36-Zephaniah-03-Transcript

[Music]

well welcome to the final chapter of the book of Zephaniah we are up to chapter 3 which is the final chapter of this prophetic word let's open with the word of prayer and then get into the study and as we're going through the study if you have questions we'll be monitoring facebook as well as the chat at CGI church online org and pastor Marie is gonna join me after the study for a live Q&A so please think of any questions you have from previous weeks as well as from this evening let's open with a word of Prayer

Heavenly Father we pause before our study as our custom is to ask for your participation Lord as we seek truth as we seek guidance from the ancient text we pray father that you'll help us to study the text in in the context that you expect us to understand we pray that as we increase our understanding our faith would increase our conviction would increase and our righteousness our faithfulness to you would increase we praise you father as we hunger and thirst for this righteousness that you'll bless us with it through your word we praise you we thank you we ask this in Jesus Most Holy Name Amen so we are up to as FN ayah chapter 3 and just quick reminder when we opened in chapter 1 we saw that this prophecy is against Judah and and Zephaniah pulled no punches these are these are horrible people and they are condemned and then in chapter 2 we saw that there is a judgment against the nation's that will be used to attack Judah but God is going to bring all the nations to judgment and now in chapter 3 we're going to see

these two dimensions come together and see what the ultimate objective that God has in this work that he's doing so let's uh let's begin then with chapter 3 of Zephaniah and we'll just get right into the text so we see here the text open

open in Chapter three with a wall with a curse woe to her that is filthy now this is speaking of Jerusalem and God sees Jerusalem as filthy and polluted so he is cursing her woe to her that is filthy and polluted and noticed this he refers to her as the opressing City this is Jerusalem we're talking about and I know many you know people have written to me one brother wrote to me and someone else has commented to me that we need to talk about Zionism that the Jews are evil that Zionists are evil and yeah they're wicked and they are nothing that we say against the Jews and and to identify their wickedness and your hashtag not all Jews but the wickedness of these scientists and the oppression of these Zionists and which are communists these people are communists and a lot of the evil in the world has come from these very intellectual Jews you think of Karl Marx Sigmund Freud I could go on and on they have significantly impacted the world and interestingly enough what's the saying that politics flows downstream from culture well culture so it so in other words you know how the culture changes is how the politicians end up changing and trying to appease the culture so politics flows downstream from culture as the culture changes the politics change and so that's how we see our world just significantly changing because the culture changes and then the the culture flows downstream from the big screen and

and so media is a very powerful tool to change culture and culture changes politics and who controls the media well we have to say the Jews many many Jews have in fact when the Jews were fleeing Russia and the Eastern Europe Eastern Europe and they came to America and and their big desire was to fit in and so they abandoned their Jewishness they changed their names they divorced their Jewish wives and married tile wives and they just did everything they could to try to fit in and that was primarily in New York and they just couldn't fit in so they left New York and they went to California and they found it Hollywood and they began all the big studios and and they hit as I said they hid their identities and and so they created this powerful mechanism to shape culture and a lot of the stories then were about fitting in and they were telling their story but they were hiding it using other characters about blacks and just other people Irish people and just but it was the Jewish story that they were telling and they controlled Hollywood they found it Hollywood and they controlled the big screen and Americans every week would be going to the movies and they would be subjected to the thinking and the persuasion of these Jewish people and an American entertainment and the big screen has influenced the whole world and and now we see media and and you know proof that they knew what they were doing and how powerful it was was when America went to war with the Nazis and again because they were so concerned about hiding their identity when they knew what was happening to their brothers and sisters in Nazi Germany they said nothing they didn't want they

