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I Can See Clearly Now: Chapter #9

The Prophet Zephaniah

Time of Ministry: 640 – 609 B.C.

## Author:

The prophet Zephaniah is considered the last of the "pre-Assyrian exilic period prophets", he delivered his prophesy of Warning before the "Fall" of the Southern Kingdom of Judah and shortly before the Coming Fall of the Northern Kingdom of Israel.

The prophet *Zephaniah* delivered a prophesy to the *Hebrew people* that was the message he received from *Yahweh;* this *Warning* was delivered to document *Father God's Eternal Love* for *"His Chosen People"*!

Zephaniah was a fourth-generation great grandson of *King Hezekiah*; Zephaniahs blood line can be traced back to the *"Exodus Prophet" Moses*.

It is worthy of some mention about the nationality of the wife of the prophet *Moses*, she was recorded to be from the *"sub-Saharan"* region of Africa. This Old Testament nation was known as (Cush) a name that can be translated to the modern name *Ethiopia*, where the people of that region were *"dark-skinned"*.

This *"sub-Saharan"* genetic family connection could indicate that *King Hezekiah*, and the prophet *Zephaniah's father* whose name was (Cushi) were *"dark-skinned"* Jews.

This is just one more example proving that *Father God* is *Truly "Color Blind"* when it comes to who *He* chooses to use for *His* work.

The mineral deposits of Cush were a location that provided a large amount of the gold for the *Old Testament* nations. This *Hebrew* connection to the nation of Cush and its gold would explain why the prophet *Zephaniah blood line* of priests *"The Kohathites"* were charged in the *Old Testament* with the movement and protection of the gold *Temple implements* that included the *"Arc of The Covenant"*.

# The Prophesy:

The prophet *Zephaniah* is chosen by *Yahweh* as was his ancestor *Moses*, both would become *human flesh and blood messengers* from *Father God*.

Our God is a Loving Father who is "Sinless", and All-Knowing He always warns the Guilty and sinful before Delivering His --- Righteous Judgement!

Both Moses and Zephaniah were used by Yahweh to instruct the Hebrew People about why Father God "Requires" His Chosen People and all mankind to "Obey" His Law and the consequences that will be handed out to all who "Willingly" break Yahweh's "Law" --- The Ten Commandments!

The first section of *Zephaniahs* prophesy is *Father God* providing a look *forward in time* an open book of things to come.

This prophesy is Yahweh's notification and warning of a time in the Distant Future when God will deliver "Total" Judgement on all the Unrepentant sinners and the entire --- Sin Corrupted World!

As we read further, we find a *Judgmental* period of the *"Old Testament"* where *Yahweh* will use the *Evil Blood-Thirsty Assyrians* to deliver *His punishment* to *His "sinful children"* in *Judah* and *Israel*.

This is a long-coming *"corrective punishment"*, and it is delivered by *Father God* to bring about *"His Chosen People"* the *Hebrews "Repentance"* from *sin*, and the *Return* to *worshiping* the *One* and *Only True God* --- *Yahweh*!

This *back-and-forth* movement of time, of looking ahead to a time in the future and then back to the time of the prophesy is typical in most of the *Biblical Prophecy* that was delivered by the *minor prophets*.

The *Eternal God Yahweh* looks at the *"Totality"* of time from a location where *He* sees time as *"One Event"* broken into different sections. We as *mortal humans* can only partially remember the *past* and then *try to understand* the place in time we now occupy, never knowing what the *next moment* will deliver to us.

This period of *Judgement* and *Punishment* will be delivered to the *sinful* Hebrew people and then at a later time to all the *Pagan Nations* that have become *"Enemies"* of *Yahweh*. As It is *Faithfully* recorded in the educational words of the *Holy Bible "It is a frightful thing to be under the Judgement of an angry God"*!

This *Warning* is something that all mankind needs to *"Remember"* when they feel that they do not need to *worry* about *Punishment* when they take a *path* that puts them into *sinful Disobedience* of *Father God's Laws*.

The Hebrew People have adopted the "Mistaken Attitude" that because they are Yahweh's "Chosen People" He will look the other way when they sin with "No" Regret or Remorse. An Extremely hard and Painful lesson about "Respect" and "Obedience" will help the Hebrew People to "Repent" and seek a correct "Respectful" Relationship with Father God.

