

**“VOICES – THE MINOR PROPHETS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT”**  
**ZEPHANIAH: DON’T LIVE THIS WAY – PART II** **02.10.19**

**Zephaniah’s Ministry** 9th Minor Prophet, 640-609 BC

**Zephaniah’s Message**

“The Old Testament prophets spoke to the nation [people of God], and most expressly to the king. Their job was to confront the people of Israel when they were failing to keep their covenant with God. When Israel broke that covenant, the leaders of the nation were supposed to lead them back. When the leaders didn’t, the prophets launched. And boy, did they launch.” Dr. Sandra Richter, “Isaiah: The Story of Israel’s Prophet”

The prophets called the \_\_\_\_\_ of God  
to take \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of God!

**God’s Word was expressed through \_\_\_\_\_**

“When the Lord finished speaking with Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave him the two stone tablets inscribed with the terms of the covenant, written by the finger of God.” Exodus 31:18

- The covenant established Yahweh as \_\_\_\_\_  
= sovereign Lord
- The covenant established the people as Yahweh’s \_\_\_\_\_  
= subject nation

“Now if you will obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own special treasure from among all the peoples on earth; for all the earth belongs to me.” Exodus 19:5

- The covenant detailed Yahweh’s **PRESENCE, PROVISION** and **PROTECTION**

“If you accept this covenant and remember to obey, you will keep the land and all the good blessings that come with it, but if you violate this covenant and disobey, you will lose the land and all its good blessings.” Summary of Deuteronomy 28:58-68

- The covenant was maintained by the people’s \_\_\_\_\_

[All Scripture references from the New Living Translation unless otherwise noted]

Zephaniah 1 = Judgment Against Judah [People of God]  
Zephaniah 2:4-3:8 = Judgment Against the Pagan Nations  
Zephaniah 3:9-20 = Hope for God’s Healing and Restoration

“Soon I will stand and accuse these evil nations. For I have decided to gather the kingdoms of the earth and pour out my fiercest anger and fury on them. All the earth will be devoured by the fire of my jealousy.” Zephaniah 3:8

**Zephaniah promises that the Lord would bring \_\_\_\_\_  
to all the nations**

“Fear the Lord and judge with integrity, for the Lord our God does not tolerate perverted justice, partiality, or the taking of bribes.”  
2 Chronicles 19:7

“He will judge the world with justice and rule the nations with fairness.” PSALM 9:8

**God’s justice is an INVITATION for the world to know that He is the Sovereign Lord**

- God is not a \_\_\_\_\_ who sits on the sidelines of human history  
“...the word of the Lord is against you, Canaan, land of the Philistines...I have heard the insults of Moab and the taunts of the Ammonites...You Cushites, too, will be slain by my sword... He will stretch out his hand against the north and destroy Assyria...”  
Zephaniah 2: 5-13
- To attack God’s \_\_\_\_\_ is to attack \_\_\_\_\_  
“I have heard the insults of Moab and the taunts of the Ammonites, who insulted my people and made threats against their land... This is what they will get in return for their pride, for insulting and mocking the people of the Lord Almighty.”  
Zephaniah 2:8, 10
- Every idol will ultimately be \_\_\_\_\_ for what it is  
= impotent and nonexistent  
“The Lord will be awesome to them when he destroys all the gods of the earth. Distant nations will bow down to him, all of them in their own lands.” Zephaniah 2:11