devotion to Jesus and her willingness to serve him.

3. The Triumphal Entry

SUNDAY

Mt 21:1—11; Mk 11:1—11;
Lk 19:28—44; Jn 12:12—19

www.pauljab.net/template/TemplePictures.html

Ezekiel's temple won't fit on the present Temple Mount!

Which temple for Ezekiel?



Solomon



Zerubbabel/Herod

**Three
Literal
Views**

Conditional



Church

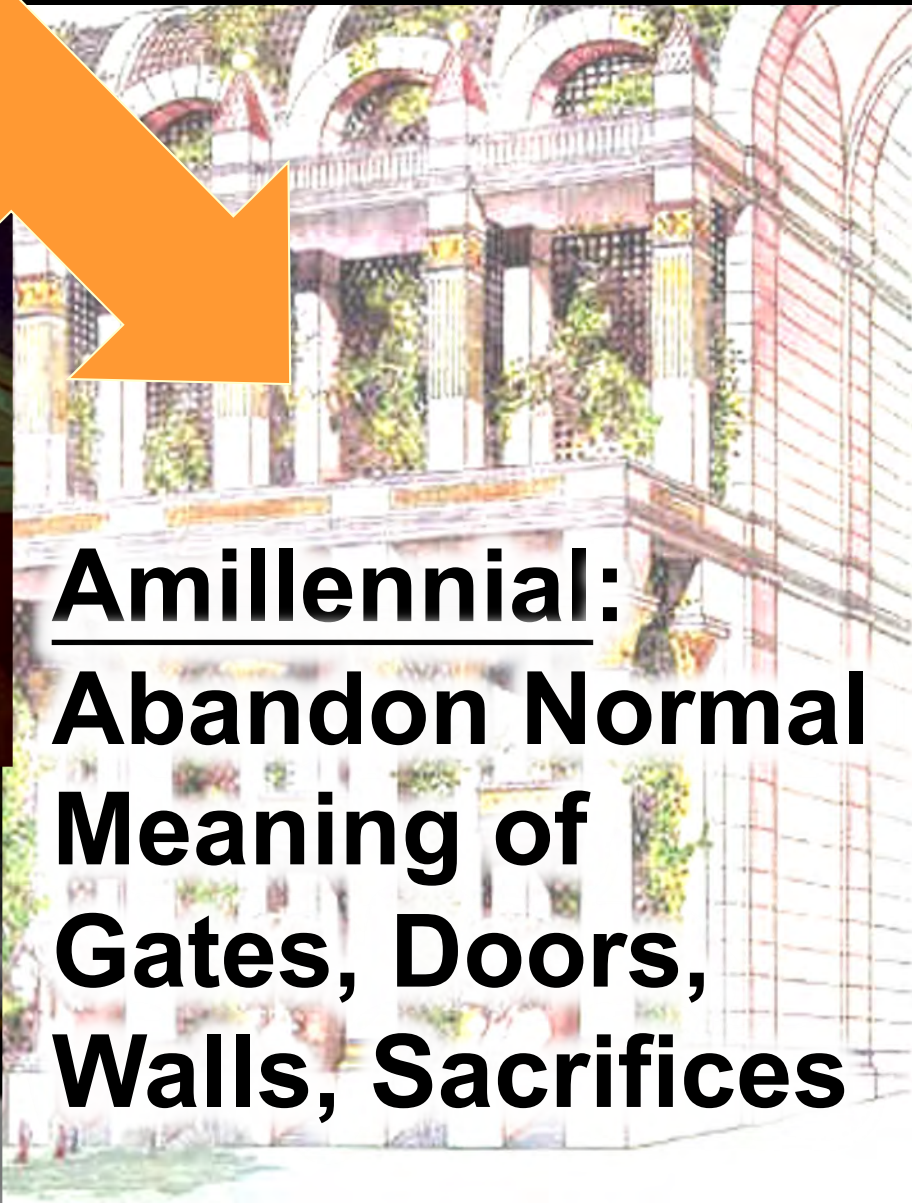
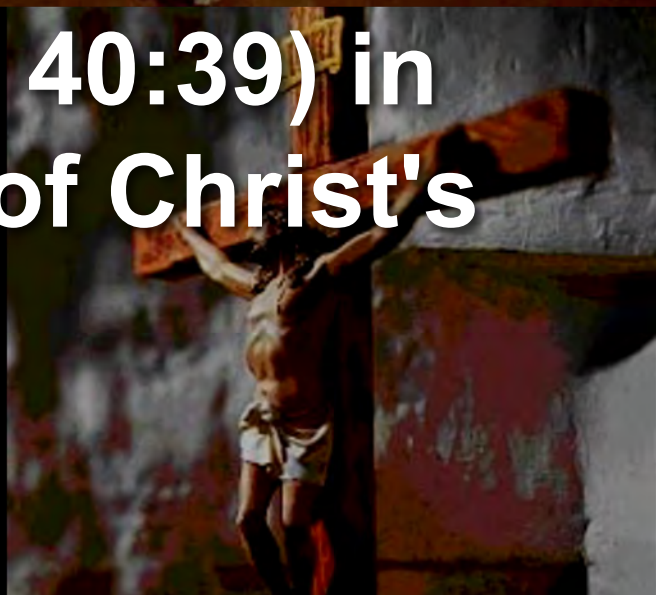


Millennial

Problems Either Way!