The last section of *Zephaniah's* prophesy warns *sorrow* and *pain* will come to *sinful Jerusalem* and all the *evil nations* that have *"Failed"* to listen to the *Holy Prophets* of *God* who have repeatedly delivered *Yahweh's* --- *corrective teaching*.

The False prophets and Hebrew religious leaders of Jerusalem are described as "sinful blood thirsty predators" who see the Hebrew people as fair game.

This total lack of "Respect" for their own Hebrew brothers and sisters and their God "Yahweh" has not diverted Father God from His "Eternal" Dedication and Love for His --- Chosen People! At the end of a necessary period of Testing and Pain the Hebrew People will find that their Father God will as He "Promised" in the past with His Holy Prophets, Restore and Return to "The Land of Promise" His Chosen People the --- Jews!

# Isaiah 65:8–10 (NLT) I Will Preserve a Remint!

<sup>8</sup> "But I will not destroy them all," says the LORD.
"For just as good grapes are found among a cluster of bad ones Page **3** of **14** 

(and someone will say, 'Don't throw them all away some of those grapes are good!'), so I will not destroy all Israel. For I still have true servants there. <sup>9</sup> I will preserve a remnant of the people of Israel

and of Judah to possess my land.

Those I choose will inherit it, and my servants will live there.

<sup>10</sup> The plain of Sharon will again be filled with flocks for my people who have searched for me, and the valley of Achor will be a place to pasture herds.

Zephaniah 1:1–13 (NLT)

The LORD gave this message to Zephaniah when Josiah son of Amon was king of Judah. Zephaniah was the son of Cushi, son of Gedaliah, son of Amariah, son of Hezekiah.

Coming Judgment against Judah

<sup>2</sup> "I will sweep away everything from the face of the earth," says the LORD. <sup>3</sup> "I will sweep away people and animals alike. I will sweep away the birds of the sky and the fish in the sea. I will reduce the wicked to heaps of rubble, and I will wipe humanity from the face of the earth," says the LORD. <sup>4</sup> "I will crush Judah and Jerusalem with my fist and destroy every last trace of their Baal worship. I will put an end to all the idolatrous priests, so that even the memory of them will disappear. <sup>5</sup> For they go up to their roofs and bow down to the sun, moon, and stars. They claim to follow the LORD, but then they worship Molech, too. <sup>6</sup> And I will destroy those who used to worship me but now no longer do. They no longer ask for the LORD's guidance or seek my blessings." <sup>7</sup> Stand in silence in the presence of the Sovereign LORD,

for the awesome day of the LORD's judgment is near. The LORD has prepared his people for a great slaughter and has chosen their executioners.

<sup>8</sup> "On that day of judgment," says the LORD, "I will punish the leaders and princes of Judah and all those following pagan customs. <sup>9</sup> Yes, I will punish those who participate in pagan worship ceremonies, and those who fill their masters' houses with violence and deceit.

<sup>10</sup> "On that day," says the LORD, "a cry of alarm will come from the Fish Gate and echo throughout the New Quarter of the city. And a great crash will sound from the hills.
<sup>11</sup> Wail in sorrow, all you who live in the market area, for all the merchants and traders will be destroyed.
<sup>12</sup> "I will search with lanterns in Jerusalem's darkest corners to punish those who sit complacent in their sins.
They think the LORD will do nothing to them, either good or bad.

<sup>13</sup> So their property will be plundered, their homes will be ransacked.
They will build new homes but never live in them.
They will plant vineyards but never drink wine from them.

#### Comments on Zephaniah 1:1-13:

This first section of the prophesy of *Zephaniah 1:1-13* documents the upcoming *Righteous Judgement* by Yahweh of His Unrepentant sinful children in Judah and Israel.

Then at some *"Future Time"* that is known only by *Father God* will come the *"Final" Total Judgement* and *Destruction* of all the *"Unrepentant" sinful* world.

When any "God Created" man or woman chooses to demonstrate "Total" Disrespect and Disbelief in the "Eternal God" Yahweh who out of "Love" caused them to take their First Breath in this world, they have Slapped God in the face.