did not want to stick out until finally they you know America decided to enter the war and wanted Hollywood to make patriotic films and then they finally got engaged but they understood the power of these films and so they would make these patriotic films with the purpose of inspiring of influencing the soldiers that were going to war against Nazi Germany and that proves that they understand how powerful or they understood how powerful the big screen is and so the big screen shapes and influences and changes culture and as culture changes it shapes and influences and changes politics and now we're seeing this incredible use of the big screen and media to introduce communist ideology and to oppress people using this this powerful mechanism and so God refers to these people as the oppressing city that there's a lot of wickedness that the Jerusalem God chose Jerusalem to be the umbilical cord between heaven and earth and Jerusalem is to be the city that all earth should look to and it is totally corrupt and so God curses Jerusalem and says woe to her that is filthy and polluted to the oppressing city and this should call to mind the curses in Matthew 23 where Christ pronounces these woes on Jerusalem and here's an example here in verse 13 where he says but woe unto you scribes and Pharisees hypocrites for you shut up the Kingdom of Heaven against men for you neither go in yourselves neither do you allow them that are entering to go in so this totally lines up with the prophecies in Matthew 23 and 24 it's all prophesying the same day of the Lord at the end time so we need to be able to reconcile the content of Zephaniah with the prophecy

of our Lord in Matthew 23 and 24 he they're both speaking of the endtime and Christ says not one of his words shall fail and so every prophet that has spoken Christ's words the Lord's words none of it can fail beginning with Moses and and Christ Himself what he said is not going to contradict what these prophets says we have to reconcile everything so back to Zephaniah he writes that speaking of Jerusalem she obeyed not the voice this is why Jerusalem is cursed that she was given specific instructions by God Almighty Himself but she didn't obey she obeyed not the voice she received not correction and here we know that this is speaking spit

verse two shows us without a doubt the opressing city is Jerusalem not Babylon because she trusted not in the Lord of course Babylon wouldn't trust in the Lord but Jerusalem should have but she didn't

she drew not near to her God Yahweh is the god of Jerusalem but she didn't do that and so the fact that she did not obey the voice and she's cursed for that this goes right back to Moses this is what Moses wrote in the Torah but it shall come to pass if you will not hearken that is to obey to listen and obey if you will not hearken unto the voice of the Lord your God your God to observe to do all his Commandments and his statutes which I command you this day that all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you so the curses that are going to come upon Jerusalem in the end time they are not arbitrary every single curse we can trace back to the Covenant and and the consequences of violating the covenant then he says her princes within her are roaring lions

this is Wow

these are people who should be noble and God says they are roaring Lions hurt that's her her princes her judges are evening wolves so the princes are roaring lions they devour the judges are evening wolves they know not the bones till tomorrow in other words they just consume everything at once now her profit so he went from princes to judges now to prophets her prophets are light and treacherous and that word light really means careless so her prophets are careless or they're reckless and they are treacherous persons now it's her priest so we went from the princes the leaders to the judges to the prophets and now to the priests and bear in mind even though America this is talking about Judah and Jerusalem specifically many of these people much of Judah is running America and so these are the same P and there they have they are subject to the curse wherever they are wherever God knows the DNA of his people and they are subject to this curse for breaking the Covenant her priests have polluted the sanctuary they have done violence to the law this they they have just no regard for it they've torn it apart this day and there are consequences for this this is not something that God takes lightly the whole world was supposed to look to Jerusalem and be educated and inspired and exhorted by Jerusalem's example that was God's plan now this lines up perfectly with what you read in Habakkuk and we'll just read the first couple of verses here the burden which Habakkuk the Prophet did see and then he complains to God Oh Lord how long shall I cry and you will not hear even cry untii cry out unto you of violence and

you will not save so Habakkuk sees behind the scenes weed week we can't see but behind the scenes Habakkuk akka had a first-hand view a front-row seat into what was really going on in Jerusalem and Zephaniah calls it out as well and Christ Himself called it out Jeremiah also called it out all the prophets that prophesy to Judah call it out back to Zephaniah now despite the wickedness of Jerusalem Zephaniah writes the Lord the just Lord is in the midst thereof so he's there and he is just they are wicked they have broken the Covenant but God is just and he is faithful to the Covenant he will not do iniquity he will not break his law and so they can expect because of God's faithfulness they can expect the full brunt of the law of the consequences of the punishments of the curses for breaking the law every morning does he bring his judgment to light he fails not so Habakkuk was saying like why are you taking so long you're not doing anything and God says no I am doing something I'm working a work which you will not believe even if somebody tells you and so every day God is God is righteous and he has not forgotten and he has his purpose so every morning does he bring his judgement to light he fails not and this is what Habakkuk had to be corrected but the unjust knows no shame and we are certainly seeing that in our world today it is what is wild it's chaotic it's crazy it's insane the level of wickedness that we're seeing and they're not embarrassed by it they double down the wicked knows they then just know is no shame God says now suddenly he shifts now so that's the focus on Judah specifically Jerusalem and then he begins to explain

