## **The final case against Judah**

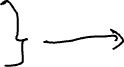
## **4-28-24**

## ***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.***

## **Who Judah is: Rebellious, polluted and oppressive!**

## **Their judged actions:**

## **Not obeyed Not received {God}**



## **Not trusted**



## **Not drawn**

## **Their judged offices:**

## **Princes**

## **Judges**

## **Prophets**



## **Priests**

## **All like wild animals**

## ***Zeph 3:3 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.***

## **AND Times up!**

## **Their sin has reached the tipping point!**

## ***Malachi 2:7 “For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge, And people should seek the law from his mouth; For he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.***

## ***8 But you have departed from the way; You have caused many to stumble at the law. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi,” Says the LORD of hosts.***

## **THE BLIND LEAD……….**

## ***Jeremiah 23:11 “For both prophet and priest are profane; Yes, in My house I have found their wickedness,” says the LORD.***

## ***12 “Therefore their way shall be to them Like slippery ways; In the darkness they shall be driven on And fall in them; For I will bring disaster on them, The year of their punishment,” says the LORD.***

## **When Israel or (we, God’s children) sin and then continue to be trapped by it, our way becomes like walking on moss covered rocks near a river. Eventually dark settles in… HOW’S THE WALKING NOW?**

## **We get really banged up and may even fall in the River!**

## **When you are on these rocks you LONG for solid ground, because eventually you realize your life is one big dramatic mess!!!!**

## ***Proverbs 13:15 Good understanding gains favor, But the way of transgressors is hard.***

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

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



## **2. 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:**



## ***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.***

## **They were to learn from the past they have all the testimony of God’s past dealings, but it does no good.**

## **It is just like mankind's history**

## ***2 Pet 3:5 For this they willfully forget: that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of water and in the water, 6 by which the world that then existed perished, being flooded with water.***

## ***7 But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.***

## **To the remnant in the future…**

## ***2 Pet 3:8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that***



## ***any should perish but that all should come to repentance.***



## ***10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.***



## ***11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness,***



## ***12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.***



## **To the remnant in Zephaniah’s day:**

## ***Zeph 3:8 “Therefore wait for Me,” says the LORD, “Until the day I rise up for plunder; My determination is to gather the nations To My assembly of kingdoms,***



## ***To pour on them My indignation, All My fierce anger; All the earth shall be devoured With the fire of My jealousy. 9 “For then I will restore to the peoples a pure language, That they all may call on the name of the LORD, To serve Him with one accord.***



## ***10 From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia My worshipers, The daughter of My dispersed ones, Shall bring My offering. 11 In that day you shall not be shamed for any of your deeds***



## ***In which you transgress against Me; For then I will take away from your midst Those who rejoice in your pride, And you shall no longer be haughty In My holy mountain.***

## ***12 I will leave in your midst A meek and humble people, And they shall trust in the name of the LORD. 13 The remnant of Israel shall do no unrighteousness And speak no lies, Nor shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth;***



## ***For they shall feed their flocks and lie down, And no one shall make them afraid.” 14 Sing, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!***



## ***15 The LORD has taken away your judgments, He has cast out your enemy. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; You shall see disaster no more. 16 In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Do not fear; Zion, let not your hands be weak.***



## ***17 The LORD your God in your midst,.” The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing 18 “I will gather those who sorrow over the appointed assembly, Who are among you, To whom its reproach is a burden.***



## ***19 Behold, at that time I will deal with all who afflict you; I will save the lame, And gather those who were driven out; I will appoint them for praise and fame In every land where they were put to shame.***



## ***20 At that time I will bring you back, Even at the time I gather you; For I will give you fame and praise Among all the peoples of the earth, When I return your captives before your eyes,” Says the LORD.***



## 

## **AMEN!**