The *Glorious Gift* of *Birth* and *Life* has been given to all mankind to provide all men and women the chance to gain "*Eternal*" *Life* by "*Believing*" and "*Trusting*" in the *Biblical Instruction* of *Father God.* The "*Believer*" through *Faith* and the *Power* of *The Holy Spirit* must "*Accept*" *Jesus Christ* as *LORD*, and *Savior*!

The "Requirement" of "Total" Faith in Yahweh and Obeying His "First Commandment" of Worshiping only Him is a small price to pay when it is compared to Father God's "Gift" of His "Sinless" One and Only Son Jesus Christ as a "Blood Sacrifice" for --- Our Sins!

The *Hebrew* people "claim" to *Believe* and *Follow* the "Written Law" of Yahweh that has been given to them through "The Holy Prophets" of God, this prophetic teaching also included the belief in a coming "Kinsmen Redeemer" --- The Messiah!

This "False Claim" of Trust Belief and Faith in "The Written Law" by Yahweh's "sinful" Chosen People and their religious leaders will bring them Painful Destruction and Death!

The *"Spiritually" Adulterous Jews "Failed"* to listen when the *prophet Isaiah* previously warned them; *Judgement* will come by *"Refining Fire" The Mighty Power* of --- *The Hand of God!* 

Isaiah 1:21–25 (NLT)

#### Unfaithful Jerusalem!

<sup>21</sup> See how Jerusalem, once so faithful, has become a prostitute. Once the home of justice and righteousness, she is now filled with murderers. <sup>22</sup> Once like pure silver, you have become like worthless slag. Once so pure, you are now like watered-down wine. <sup>23</sup> Your leaders are rebels, the companions of thieves. All of them love bribes and demand payoffs, but they refuse to defend the cause of orphans or fight for the rights of widows. <sup>24</sup> Therefore, the Lord, the LORD of Heaven's Armies, the Mighty One of Israel, says, "I will take revenge on my enemies and pay back my foes! <sup>25</sup> I will raise my fist against you. I will melt you down and skim off your slag. I will remove all your impurities. Zephaniah 1:14–18 (NLT) The Day of The LORD!

<sup>14</sup> "That terrible day of the LORD is near. Swiftly it comes—
a day of bitter tears, a day when even strong men will cry out.
<sup>15</sup> It will be a day when the LORD's anger is poured out a day of terrible distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and desolation, a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and blackness,
<sup>16</sup> a day of trumpet calls and battle cries.
Down go the walled cities and the strongest battlements! <sup>17</sup> "Because you have sinned against the LORD, I will make you grope around like the blind.
Your blood will be poured into the dust, and your bodies will lie rotting on the ground."

<sup>18</sup> Your silver and gold will not save you on that day of the LORD's anger.
For the whole land will be devoured by the fire of his jealousy.
He will make a terrifying end of all the people on earth.

In Zephaniah Chapter #1:14-15 the Hebrew people are warned that they would soon "See" and "Feel" Unbearable Fear and Pain when the "Anger" of Yahweh is displayed in the Frightening Power of --- The Day of The LORD!

Ezekiel 13:5 (NLT) The Walls Are broken!

<sup>4</sup> "O people of Israel, these prophets of yours are like jackals digging in the ruins.
 <sup>5</sup> They have done nothing to repair the breaks in the walls around the nation. They have not helped it to stand firm in battle on the day of the LORD.

Jeremiah 32:31 (NLT) Do Not Anger The LORD!

<sup>30</sup> Israel and Judah have done nothing but wrong since their earliest days. They have infuriated me with all their evil deeds," says the LORD. <sup>31</sup> "From the time this city was built until now, it has done nothing but anger me, so I am determined to get rid of it.

Romans 2:5 (NLT) Repent!

<sup>5</sup> But because you are stubborn and refuse to turn from your sin, you are storing up terrible punishment for yourself. For a day of anger is coming when God's righteous judgment will be revealed. <sup>6</sup> He will judge everyone according to what they have done.

The last part of *Chapter # 1:16-18;* is a *Very Transparent "Clear"* description of why the *"Loving God" Yahweh* has chosen this time to *"Punish" His Chosen People*.

Every *sinful* act of the *Greedy Hebrew* religious leaders and the *idol worshiping* people of *Judah* and *Israel* has been *observed* by a *Loving Father* who is "*Watching*" *His children Fall Deeper* into a life of "*Unrepentant*" *Sin* that will bring them *physical pain death* and then --- *Spiritual Death*! The Hebrew people are *stumbling headlong* into *Destruction* and *slavery*! The *Chosen People* have been *Blinded* by their "*Faith*" in *false gods* and *earthly material wealth*.