Premillennial:
Sacrifices for Sin
(Ezek. 40:39) in
Light of Christ's
Death



Amillennial:
Abandon Normal
Meaning of
Gates, Doors,
Walls, Sacrifices

OT Forgiveness of Sin

121b

Sin



Pipe = **Relationship** with God
(never changing)

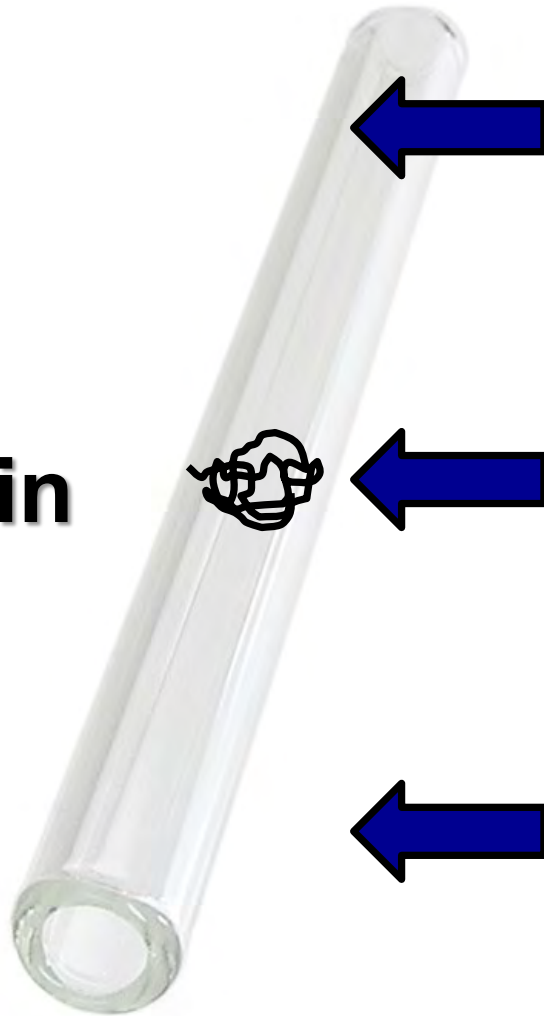
Clog = **Fellowship** with God
(hindered by sin)

Sacrifices = **Confession** of Sin
(sin was forgiven to restore
fellowship but relationship
was never threatened)

NT Forgiveness of Sin

121b

Sin



Pipe
(new)

Clog
(hindrance)

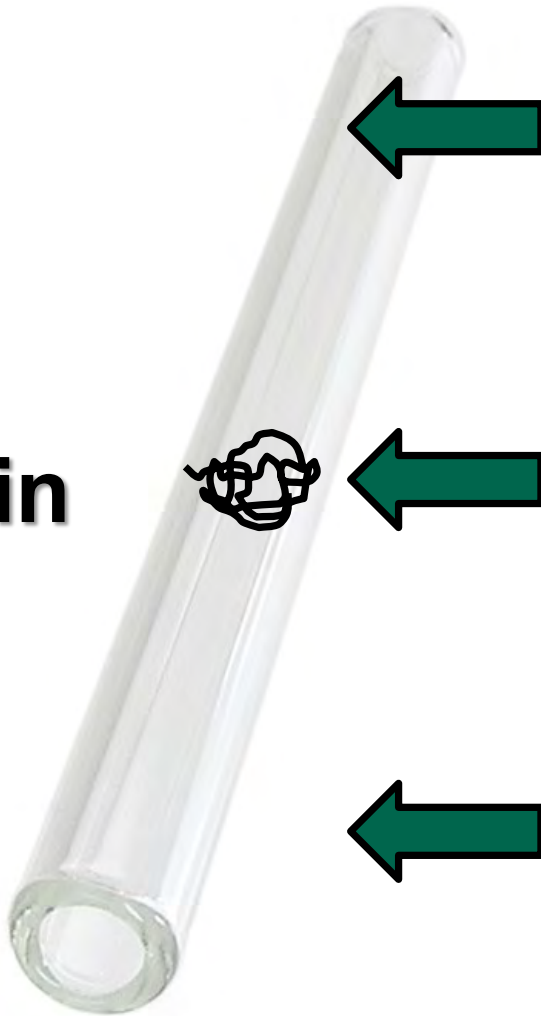
"If we confess our sins,
He is faithful and righteous
to forgive us our sins and
to cleanse us from all
unrighteousness"
(1 John 1:9 NAU)

Christ's Sacrifice = The Basis
for **Confession** of Sin (sin is
forgiven to restore fellowship
but relationship has never
been threatened)

Millennial Forgiveness of Sin

121b

Sin



"The man said to me, 'These are the kitchens to be used by the Temple assistants to boil the sacrifices offered by the people'"
(Ezekiel 46:24 NLT)

Christ's Sacrifice = The Basis for **Confession** of Sin (sin is forgiven to restore fellowship but relationship has never been never threatened)

Why Millennial Sacrifices?

527



Pre-Cross:

Looked **toward**
Christ's Death

Post-Cross:

Look **back** on
Christ's Death

- Theocratic: like confession of sin (1 John 1:9)
- Memorial: like Lord's Supper that looks back
- Paul offered a temple sacrifice in AD 57 (Acts 21:26) without seeing a "digression problem"

**"Those who are left will be the lowly and humble,
for it is they who trust in the name of the LORD.**

**¹³The remnant of Israel will do no wrong;
they will never tell lies or deceive one another.**

**They will eat and sleep in safety,
and no one will make them afraid"
(Zephaniah 3:12-13 NLT).**



**"Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout aloud, O Israel!
Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!
¹⁵For the LORD will remove his hand of judgment
and will disperse the armies of your enemy.
And the LORD himself, the King of Israel,
will live among you!
At last your troubles will be over,
and you will never again fear disaster"
(Zephaniah 3:14-15 NLT).**



**"On that day the announcement to Jerusalem will be,
'Cheer up, Zion! Don't be afraid!
17For the LORD your God is living among you.
He is a mighty savior.
He will take delight in you with gladness.
With his love, he will calm all your fears.
He will rejoice over you with joyful songs'"**
(Zephaniah 3:16-17 NLT).