this he says I have cut off the nation's I have cut off the nation's their towers are desolate I made their streets waste that none passes by so you can think here of how you know God raised up Assyria to crush Israel but then he destroyed Assyria and then he raised up Babylon to crush juju Judah but then he punished Babylon and so these nations that then attack God's people God then punishes those nations and that's the pattern and so he refers to this pattern to say that he did cut off the nation's their towers are desolate I made their streets waste and these are very powerful nations that none passes by their cities are destroyed so that there is no man that there is no inhabitant and why did he do this what was his purpose so we have to understand how God works and what God is showing us here is that he has a very deep work and the reason he raised up these nations to punish his people is because of this deep work it's again it's not just arbitrary he gods God says here in through Zephaniah I said surely you will fear me so when they see everything happening according to the Torah according to Moses prophecies surely they will respond to this I said surely you'll refer me you will receive instruction so surely you will receive this this guidance so their dwelling should

be cut off that I hope I don't have to take this all the way to completely cut off your dwelling-house oh ever I punished them but they rose early and corrupted all they're doing so God was working a very deep work to turn these people to righteousness but he says no matter what he did they continued in their wickedness therefore weight you upon me says the Lord until the day that I rise up to the prey so so God is going to punish this but not everybody has to be punished that's why I says you know seek you the Lord it may be that you'll be hidden

be hidden therefore weight you upon me says the Lord until the day that I rise up to the pray for my determination so so he used the nation's previously to punish his people and then he punished those nations but they didn't they they it didn't get the result so this this deep work that he has been working he didn't get the result that he was looking for so now it's really gonna happen God is not going to finish until he gets the result that he's looking for and that is to make Jerusalem the light of the world and to make his people the light of the world but they are stubborn and so this is gonna he's got to pull out all the stops now and so that's what we see here he says verse eight sorry let me go down in verse eight second part he says for my determination so this determination that says that's his judgment or his objective is to gather the nation's that I may assemble the kingdoms to pour upon them my indignation even all my fierce anger so what he did in the past where he punished the nation's he's going to do this again and this is his determination it's like a very it's like a 3d 4d level chess where on the surface you see one thing but it's actually deeper than that and then when you get the deeper meaning it's actually even deeper than that so he wants a pure people that is Israel so he's punishing Judah he's gonna regather is really gonna join Israel and Judah together

they are going to be the light of the

world but the reason he's doing all of this is to save the world and so his deterrent has to vary he declared this from the beginning but this is his work so he wants to assemble the kingdoms to pour upon them his indignation even all his fierce anger and this is something we need to be very clear on because a lot of people think you know the Jews are so wicked God is gonna come and destroy them you can't find that in prophecy what you find in prophecy in the prophetic word is that yes God's people the Jews are wicked the covenant community is wicked so God raises up the nations to punish his people and then when he returns he saves his people from the nations and he punishes the nations that's what we see that's the pattern we see over and over and over again in prophecy so again these you know this concern that people have that hey you got to talk about Zionists they're they're wicked they're the ones that God is going to return and destroy no yes they're wicked but God is gonna raise up the nations to destroy them and to drive them to repentance and in the process of driving them to repentance he's then going to hold these nations accountable for their wickedness and he's then going to drive them to repentance through the nations of Israel and Judah this is the prophetic word he says it's a pour upon the my indignation even all my fierce anger for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy behold now let's compare this to Zechariah all the prophets are saying the same thing and all the prophets are echoing Torah all the prophets are echoing Moses so here what Zechariah says is behold I

will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about so Jerusalem is wicked the nations are going to feel that they have every right to destroy Jerusalem but they're gonna go overboard and whoever touches them touches the apple of God's eye so god's determination now is to gather the nation's around jerusalem and he's going to prove to them

that Jerusalem is his city and Judah are his people behold I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about when they shall be in the siege both against Judah and against Jerusalem so again God does not punish Judah and Jerusalem directly he raises up the Gentile nations to do that work for him when he returns to save them he returns to save that's why Christ said you won't see me again until you shall say blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord and that's the good news