This *Spiritual Blindness* can only be *corrected* by the *Burning "Corrective Fire"* of *Yahweh*, the *Fire* that will *Purify* and bring *"Repentance"* to the Hebrew people.

Zephaniah 2:1–3 (NLT)

A Call to Repentance
<sup>1</sup> Gather together—yes, gather together, you shameless nation.
<sup>2</sup> Gather before judgment begins, before your time to repent is blown away like chaff.
Act now, before the fierce fury of the LORD falls and the terrible day of the LORD's anger begins.
<sup>3</sup> Seek the LORD, all who are humble, and follow his commands.
Seek to do what is right and to live humbly.
Perhaps even yet the LORD will protect you protect you from his anger on that day of destruction.

Chapter #2 1-3; is a "Last Call" from Yahweh it is the Hebrews Last Chance to "Repent", they can humble themselves do what is right and "Obey" --- Father God's Law! It is only by "Repenting" and turning away from sin that they will not feel the Fury of the Burning Heat of --- The LORD's Anger!

I have included *Jeremiah 3:1-3* so that you can read why *Yahweh* must now *Punish* all the *Hebrew people* to *stop* the *"Corruption"* of *The Holy Land* that *"Unrepentant sin"* brings. This *warning* was delivered about *700 B.C.* long before the *Hebrews* were driven into *exile* by the *Assyrians*.

This call to "Repent" from the prophet Jeremiah is also a timely call for our "Repentance" a warning for the present time and the sinful world we now live in, Father God will "Rain-Down" His "Corrective Punishment" when and where it is needed.

### Jeremiah 3:1–3 (NLT) A Warning from The Past!

<sup>1</sup> "If a man divorces a woman and she goes and marries someone else, he will not take her back again, for that would surely corrupt the land.
But you have prostituted yourself with many lovers, so why are you trying to come back to me?" says the LORD.
<sup>2</sup> "Look at the shrines on every hilltop. Is there any place you have not been defiled by your adultery with other gods? You sit like a prostitute beside the road waiting for a customer.

You sit alone like a nomad in the desert. You have polluted the land with your prostitution and your wickedness. <sup>3</sup> That's why even the spring rains have failed. For you are a brazen prostitute and completely shameless.
Zephaniah 2:8–11 (NLT)
Judgment against Moab and Ammon
<sup>8</sup> "I have heard the taunts of the Moabites
and the insults of the Ammonites,
mocking my people
and invading their borders.
<sup>9</sup> Now, as surely as I live,"
says the Lord of Heaven's Armies, the God of Israel,
"Moab and Ammon will be destroyed—
destroyed as completely as Sodom and Gomorrah.
Their land will become a place of stinging nettles, salt pits, and eternal desolation.
The remnant of my people will plunder them and take their land."
<sup>10</sup> They will receive the wages of their pride.

They will receive the wages of their pride, for they have scoffed at the people of the LORD of Heaven's Armies. <sup>11</sup> The LORD will terrify them as he destroys all the gods in the land. Then nations around the world will worship the LORD, each in their own land.

The Righteous Judgement of Moab and Ammon will be as completely "Devastating" as was the Judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah both --- No Longer Exist!

Anyone who becomes the "Enemy" of the Hebrews "The Chosen People" has chosen to become "Enemies" of --- Father God!

Then at a time after the Destruction of Moab and Ammon, we can by looking into the future see the "Remnant" (The Hebrew people) who will be "Returned" to The Land of Promise as per the Eternal Promise Yahweh made to Moses when they were "Homeless" in the Wilderness. The Protected "Good Seed" The Remnant will Reclaim and Rebuild their "Homeland" where they will worship "The One True God" --- Yahweh!

Leviticus 26:9–13 (NLT) Blessings for Obedience!

<sup>9</sup> "I will look favorably upon you, making you fertile and multiplying your people. And I will fulfill my covenant with you. <sup>10</sup> You will have such a surplus of crops that you will need to clear out the old grain to make room for the new harvest! <sup>11</sup> I will live among you, and I will not despise you.