THE LORD YOUR GOD
IS WITH YOU
HE IS MIGHTY TO SAVE

*He will take great delight over you
He will quiet you with His love
He will rejoice over you with
singing*


Zephaniah 3:17



*The LORD your God
is with you,
he is mighty
to save.*

*He will take
great delight
in you,
he will quiet you
with his love,
he will rejoice over you
with singing.*

Zephaniah 3:17 (NIV)



*Yahweh your God
is there with you,
the warrior-Savior.
He will rejoice
over you
with happy song,
he will renew you
by his love,
he will dance
with shouts of joy
over you.*

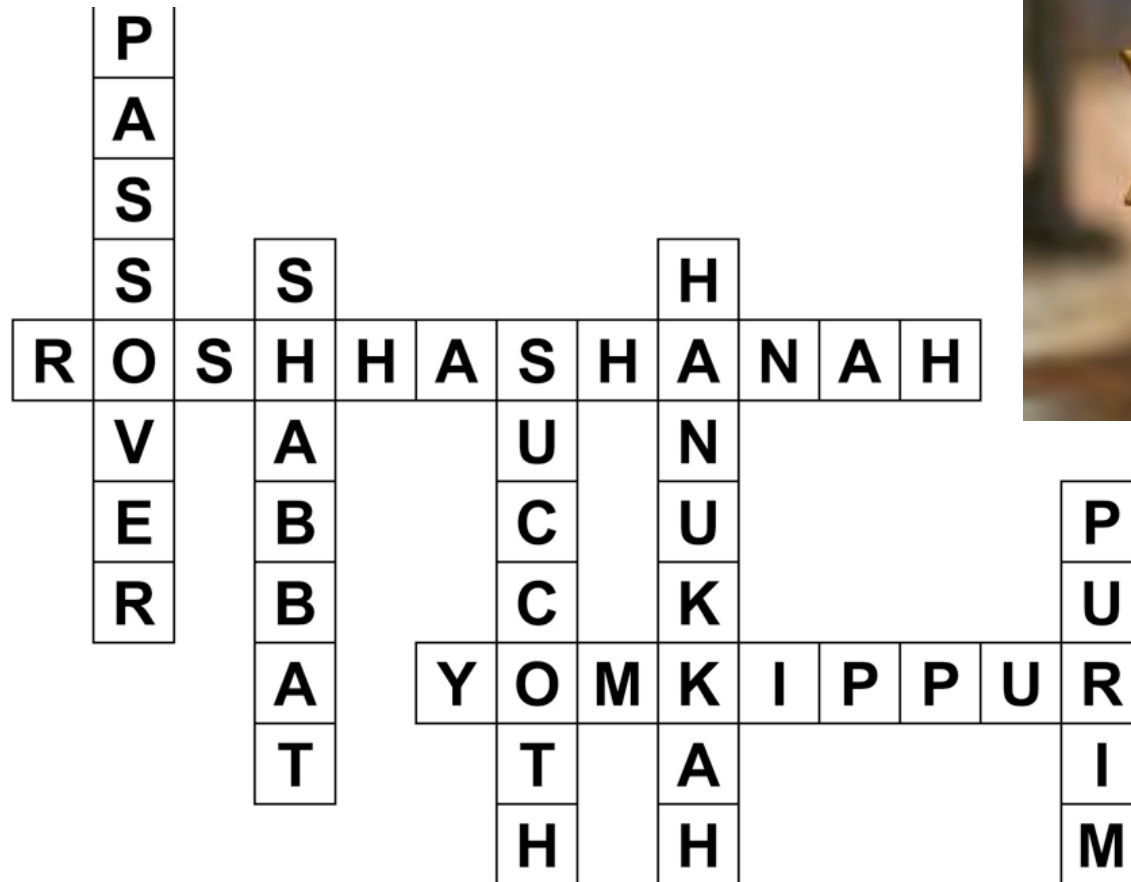
Zephaniah 3:17 (NJB)

**"I will gather you who mourn for the appointed
festivals;
you will be disgraced no more.
¹⁹And I will deal severely with all who have
oppressed you.
I will save the weak and helpless ones;
I will bring together
those who were chased away.
I will give glory and fame to my former exiles,
wherever they have been mocked and shamed"
(Zephaniah 3:18-19 NLT).**



**"I will gather you who mourn for the appointed
festivals; you will be disgraced no more"
(Zeph. 3:18 NLT).**

Jewish Festivals



**Should we follow the festivals
or Colossians 2:16-17?**

Jewish: The Law is Good



but...

No Legalism!



"So don't let anyone condemn you for what you eat or drink, or for not celebrating certain holy days or new moon ceremonies or Sabbaths. ¹⁷For these rules are only shadows of the reality yet to come. And Christ himself is that reality" (Col. 2:16-17 NLT)

**"On that day I will gather you together
and bring you home again.
I will give you a good name, a name of distinction,
among all the nations of the earth,
as I restore your fortunes before their very eyes.
I, the LORD, have spoken!"
(Zephaniah 3:20 NLT).**



III. Theological Themes

1. **The Day of Yahweh**
2. Universalism
3. Messianic Prophecy
4. God's Presence
5. Creation & 'Decreation'
6. Land in the eyes of the prophets
7. The Remnant

Theological Themes

1. The Day of YHWH

Concept that appears in every prophetic writing in the OT

In Zephaniah:

- **The Day of YHWH is noted 23 times in 3 chapters**
- **Variations: "The Day of YHWH," "Day," etc.**

"The Day" is

- a. Imminent (1:14)
- b. Day of terror (1:15)
- c. Judgment for sins (1:17)
- d. Universal judgment (1:2-3, 2:4-15; 3:8)
- e. Great convulsion of nature (1:15)
- f. Remnant redeemed (3:16-17)

Hope



PHOTO VIA TWITTER @POTUS

Judgment!





Blessing!