that's the gospel that Christ is coming to redeem his people and through his people to save the world and so when they're in the siege both against you to end against Jerusalem this is when he's gonna make Jerusalem a cup of trembling and in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people all these nations they are going to really suffer and find themselves in a very very deep state of panic and alarm they thought they had the upper hand they thought they could completely wipe out Jerusalem they thought they could completely right wipe out Judah and then suddenly there's this turning of to the tables so it's gonna be a burdensome stone for all people all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces that's what God is going to do

though all the people of the earth be gathered against it so so again whenever all the people of the earth gather together it is for pure wickedness and this is what was going to happen back at the time of the Tower of Babel but God cut it short now we come to the end time the time of the Beast power and God allows it to happen so all the nations now are united and when they're all united they do the work of the devil and the work of the devil is to be like the Most High so he's got to completely destroy Jerusalem completely destroy the people of God so that he prevents God from carrying out his promises and then he wants to establish himself as the Most High but God says his determination is to punish the nations and to pour out his fury upon the nations and so he's working this for d-level Ches so that all of the checkboxes can be checked off and he does this this very miraculous and profound work back to Zephaniah for then will I turn to the people up a pure language so again this is the reversal of bobble so the Tower of Babel that that now God is going to turn to the people a pure language so now everybody's done and by the way a lot of people think that this pure language is Hebrew no way you know I think people who think that Hebrew is this very sacred special language and every the whole world is gonna speak Hebrew they obviously haven't studied Hebrew Hebrew is not a perfect language it's the language that Abraham spoke is the language that the Hebrews spoke and so God used that language if Abraham was Chinese then God would have communicated in Chinese and anybody who claims you know sacred names and Hebrews the sacred language they obviously haven't studied

they don't know what they're talking about but now God is going to give the people a pure language so this is the objective that he's doing then we see through Zephaniah he's going to punish his people with the objective of turning them to righteousness he's going to punish his people with the Gentiles with the objective of punishing the Gentiles and then driving the Gentiles to righteousness and driving the Gentiles to acknowledge the primacy the the significant role the priests level role of Israel and Judah and so when he does this he says for then will I turn to the people a pure language that they may call upon the name of the Lord to serve him with one consent so this is now when all the nations are truly United and so you know in fact pastor Murray actually says this that God is a globalist in this sense and this is the only form of globalism that were interested in globalism on a human level is utterly satanic and it's the mechanism that Satan uses to be like the Most High but now finally we have a proper form of an even with this form of globalism God does not eliminate the nation there will still be separate nations just that they will have one language and they will have one God and they will worship that God with one consent so here we have you know in Genesis that when the people were one when they were united and they all had one language it was scary because God was not doing this Satan was was at the heart of this and and the the level of wickedness was unrestrained or would have been unrestrained so God had to stop it and so that's where he confirms language and now he's going to reverse that now when they call upon God with a pure language

and with one consent we have to put the scriptures together so here in Isaiah we'll remember when we were in chapter 60 and the Gentiles shall come to your light

so yes the Gentiles will have salvation but that salvation will be through the leadership of Israel and Judah and as ayah says that just was the same way moths gravitate to the light there will be one light on the earth and it will be Jerusalem and everybody will gravitate to Jerusalem they will know that they can be educated in the law of God at Jerusalem and so the Gentiles shall come to your light and Kings to the brightness of your rising so you're going to be put down but when you repent then God is going to promote you and Kings are gonna come to the brightness of your rising lift up your eyes roundabout and see all they gather themselves together they come to you so the Gentiles are coming to you so they came to destroy you now they're coming to worship God through you your sons shall come from far so they were scattered and taken captive but now your son shall come from far and your daughter shall be nursed at your side then you shall see and flow together and your heart shall fear and be enlarged you Israel and Judah because the abundance of the sea or the abundance that the wealth this is uh all the wealth of the Gentiles because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto you so they're going to bring their offerings to you the wealth of the Gentiles shall come unto you they're just gonna be so happy to bring their offerings and to bring their wealth to the this priest class of people Israel and Judah for beyond the