<sup>12</sup> I will walk among you; I will be your God, and you will be my people. <sup>13</sup> I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt so you would no longer be their slaves. I broke the yoke of slavery from your neck so you can walk with your heads held high.

After all the *false gods* are *Destroyed* and *Exposed* for what they are *"Lifeless material objects with no power"* all the remaining *pagan nations* in the world will *"Fall to their knees"* and *Worship The LORD, God --- Father Son* and *Holy Spirit!* 

#### Zephaniah 2:12–15 (NLT)

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Judgment against Ethiopia and Assyria
<sup>12</sup> "You Ethiopians will also be slaughtered
by my sword," says the LORD.
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<sup>13</sup> And the LORD will strike the lands of the north with his fist, destroying the land of Assyria. He will make its great capital, Nineveh, a desolate wasteland, parched like a desert. <sup>14</sup> The proud city will become a pasture for flocks and herds, and all sorts of wild animals will settle there. The desert owl and screech owl will roost on its ruined columns, their calls echoing through the gaping windows. Rubble will block all the doorways, and the cedar paneling will be exposed to the weather. <sup>15</sup> This is the boisterous city, once so secure. "I am the greatest!" it boasted. "No other city can compare with me!" But now, look how it has become an utter ruin, a haven for wild animals. Everyone passing by will laugh in derision and shake a defiant fist.

The last section of *Chapter #2: 12-15* is the *Biblically* recorded *Destruction* and *Humbling* of the *militarily powerful pagan* nations.

Only those who did not have a clear understand the "Power" of the Hebrew's God would be Foolish enough to believe that they could Kill and Enslave Yahweh's "Chosen People", then not have to worry about the Fiery Revenge of The Eternal God ---- Yahweh!

The mighty army of *Assyria* and their *Strongly Defended* city of *Nineveh* would *"Fall in Flames"* no material wealth or army will save them from the *"Wrath" of God!* 

The once *Proud boastful* citizens and royalty of *Nineveh* will all *Tremble in Fear* as they find *"Death"* at the *sharp edge* of *"The Sword"* of --- *The LORD, of Heavens Army!* 

The Brutal Assyrians have been used to "Punish" Yahweh's "sinful children", the Hebrew people could have been spared and Escaped The LORD's Anger if they had remembered the Warning of Destruction that was given to them by the prophet Jonah in 800 B. C.

Jonah 3:3–6 (NLT)

Jonah's Warning!

<sup>3</sup> This time Jonah obeyed the LORD's command and went to Nineveh, a city so large that it took three days to see it all. <sup>4</sup> On the day Jonah entered the city, he shouted to the crowds: "Forty days from now Nineveh will be destroyed!" <sup>5</sup> The people of Nineveh believed God's message, and from the greatest to the least, they declared a fast and put on burlap to show their sorrow.

<sup>6</sup> When the king of Nineveh heard what Jonah was saying, he stepped down from his throne and took off his royal robes. He dressed himself in burlap and sat on a heap of ashes.

All *sinful nations* who *sin* with *No Remorse* then and now can still find *"Grace"* (The unearned and totally unmerited total forgiveness of all sin) and *"Mercy"* from *Father God* if they *"Repent"* and *"Turn Away"* from *sin*.

Yahweh is a God of Boundless Grace and Never-Ending Mercy to all mankind Gentile or Jew; God wants none of His Creations to "Burn" in the --- Eternal Fires of Hell!

The main "Stumbling Block" most sinners face is "Pride" and a "False" sense of worth, this lack of Humility and "Respect" for "Who" and "What" Father God is could cost them their --- Eternal Life!

The Holy Word of God "The Bible" was written so that all mankind could find the "Redemptive Truth" about why we are living in this world, every word in the Holy Bible is Correct Necessary Golden and Beyond Value!

The "Words of Wisdom" found in the Old Testament and the New Testament are even more "Relevant" and Vital in "The Final Days" we are now living in, listen to "The Holy Spirit" He will Instruct and Guide you to --- The Truth.

