

ZEPHANIAH—HERALD OF THE DAY OF THE LORD
WARNING FOR THE NATIONS
(Zephaniah 2:1-15)

- I. God's Call to REPENT (Zeph. 2:1-3)
 - A. Commands them twice to GATHER themselves TOGETHER (2:1-2; cf. Joel 2:16)
 - 1. Scorns them as a nation WITHOUT SHAME
 - 2. Warns them of the URGENCY
 - B. Commands them thrice to SEEK: the LORD, RIGHTEOUSNESS, and HUMILITY (2:3)
 - 1. He addresses "the HUMBLE of the EARTH"
 - 2. He's addressing the OBEDIENT and FAITHFUL
 - 3. He is alluding to the RAPTURE of the CHURCH before the Lord's return

- II. God's Judgment on PHILISTIA--WEST of Judah (Zeph. 2:4-7)
 - A. Its major cities will be LAID WASTE (2:4)
 - B. Those along the COAST will also be DESTROYED (2:5-7)
 - 1. The entire region will become PASTURELAND
 - 2. The flocks will belong to JUDEANS when God RESTORES them to the land

- III. God's Judgment on the MOAB and AMMON--EAST of Judah (Zeph. 2:8-10)
 - A. These are the descendants of LOT (cf. Gen. 19:30-38)
 - 1. They have been persistent ADVERSARIES of Israel/Judah
 - 2. They have been TAUNTING and REVILING God's people
 - B. God will make them like SODOM and GOMORRAH (2:8-10)

- IV. God's Judgment on ETHIOPIA and ASSYRIA--SOUTH and NORTH of Judah (Zeph. 2:12-15)
 - A. The Ethiopians will be SLAUGHTERED (2:12)
 - B. Assyria would COLLAPSE and Nineveh made DESOLATE (2:13-15)
 - 1. The once PROUD city boasted of SELF-SUFFICIENCY
 - 2. It will be a resting place for BEASTS
 - 3. Travelers passing through will MOCK

- V. God's Promise that ALL Will Worship HIM (Zeph. 2:11)
 - A. God's WRATH will TERRIFY His adversaries
 - B. God's GLORY will STARVE "all the gods of the earth"
 - C. All HUMANITY will BOW to God (cf. Isaiah 45:23; Phil. 2:10)
 - 1. Both the RIGHTEOUS and the WICKED will acknowledge He ALONE is God-
 - 2. All STILL LIVING will be BELIEVERS
 - D. God's ultimate purpose is not DESTRUCTION
 - 1. He promises to overrule EVIL for GOOD
 - 2. He promises to bring PEACE out of CHAOS