rivers of Ethiopia mice Appliance even the daughter of my dispersed shall bring my offering in that day shall you not be ashamed for all your doings were in you have transgressed against me so so they're finally coming to their senses for then he says will I take away out of the midst of them that rejoice in your pride and you shall no more be haughty because of my holy mountain and so these people have suffered from pride and they've suffered from pride because they just feel that they're so special they're the special people and God is gonna say it when all of this is said and done you're going to be ashamed and vou're going to be repentant and that's what Moses said would happen in Deuteronomy he then goes on to say verse 12 I will also leave in the midst of you and afflicted and poor people so there will be a remnant that even though they're going to be destroyed there is going to be a remnant I will also leave in the midst of you and afflicted and poor people and they shall trust in the name of the Lord so they're going to see all of this destruction they're going to see their people absolutely slaughtered in an in a most miserable way and these people that are left are going to be totally repentant God is working this deep work so that he can have this remnant and start over with this remnant that Moses prophesied would turn to God with all their heart and would be their thirst heart would be circumcised and they would receive the Holy Spirit and they would love God with all their heart that's what's happening here so God is driving this process so that he gets this remnant in Judah that he can then we rebuild civilization on earth with and this is a you know in Malachi this

this process of what he's going through here in Zephaniah where there's going to be this this people left that are having been afflicted and they're going to trust in the name of the Lord here in Malachi he prophesized but who may abide the day of his coming and that's what Zephaniah says this is a time of desolation this is a time of Terror the day of the Lord and Malachi asks who can who can abide this and who shall stand when he appears and in Matthew 24 Christ says that his appearance will be like a thief in the night they're gonna be caught off guard they're gonna be surprised by this and who will stand when he appears why for he is like a refiners fire and this is the this is the key this is the key to understanding what's going on in Zephaniah in fact this is the key to understanding the whole world and although the whole Bible all the prophecies that God does not hate his people and a lot of people hate the Jews and when they see the wickedness of the Zionists and the wickedness of these communists that are Jewish they just think they think that God has just completely cursed these people they are they are completely rejected not true not true God is driving a process to drive these people to their knees and to get a level of repentance that is just remarkable and profound and so Malachi says he's like a refiners fire so when you put gold in this furnace it is it is incredible the level of heat that's required but it burns off the dross and what's left is fine gold and that remnant that's left in Judah is fine gold that's what God is after and like fuller soap so this this very rough soap that really cleans and it's a painful process but the end

result is beautiful and he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver that's why he's doing all of this and he shall purify the sons of Levi and purge them as gold and

as gold and / why that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness this is his objective this is his determination and and this is what's going to happen at the end of this entire process the very people that we thought were so wicked that they were hopeless crisis don't allow anybody to deceive you I'm actually coming to save these people and these same people are going to say blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord that's the process in fact here in Matthew 24 when Christ was prophesying of the end time he says for then shall be Great Tribulation and we know from Daniel that this Great Tribulation is the time of Jacob's trouble that it is it is really a tribulation for God's people for then shall be Great Tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time no nor ever shall be and this verse I think is misunderstood that we use this and we just sort of jump into Matthew 24 and we make the whole chapter generic and what I'm arguing is that we cannot read Matthew 24 absent of chapter 23 ideally there would be no chapter break it would just be one long chapter from 23 to the end of 24 and we would read the whole thing in context that this is woe unto Jerusalem Jerusalem's house will be desolate the target is Jerusalem and God is build is taking all the nations to come to destroy Jerusalem and now he says in verse 22 except those days should be shortened there should be no flesh saved and in the context of 23 this is the flesh in Judah because it is

the cities of Judah and specifically the city of Jerusalem that's the bullseye that's where all these nations are coming to destroy to wipe out every Jewish every Jewish life doesn't matter if you're pregnant if you're nursing a child if you're a Jewish you're the target and Satan is so adamant on driving this agenda that Christ says if he didn't shorten the days no Jewish flesh