Zephaniah 3:1–5 (NLT) Jerusalem's Rebellion and Redemption <sup>1</sup>What sorrow awaits rebellious, polluted Jerusalem, the city of violence and crime! <sup>2</sup> No one can tell it anything; it refuses all correction. It does not trust in the LORD or draw near to its God. <sup>3</sup> Its leaders are like roaring lions hunting for their victims. Its judges are like ravenous wolves at evening time, who by dawn have left no trace of their prey. <sup>4</sup> Its prophets are arrogant liars seeking their own gain. Its priests defile the Temple by disobeying God's instructions. <sup>5</sup> But the LORD is still there in the city, and he does no wrong. Day by day he hands down justice, and he does not fail. But the wicked know no shame.

Chapter #3 1-5; is the first part of the Rebellion and Redemption of Yahweh's "Chosen People", it is the open "Sinful Rebellion" of spoiled children that will not listen to a Loving Father's "Corrective" Warnings.

The *Hebrew people* have *lost sight* of the *Necessity* to "*Trust*" only in *Father God*, they have found it more *convenient* to *pray* and *worship pagan gods*.

The "Powerless" pagan gods will not hear the cries for help or provide Protection when the sinful Hebrews pray and "draw near" to a "lifeless" wooden god!

The Hebrew Judges and religious leaders are again compared to *"Ravenous Wolves"*, who *consume* the Hebrew people and their wealth without the *slightest thought* of *"Remorse"*. The *False prophets* and *Disobedient priests "Defile The Temple"* as they *Disobey Yahweh's Law* so that they can gain *sinful material wealth*.

By the Hebrew priests' sinful actions of Open Disrespect, they have become False Prophets who lead the Hebrew people headlong into a life of "Spiritual" Adultery and --- Unrepentant sin! The prophet Zephaniah then proclaims that The LORD is still with "His People" and "He does no wrong", Yahweh is a "Righteous" God of Totally Correct Justice who cannot and will not --- Fail! The sad Painful Truth about the sinful Hebrew people is that they are "Wicked" and "Unrepentant" they do not feel "Shame" as they Openly Sin before Father God, who can Hide from the Wrath of God?

Revelation 6:15–17 (NLT) The Lamb Breaks the First Six Seals!

<sup>15</sup> Then everyone—the kings of the earth, the rulers, the generals, the wealthy, the powerful, and every slave and free person—all hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains. <sup>16</sup> And they cried to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb. <sup>17</sup> For the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to survive?"

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Zephaniah 3:6–8 (NLT)
Every Knee Will Bend!
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<sup>6</sup> "I have wiped out many nations,
devastating their fortress walls and towers.
Their streets are now deserted;
their cities lie in silent ruin.
There are no survivors—
none at all.
<sup>7</sup> I thought, 'Surely they will have reverence for me now!
Surely they will listen to my warnings.
Then I won't need to strike again,
destroying their homes.'
But no, they get up early
to continue their evil deeds.
<sup>8</sup> Therefore, be patient," says the LORD.
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"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.

This *protective warning* is first delivered to the *Hebrew* people in the *Old Testament* period, then the prophesy goes forward in time again to a *"future period of time"* that may be awfully close.

Yahweh will punish the *sinful unrepentant* Hebrew People and "*Remove*" the Hebrews from their *Homeland* for over 2000 years.

A "Seed Crop" Remnant of Hebrew people will in the year 1948 A.D. be Returned to Reclaim and Rebuild --- The Land of Promise.

When this *"Restoration"* of *The Holy Land* is established and *Israel* is a *Sovern Nation*, the next to come *Biblical Event* will be the *fly-over "Return"* of *Jesus Christ!* 

Jesus Christ will appear "In the Clouds" to "Remove" (Gather-Up) "His Church" (The Believers in Jesus Christ) they will be with Him safely away from the Righteous Judgment of the sinful world. The evil nations and Unrepentant sinners that have Refused to "Accept" Jesus Christ as LORD, and Savior will have to face Yahweh's "Anger and Fury", it will be delivered in the "Burning Fire" of His Jealousy!

This *Terrifying Event* will take place, "All the Earth Will Be Devoured" the time of Judgement for the sinful world "Will Happen" at a time of God's choosing.

# Zephaniah 3:9–20 (NLT)

The LORD Will Live Among You!