The Day of the LORD

638-639

Judgment +

Blessing

Tribulation

Millennium

Rev. 6–19

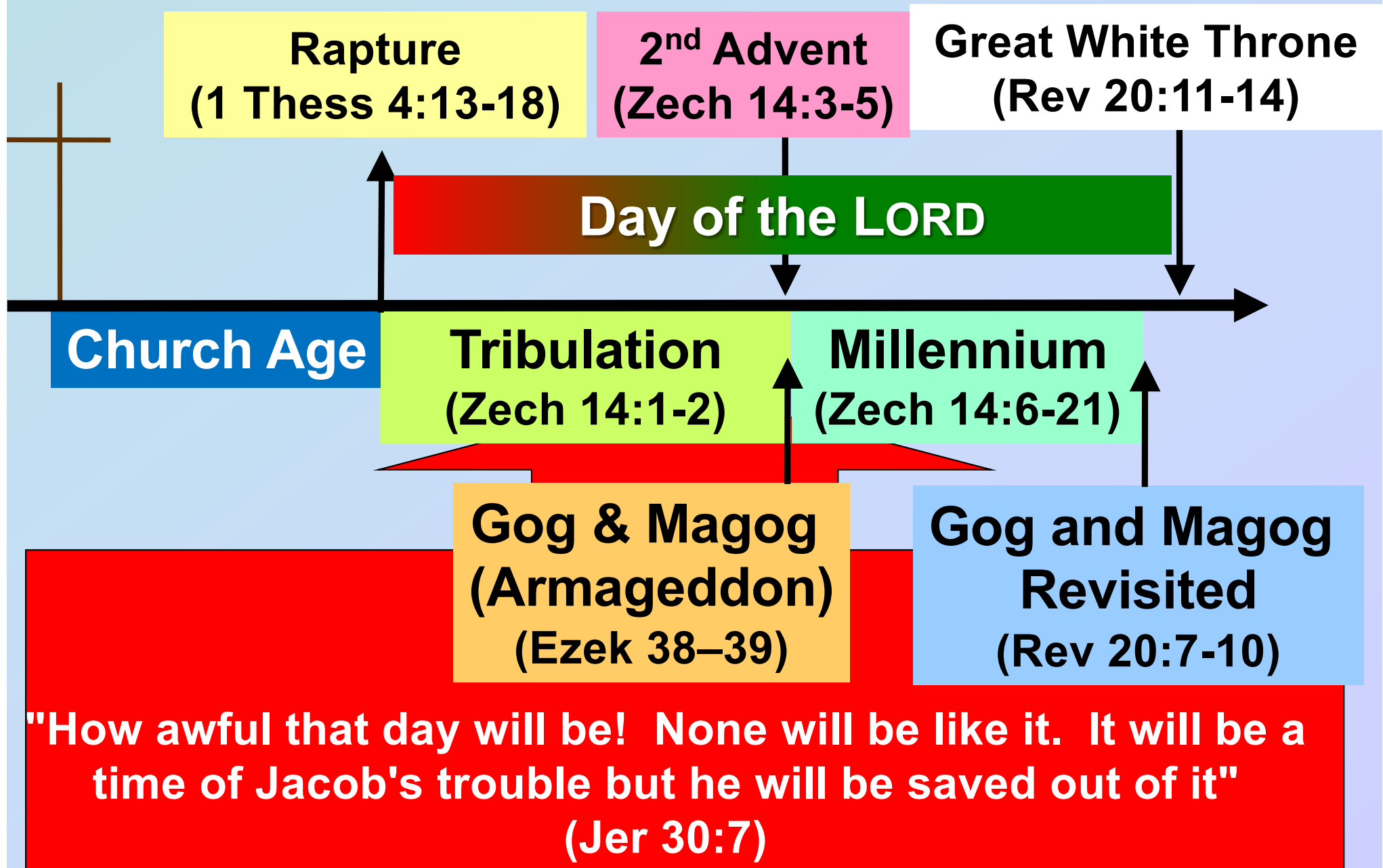
Rev. 20

7 years

1000 years

A Dispensational Timeline

OT Survey
page 437



Kingdom & Covenants Timeline



22

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Kingdom Teaching...

Adam rules with God (Gen. 1:26, 28; 2:19)

Satan begins rule as god of this world (Gen. 3:15; 2 Cor. 4:4)

God covenants with Abraham to reestablish man's rule via Israel as a "kingdom of priests" (Gen. 12:1-3; Exod. 19:6)

Israel's failure to witness to nations as a kingdom of priests is judged via exile under foreign rule

Israel rejects Messiah's offer of kingdom (Matt. 12:41-42; 23:37-39)

Jesus extends His kingdom in mystery form to the Church (Matt. 13)

Christ subdues Israel's enemies and nation believes (Rom. 11:26-27)

Christ rules over everything with saints (Eph. 1:9-10; Rev. 20:1-6; 22:5b)

Fall of Man (Gen. 3)

Noahic Covenant

Genesis 6:18; 9:8-17

Abrahamic Covenant

Genesis 12:1-3

land

Land Covenant

Genesis 15:18 (cf. Deut. 30:1-10) promises:
•Land from Wadi of Egypt to Euphrates River (Isa. 27:12)
•Eternal possession of land (Gen. 17:8) after exile/restoration
•Whole world blessed via the land (Isa. 14:1-2)

ISRAEL
(National Focus)

CHURCH

The "New Man" (Eph. 2:15)

Israel judged for rejecting Messiah by dispersion away from land for 19 centuries (AD 70–AD 1948) but now partially restored (Ezek. 37:1-7)

MESSIANIC Millennial

Full restoration (Ezek. 37:8-28)
Jerusalem world capital (Isa. 2:1-5)

KINGDOM Eternal

New Jerusalem (Rev. 21–22)