would be saved but for the elects sake that is the Jews the Covenant people and and also Israel because of his covenant and he's remembering his covenant with his people and the fact that he cannot lie it's impossible for him to lie and he must fulfill the promises that he made to the fathers that because of the the elect those days shall be shortened in other words Satan will not be successful and the nations that come together into destroyed Jerusalem will not be successful because Zachariah tells this God is then going to pour out his spirit on these people and they're gonna fight back and they're going to punish the nations that were punishing them and they're gonna then say blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord and they shall come to pass first up back to Zechariah actually let's let's see this in Zechariah this is very interesting in Zechariah 13 many times I vote from 12 to 14 but there's very interesting prophecy here in 13 beginning in verse 8 and it shall come to pass that in all the land says the Lord two parts therein shall be cut off and die so two-thirds of the people in the land of Judah are going to die but the third shall be left there in so that's when God cuts it short that unless God shortened the days no flesh

should be saved alive so they're going in to completely destroy everyone and God says no for the elects sake I'm gonna shorten the days and so here we see that a third shall be left - therein and I will bring the third part through the fire remember Malachi says he's a refining fire this is the gold that he wants to refine I will bring the third part through the fire and they've been traumatized they've seen what's happened to everyone and will refine them as silver is refined so we have to combine this and couple this with Malachi 3 and I will refine them as silver is refined and we'll try them as gold is tried exact same language as Malachi they shall call on my name so these wicked wicked people this oppressive City God has a for them and God is going to use them even if he has to drag them kicking and screaming to get them to this point of realizing he's their God they are in covenant with him they shall call on my name and I will hear them that's what Christ said to them you won't see me again until you shall say blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord they shall call on my name and I will hear them I will say it is my people don't let anybody deceive you if these are the descendants of Judah if these are the descendants of Jacob these are my people God says so they're gonna call me so as he's speaking specifically specifically of Judah here and I will hear them also if they weren't wicked Christ wouldn't curse them saying woe unto you one to you your house is left unto you desolate if they weren't wicked if they weren't evil he wouldn't be bringing all the nations in the firepower of all the nations against

them so to tell me that they're wicked God is the one who says they're wicked but God is the one that says they're my people and he says I with when they call on me I'm gonna hear them finally at this point now finally and that's what this is exactly what Moses said in Deuteronomy 30 that when you're finally driven to your knees and you finally call upon God in a truly repentant state then God will hear you and so this is what Zephaniah is saying so all the prophets are just repeating Moses and I will hear them and I will say it is my people and they shall say Yahweh is my god they will finally acknowledge Jesus Christ you will not Christ said to them you will not see me again until you you shall say blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord and so finally they're going to say Christ the Lord is my god back to Zephaniah the remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity so finally God has what he wanted in the beginning the remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity nor speak lie so finally we have a people

who don't lie and who don't do iniquity who can faithfully represent God to the rest of the world the remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity nor speak lies neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth so this is this is the way God is God says he's a just God that doesn't do iniquity the problem is his people are unjust full of violence full of oppression full of iniquity but now through this process his people finally reflect his character neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth for they shall feed and lie down and none shall make them afraid so the whole world made them afraid and God is saying that will never happen again

they will be my people and no one will ever be able to make them afraid and we see this in Micah the same prophecy again everybody's just echoing Moses but here in Micah 4 but in the last days it shall come to pass that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains and that will be in Jerusalem and it shall be exalted above the hills and people shall flow unto it that's exactly what we said earlier when there is going to be a light in Jerusalem and the whole world will flow unto that light the way moths gravitate to light he says that it's so this will be exalted above the hills in Jerusalem and people shall flow unto it and many nations shall come and say these are the nations that wanted to destroy every last Jew they were so possessed by this ideology that said they must destroy every last Jew and and by the way there are two types of Jews there's the blind Jews and there's the faithful Jews and God did that he is the prophecy in Isaiah 6 he's the one that separated said gee you know your eyes will not see and your ears will not hear and your heart will be wax doll but he said to his disciples who were who's that blessed are your eyes for you seeing you understand and so then in Matthew 24 he's speaking to both category of Jews a lot of Christians read Matthew 24 and they try to make it about Christians there were no such thing as Christians when Christ was giving this prophecy Christian fact Christians were they were first called Christians at Antioch and it was a pejorative term so from Christ's perspective there's only the covenant community and there are those in the covenant community that are blind and

