

Summer in **THE MINORS**

ZEPHANIAH

Week 9 : Read Zephaniah 1:1-3:20

What was Judah doing that God was ready to judge them over?

What was the significance of 1:8-9? (See also 1 Samuel 5:1-5.)

In 2:2, the day is described like the passing of windblown chaff and compare this with Zephaniah's description of the Day of the Lord in ch.1. How many days have felt like windblown chaff in your life? Where is the danger in that?

Read the description of Jerusalem in 3:1-5.

Make a list of all the things God is holding against it.

Take note of how God describes Himself in 3:1-5 in comparison to Jerusalem. The way His actions stand out against the behavior His own people should be how His people stand out against the backdrop of other nations who do not know God. The same is true for us today.

How does the Church at large compare to the world around it? Do we stand out as a beacon of love and faithfulness in the context of an increasingly faithless nation? What would it look like for that to be so?

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What can you personally shift to better show the light of love and faithfulness in our own world?

Imagine what it would be like to embody 3:9-17. What would that feel like?

Where do you see the work of Christ in this same section of the text?

What can we learn about God in Zephaniah?

Prayer:

Father, you are just and holy, yet you are faithful and kind. Thank you for giving warnings of impending judgment as evidence of your patience and desire for all to come back to you. May those of us who claim your name faithfully seek your face, and reflect your light into the darkness of the world around us. In the name of Jesus, amen.

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