2 Samuel 7:12-16 promises:
•Sons ("house" never wiped out)
•Kingdom (political dynasty)
•Throne (right to rule by descendants)
•Temple (son to build it)

Davidic Covenant

Christ is Head over his Church, which is a spiritual temple (Eph. 2:19-22; 2 Cor. 6:16)

Christ reigns over the world (Isa. 11) with saints (Rev. 5:10; 20:4-6)

Christ hands kingdom over to Father (1 Cor. 15:24)

New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34 promises:
•Forgiveness
•Indwelling Spirit
•New heart, nature, mind
•Reunification of Israel and Judah
•No need for evangelism

Mosaic Law is replaced with first three elements of the New Covenant (Luke 22:20; 2 Cor. 3:6)

All 5 elements fulfilled in national restoration (Zech. 8)

All things made new! (Rev. 21:5)

Mosaic Covenant

Temporary (Gal. 3:19) and conditional (Deut. 28) to reveal sin (Rom. 7:7) and regulate Israel (Gal. 3:23-25)

Law abolished, fulfilled, and replaced at the cross (Rom. 7:1-6; 1 Cor. 9:19-21; Heb. 8:13)

12th Edition
5 March 2023

Scripture has a dual kingdom-covenant theme. Israel's role from Abraham to Christ expands to include the Church (continuity) yet the Church never replaces the nation as the "new Israel" (discontinuity). Israel will enjoy world prominence after trusting Christ at His second coming.

III. Theological Themes

1. The Day of Yahweh

2. **Universalism**

3. Messianic Prophecy

4. God's Presence

5. Creation & 'Decreation'

6. Land in the eyes of the prophets

7. The Remnant

2. Universalism

Judgment: Worldwide

• **Terror of the Day will fall upon all**

→ **Earth**
3:8

↙ **Earth**
1:1-3

↘ **Jerusalem**
3:1-7

↘ **Judah**
1:4–2:3


↘ **Assyria**
2:13-15

↘ **Philistia**
2:4-7

↘ **Ammon**
2:8-11

↘ **Moab**
2:8-11

↘ **Cush**
2:12

A photograph of a sunset over a beach. The sun is a bright yellow orb on the right side of the horizon, casting a long, shimmering reflection across the water and onto the wet sand in the foreground. The sky is a gradient of orange and yellow, with some light clouds. The beach is dark and wet, with the sand reflecting the golden light of the sun. The overall mood is serene and majestic.

Zephaniah

The Day of the LORD

Key Word

634
343

Day

Zephaniah

How should we respond to the LORD's **balance**?



Main Idea

Be hopeful yet **repentant**.



Zephaniah

Zephaniah Kingdom Statement

343

Judah should repent because of a future **day of judgment (1:1–3:8) and blessing (3:9-20) on the whole earth caused by God as King.**



Zephaniah Summary Statement

Zephaniah prophesies the **day of the LORD judgment upon Judah, the surrounding nations, and the entire earth to exhort Judah to repent due to God's righteousness and His promise of a remnant in a national restoration.**

