## **Zephaniah Chapter 3 May 21, 2024**

## **This last chapter of Zephaniah needs to be started with these. First as we shall see God is not the one at fault.**

## **Question? Is God ever at fault?**

## **Whether its Job, or Jonah, or you and whoever;**

## **God is always loving, always fair, and always right!**

## **The problem is always the curse and what flows out of that. Even if we don’t understand or comprehend, GOD IS NOT AT FAULT!**



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**1504 yrs. God in His mercy called and was patient with a people.For 6000 yrs. God has had to endure this with all people.(First world, 1Pet 3:5-6) *Gen 6:5 Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.* (Second world) *Romans 3:15 “Their******feet*** *are* ***swift to shed blood; 16 Destruction and misery*** *are* ***in their ways; 17 And the way of peace they have not known.”***

## ***18 “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”***

## **Let’s Read Nehemiah 9:1-38**

## **This is the end of the matter with God and man.**

## **So…..**

## ***Zeph 3:1 Woe to her who is rebellious and polluted, To the oppressing city! 2 She has not obeyed His voice, She has not received correction; She has not trusted in the LORD, She has not drawn near to her God.***

## ***3 Her princes in her midst are roaring lions; Her judges are evening wolves That leave not a bone till morning. 4 Her prophets are insolent, treacherous people; Her priests have polluted the sanctuary, They have done violence to the law.***

## **All the leaders are corrupt because of this:**

## **They have not obeyed God’s voice/WORD.**

## **They have not received correction. God’s solution is ignored!**

## **3. They have not trusted in God but…**

## ***Judges 21:25 In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.***

## **4. They have not come to reason with God, to draw close!**

## ***Isa 1:18 “Come now, and let us reason together,” Says the LORD, “Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.***

## **Come let us have a chat over your matters!**

## **Satan only steals, kills and destroys.**

## **God knows the best way for your life. Sit down reason with Him.**

## ***Mat 11:28 “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 “Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 “For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”***

## **What evil does to nations:**

## ***3 Her princes in her midst are roaring lions;***

## **They tear the land apart with greed, power, and high-level corruption.**

## ***Her judges are evening wolves That leave not a bone till morning.***

## **They use their power to only benefit themselves more and more.**

## ***4 Her prophets are insolent, treacherous people;***

## ***Her priests have polluted the sanctuary, They have done violence to the law.***

## **They have nothing to say because nothing is being said by God.**

## **They are blind guides, corrupt with sacrifices, money and the people.**

## **God now must remind them all of some things**

## ***Zeph 3:5 The LORD is righteous in her midst, He will do no unrighteousness. Every morning He brings His justice to light;***

## ***He never fails, But the unjust knows no shame. 6 “I have cut off nations, Their fortresses are devastated;***

## ***I have made their streets desolate, With none passing by. Their cities are destroyed; There is no one, no inhabitant. 7 I said, ‘Surely you will fear Me, You will receive instruction’– So that her dwelling would not be cut off, Despite everything for which I punished her.***

## ***But they rose early and corrupted all their deeds.***

## **Is there hope?**

## **Next week finish chap 3!!!**