

**ZEPHANIAH—HERALD OF THE DAY OF THE LORD**  
**WARNING FOR JUDAH**  
(Zephaniah 1:1-18)

- I. Superscription (Zeph. 1:1)
  - A. The message is “the WORD of the LORD”
  - B. The messenger is Zephaniah, great-great-grandson of HEZEKIAH
  - C. The ministry was during the reign of JOSIAH
- II. Proclaiming Judgment on the WHOLE EARTH (Zeph. 1:2-3)
  - A. Proclaims God’s unchangeable PURPOSE—“I will...” declares the LORD (2x)
  - B. Proclaims God’s DESTRUCTION of EVERYTHING on earth
- III. Proclaiming Judgment on JUDAH (Zeph. 1:4-13)
  - A. God’s wrath will affect the entire NATION, including the CAPITAL (1:4a)
  - B. God’s wrath will punish IDOLATRY (1:4b-6)
    - 1. He would root out BAAL worship
    - 2. He would punish ASTROLOGERS
    - 3. He would punish HYPOCRISY
    - 4. God’s wrath will punish BETRAYAL
    - 5. God’s wrath will punish INDIFFERENCE
  - C. The “day of the LORD” is NEAR (1:7-9)
    - 1. He calls them to SILENCE, because they have no EXCUSE

2. God has prepared JUDAH as His SACRIFICE
3. God has consecrated BABYLON as His priests to SLAUGHTER the sacrifice
4. God's wrath will fall especially on the ROYAL FAMILY
5. God will also punish the RICH who plunder the POOR

D. Jerusalem will FALL (1:10-13)

1. He foreshadows Nebuchadnezzar's INVASION
2. He predicts DESTRUCTION of the dishonest MERCHANTS
3. God will SEARCH OUT and punish those who think God will do NOTHING

IV. Proclaiming the ULTIMATE Day of the Lord (1:14-18)

A. It is NEAR and coming QUICKLY (1:14)

1. The Babylonian invasion would come in Zephaniah's GENERATION
2. Ultimate judgment was also IMMINENT

B. It is a day of God's WRATH (1:15-16)

C. No STRONGHOLD will be SECURE (1:17)

1. The BLOOD of the wicked will be as REFUSE
2. The WEALTH of the wicked will be WORTHLESS

D. "All the earth will be DEVoured" (1:18; cf. 2 Pet. 3:10-15a)