**I. God's future judgment
warns us to **repent**.**

Zephaniah 1:1–3:8

II. God's future deliverance encourages us to **hope**.



Zephaniah 3:9-20

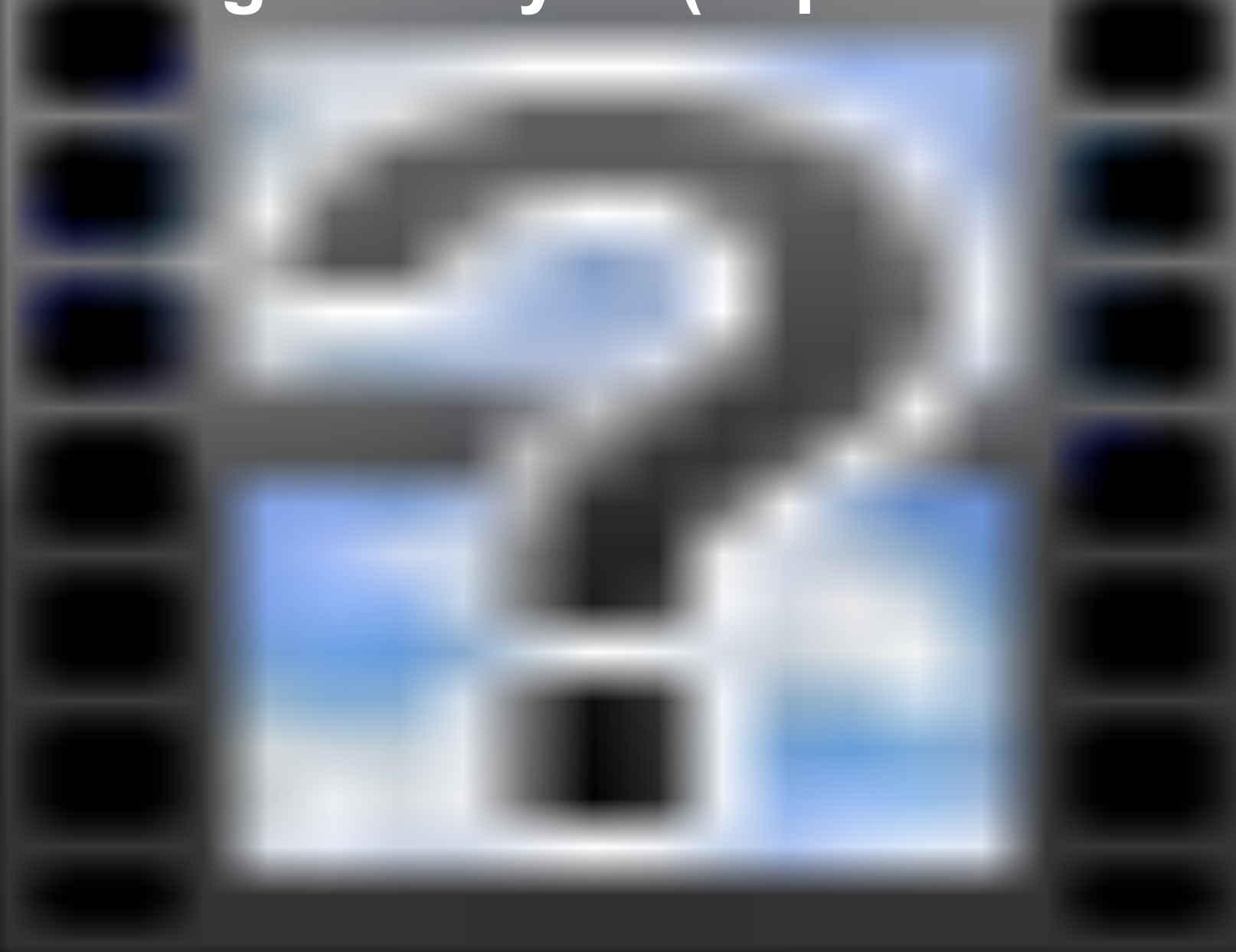
Key Verse


634

"Gather together...before the **day of the LORD's wrath comes upon you. Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land, you who do what he commands. Seek righteousness, seek humility; perhaps you will be sheltered on the **day** of the LORD's anger" (Zephaniah 2:1-3).**

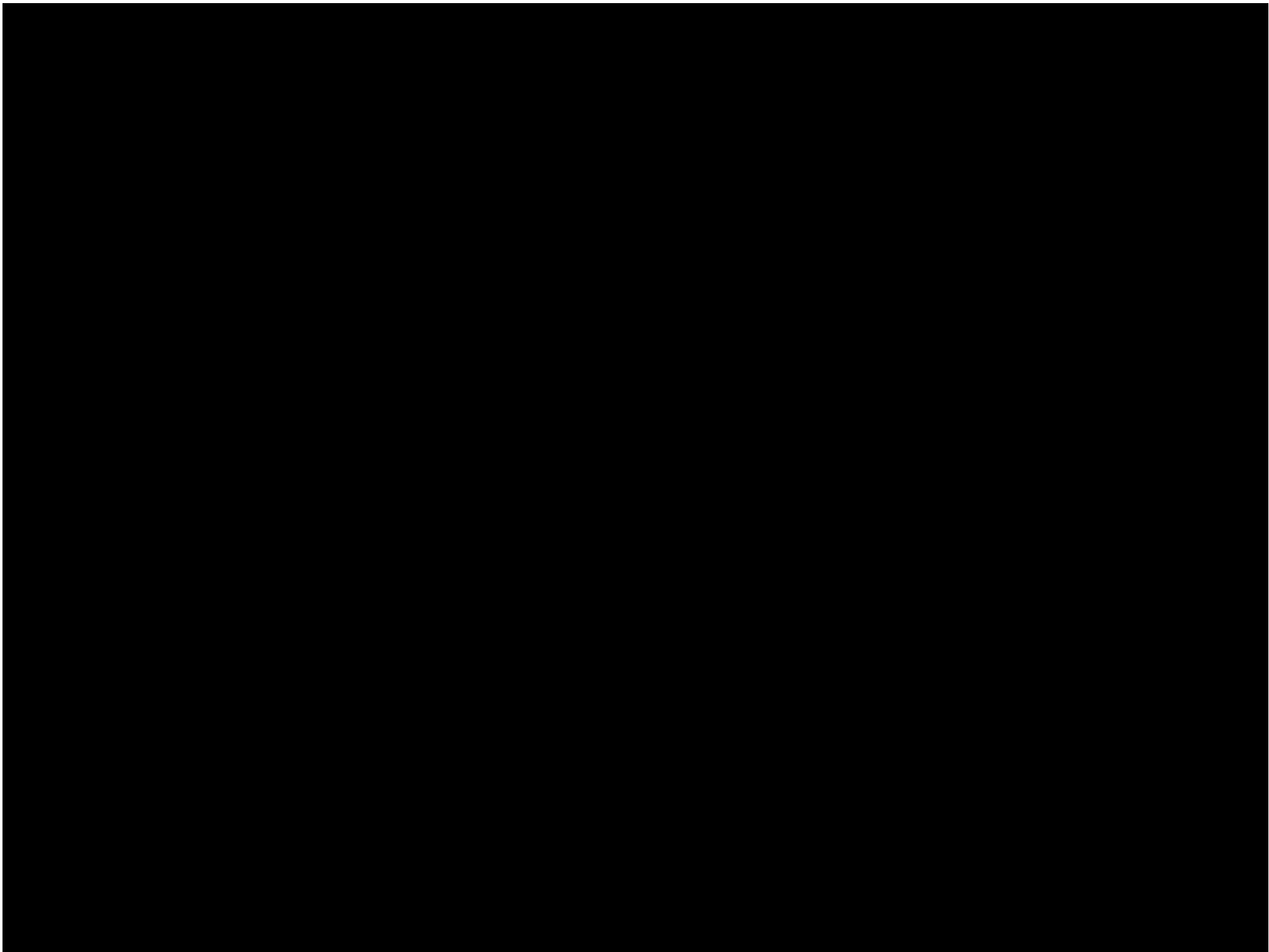
Zephaniah

God sings over you (Zephaniah 3:17)!