<sup>9</sup> "Then I will purify the speech of all people, so that everyone can worship the LORD together.
<sup>10</sup> My scattered people who live beyond the rivers of Ethiopia will come to present their offerings.
<sup>11</sup> On that day you will no longer need to be ashamed, for you will no longer be rebels against me.
I will remove all proud and arrogant people from among you. There will be no more haughtiness on my holy mountain.
<sup>12</sup> Those who are left will be the lowly and humble, for it is they who trust in the name of the LORD.
<sup>13</sup> The remnant of Israel will do no wrong; they will never tell lies or deceive one another.
They will eat and sleep in safety, and no one will make them afraid."

shout aloud, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup> For the LORD will remove his hand of judgment and will disperse the armies of your enemy. And the LORD himself, the King of Israel, will live among you! At last your troubles will be over, and you will never again fear disaster. <sup>16</sup> On that day the announcement to Jerusalem will be, "Cheer up, Zion! Don't be afraid! <sup>17</sup> For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs." <sup>18</sup> "I will gather you who mourn for the appointed festivals; you will be disgraced no more. <sup>19</sup> And I will deal severely with all who have oppressed you. I will save the weak and helpless ones; I will bring together those who were chased away. I will give glory and fame to my former exiles, wherever they have been mocked and shamed. <sup>20</sup> On that day I will gather you together and bring you home again. I will give you a good name, a name of distinction, among all the nations of the earth, as I restore your fortunes before their very eyes. I, the LORD, have spoken!"

The last section of the prophesy is a detailed description of the *1000-Year Millennial Age*, a time when all the *Problems* and *Troubles* of our days will not exist.

The *Holy Prophets* of *God* have *Proclaimed* the future of mankind, it will be a future where *The LORD, Jesus Christ* will be the *Only* --- *"KING"*!

This *Millennial Age* will be a time when all the *Proud* and *Arrogant* have been *"Removed"* from the earth. The remaining *humble Believers* will have to answer to *Jesus Christ* at the *very instant* they make the mistake of *forgetting* to *"Fear"* (Respect) *The LORD!*.

The "Remnant" of Yahweh's Chosen People "will do no wrong" this will be a Glorious Time of "True Peace" for all who live on the earth.

All of Father God's people will Sing and Shout with Great Joy because "The hand of God's Judgement" has been removed from the Hebrews and all their enemies have been Destroyed. "Cheer up, Zion" The Mighty Savior "The LORD" is living with you, He will sing with you as you sing of His Wonderful Blessings.

The *Feasts* and *Festivals* will announce to all the world the *Final Return* of the scattered *Remnant* of *Yahweh's Children*, they are truly *"Home Again"* with *The LORD* as their --- *KING! Father God* will give *His People* a name of *"Distinction"* that will be recognized by all the nations of the earth, it could be --- The Chosen People.

The world will see the "Promised Land" become "The Land of Milk and Honey" just as Father God has spoken through His Holy Prophets. This special place is a "Gift" to all, both Jew and Gentile who will read listen and "Believe" in His Holy Word --- The Holy Bible! The prophet Zephaniah did not have the Book of Revelation to read but he did "Believe" and record on scrolls the prophesy given to him by Yahweh which foretold of this Glorious Millennial Age.

## Revelation 20:4–6 (NLT)

The Saints Will Ragin With Christ for 1000 Years!

<sup>4</sup> Then I saw thrones, and the people sitting on them had been given the authority to judge. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their testimony about Jesus and for proclaiming the word of God. They had not worshiped the beast or his statue, nor accepted his mark on their forehead or their hands. They all came to life again, and they reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

<sup>5</sup> This is the first resurrection. (The rest of the dead did not come back to life until the thousand years had ended.) <sup>6</sup> Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. For them the second death holds no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him a thousand years.

Psalm 119:65–72 (NLT) I delight in Your Instructions!

Teth

<sup>65</sup> You have done many good things for me, LORD, just as you promised.

<sup>66</sup> I believe in your commands; now teach me good judgment and knowledge.

<sup>67</sup> I used to wander off until you disciplined me;

but now I closely follow your word.

<sup>68</sup> You are good and do only good;

teach me your decrees.

<sup>69</sup> Arrogant people smear me with lies,

but in truth I obey your commandments with all my heart.

<sup>70</sup> Their hearts are dull and stupid,

but I delight in your instructions.

<sup>71</sup> My suffering was good for me,

for it taught me to pay attention to your decrees.

<sup>72</sup> Your instructions are more valuable to me

than millions in gold and silver.