

Lessons from the Prophets, Series 4

Lessons from Prophet Zephaniah



Zephaniah was one of the twelve minor Hebrew prophets in the Bible. He was a descendant of King Hezekiah who ruled over Judah and he most likely resided in Jerusalem due to his descriptions of the city.

Zephaniah lived during the reign of Josiah and witnessed the corruption of not only Israel but many other nations. Unlike other Hebrew prophets who focused specifically on Israel, Zephaniah prophesied against all nations. Zephaniah establishes the fact that God controls all the nations of the world and demands righteousness and justice instead of the growing corruption. Zephaniah had the prophetic ability to take on a world view. *I will utterly consume all things from off the land, saith the LORD. Zephaniah 1:2*

The lesson prophets of today can learn from Zephaniah is to not let their prophetic gift be confined to one view based off of ideology or belief systems. Zephaniah challenges us to step outside the box and look at things from a higher view which gives a broader picture and includes more than our immediate environment.

From Zephaniah we are given a powerful pillar in prophecy, no matter what the nations of this world are planning or doing, God is always in control. Zephaniah's prophecy supports the universal truth that what goes up must come down. A nation may be on top of the world today and become literally non-existent tomorrow. Nations who dish out oppression, stand against God and take pleasure in corruption will suffer God's judgment. *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. Zephaniah 3:6*

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. Zephaniah 3:8

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