"The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing"
(Zephaniah 3:17)



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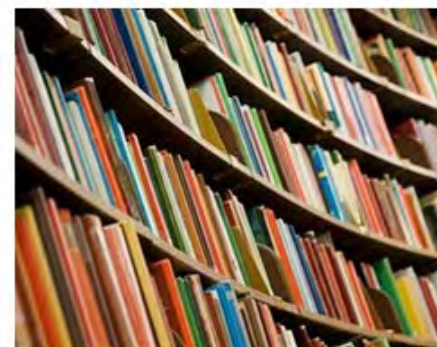


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Key Verse: "Gather together...before the **day of the LORD's wrath** comes upon you. Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land, you who do what he commands. Seek righteousness, seek humility; perhaps you will be sheltered on the day of the LORD's anger" (Zeph. 2:1-3).

Summary Statement:

Zephaniah prophesies the **day of the LORD** judgment upon Judah, the surrounding nations, and the entire earth to exhort Judah to repent because of God's righteous character and His promise of a remnant in a national restoration.

Application:

If you insist on *living* like a pagan, then you will *die* like a pagan (Huang Sabin)

III. Theological Themes

1. The Day of Yahweh
2. Universalism
3. **Messianic Prophecy**
4. God's Presence
5. Creation & 'Decreation'
6. Land in the eyes of the prophets
7. The Remnant

3. Messianic Prophecy

- **Messianic King not mentioned by Zephaniah**
- **Pictures the glories of the Messianic Age (3:14-20)**



III. Theological Themes

1. The Day of Yahweh
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4. God's Presence

Centrality of God's presence:

- **1:1 opens with God's covenant name—YHWH**
- **3:20 closes with YHWH**

Chapters in between shows God's intervention into human history in a mighty transforming way (Judgment 1:1–3:8; Restoration/Salvation 3:9-20)



III. Theological Themes

1. The Day of Yahweh
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4. God's Presence
5. **Creation & 'Decreation'**
6. Land in the eyes of the prophets
7. The Remnant

5. Creation & 'Decreation'

God is present in the Creation:

1:1 - 3:8 Shows God's judgment upon His creation. God would not hesitate to bring about a period of 'decreating' or 'uncreating' (esp 1:3)

Judgment is severe.

YHWH's destruction "*will be just as bleak as his creating was abundant*" (Greg A. King)

It seems that the earth will return its initial stage of mess and formlessness and devoid of life (Gen. 1:2).

Order of creation reversed in Zephaniah



EMERGENCY
SIGNAL
AHEAD

III. Theological Themes

1. The Day of Yahweh
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7. The Remnant

6. Land in the eyes of the prophets

- **Zephaniah confirmed the past teaching that continual occupancy of the land is tied to obedience. Land is a gift from God.**
- **After Judah and Israel were divided, prophecies were given against the people for their harlotry (running after other gods).**
- **During Josiah's reign: Baal was still worshipped, and high places were flourishing (1:4), hosts of heaven were adored upon the housetops (1:5) and multitudes had turned entirely from following YHWH (1:6).**

Results of Manasseh's Evil Reign

- 6. Land in the eyes of the prophets
(continued)

- During Manasseh's evil 55-year reign:

People turned skeptical during his cruel rule;
hearts turned indifferent towards God.

"YHWH will not do good, neither will he do evil"
1:12

- Religious leaders became misleaders (3:4)
- Though a remnant had turned back to God or remained faithful, this was insufficient to avert the awful judgment upon the nation (thankfully, though, these would be hidden in the day of YHWH's wrath).

III. Theological Themes

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7. Faithfulness & righteousness of the remnant

- ***Their reward:*** Salvation from terror of the Day
- ***Their identity:*** those "righteous and ethical in their interaction with and treatment of others"



Application

1. God's wrath against evildoers should warn us who have turned away

**While God is compassionate and loving,
He is also a God of justice and holiness.**

**In similar times of national calamity
today, divine discipline should rouse the
indifferent and purify the good.**

Zephaniah

2. God's People as a Sacrifice to Him

Sacrifice was well understood in Jerusalem. Offerings were made to the one true God, and when the people rebelled against God or had become corrupt, they also offered to the idols.

But now YHWH declared through Zephaniah that the faithless, corrupt and indifferent people should themselves be sacrificed (1:7).

We also must examine our lives. We easily quote Romans 12:1-2, "...offering ourselves as a living sacrifice...." but have we truly reckoned what it means to live our lives in holy reverence for the LORD – in purity as a living sacrifice to YHWH?

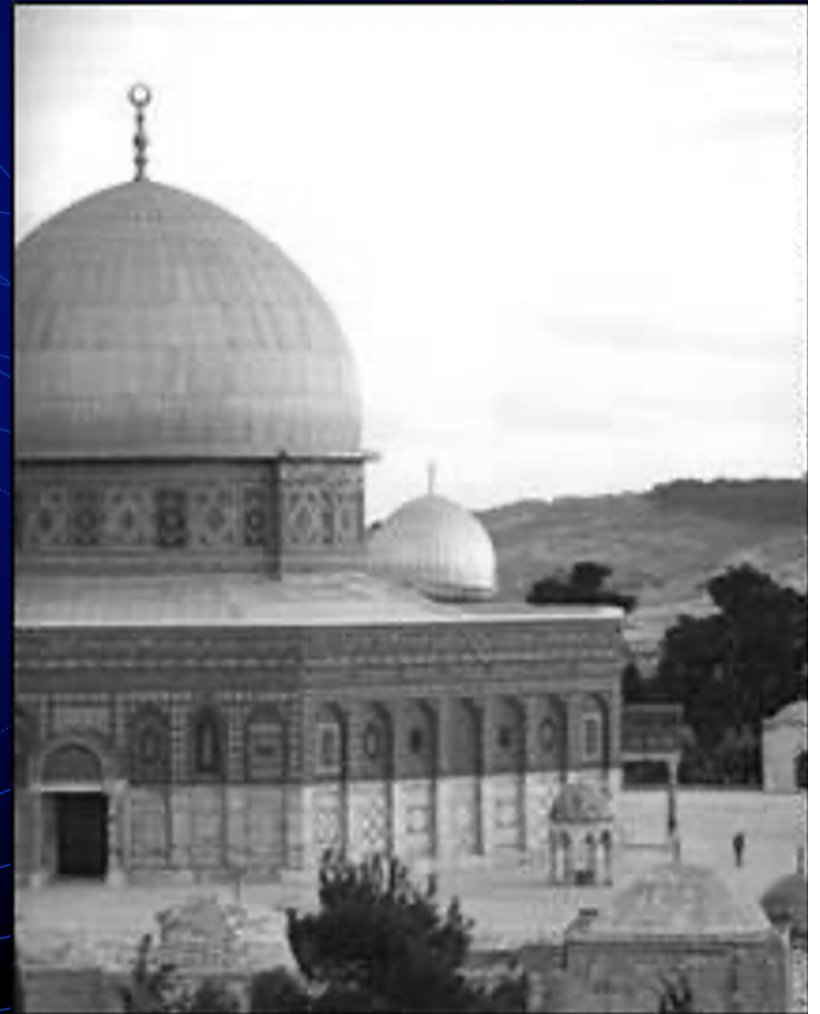
Zephaniah

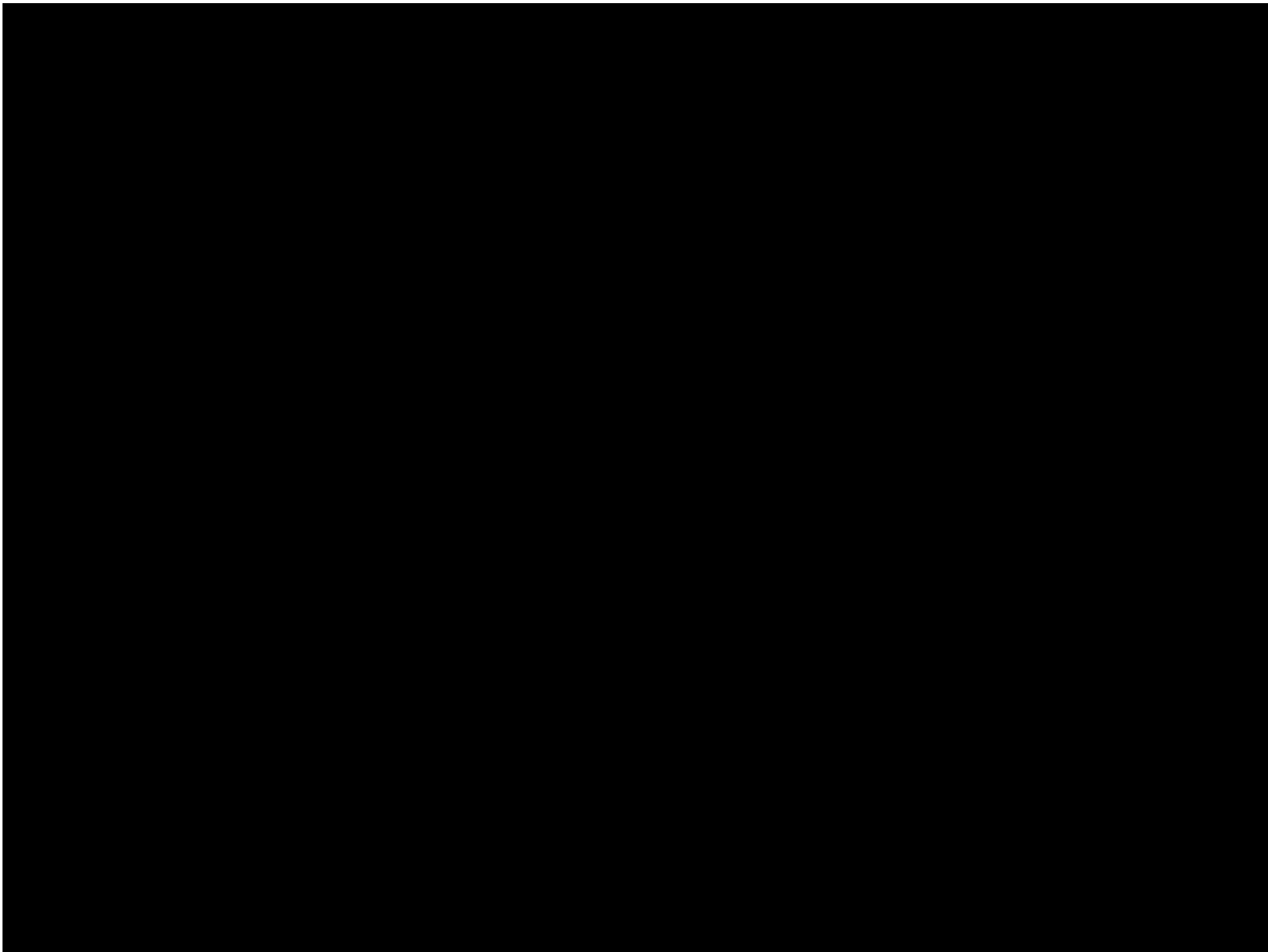
Conclusion

The minor prophets are by no means insignificant.
The call to constantly return to YHWH is still ringing
loud and clear today.

*If you insist on living
like a pagan, then
you will die like a
pagan*

~ Huang Sabin





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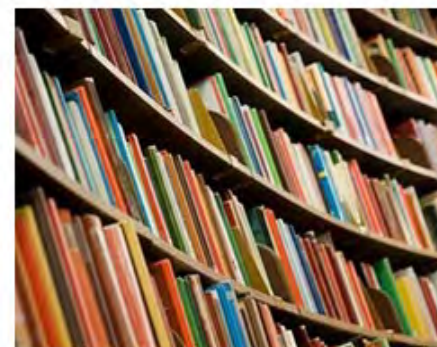


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