there are those in the covenant community that's C and Gentiles are grafted into the part of the Jewish community that sees so that he is a Jew who is one inwardly and so let's get rid of this concept that Matthew 24 is about Christians it's about Jews when Christ says you it's about the seeing Jews when he says they for the most part it's about the blind Jews there's a part in their words about the nations so now these same nations that were persecuting Jerusalem now we see a change in a change of heart and the blindness is lifted and many nations shall come and say come and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord and to the house of the God of Jacob and he will teach us his way so they acknowledge that he's the God of Jacob and Jacob acknowledges that he's their God and he will teach us of his ways and we will walk in his paths for the law shall go forth of Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem so the people of Zion and the people of Jerusalem will be acknowledged and he shall judge among many people and rebuke strong nations afar off and they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks nation shall not lift up sword against nation and they'll keep the Feast of Tabernacles and if they don't he'll judge them from afar off and they'll get no rain and they'll suffer from famine so neither shall they learn war anymore that whole chapter is over but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree and none shall make them afraid for the mouth of the Lord of Hosts has spoken it so there will be a true peace now when Christ is on the earth for all people will walk everyone in the name of his

and we will walk in the name of the Lord our God forever and ever when God comes to redeem his people they will never Ravel again these will be they will they will be in this faithful covenant now forever and so they'll walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever in that day says the Lord will I assemble her that halts and I will gather her that is driven out and her that I have afflicted through the nations and I will make her that halted a remnant and her that was cast far off a strong nation and the Lord shall reign over them in Mount Zion from henceforth even forever this is what the all the prophets saw what Moses saw that there's a process this is a furnace that that a fiery furnace that the Covenant people have to go through for God to finally get the result that he had intended from the beginning back to Zephaniah verse 15 the Lord has taken away your judgments this sounds like Isaiah 40 comfort you my people

somebody comfort Jerusalem tell tell her that her warfare has ended this is what we're seeing here this is the good news the Lord has taken away her judgments he has cast out your enemy that's what God does so God doesn't punish his people directly he saves them the king of Israel even the Lord is in the midst of you you shall not see evil anymore and that's exactly what Christ said so so between verse 38 and 39 over 37 and 38 and then verse 39 something significant happens between verses 38 and 39 in Matthew 23 up to verse 38 these people are fully cursed and woe unto them and their house is desolate and then suddenly in verse 39 they're saying blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord so there's some good news here

it's not all bad and this gospel this good news needs to be preached to all the nations as a whip and so this blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord we see that in the book of Revelation that he's gonna come with the clouds exactly what he said in Matthew 24 and every eye shall see him exactly what he said in Matthew 24 and they also which pierced him this is Matthew 23 verse 39 when they're going to say blessed is he whose coming in the name of the Lord we meet him we acknowledge him but the rest of the nations and all Kindred's of the earth shall wail because of him he's coming to punish them he's coming to redeem Judah and punish the nations even so amen and so the nations need to hear this as a witness when I'm trying to convert them we're just trying to tell them you're wrong

you're wrong the kingdom will be restored to Israel Jeremiah says the same thing he says alas for that day is great that's exactly what Zephaniah tells us so that none is like it that's what Christ tells us in Matthew 24 it is even the time of Jacob's trouble so the the Covenant people are the target but he shall be saved out of it that's what God does he comes to save his people for it shall come to pass in that day says the Lord of hosts that I will break his yoke from off your neck and will burst your bonds and strangers shall no more serve themselves of him so the Beast fails in the end but they shall serve the Lord their God and David their King whom I will raise up unto them whose king is David Judah so God is coming to save his people Israel and Judah and they'll serve Him and serve David therefore fear you not o my servant

Jacob says the Lord neither be dismayed this is the good news and this is the good news that must be preached to all as a witness o Israel for lo I will save you from afar and your seed from the land of their captivity and Jacob shall return and shall be in rest so they're gonna Jacob's gonna be gathered according to Moses Deuteronomy 30 and be quiet and none shall make him afraid why for I am with you not with the other nations I'm with you says the Lord to save you that's what God is doing that's what all of this has been a though I make a full end of all nations were have scattered you yet will I not make a full end of you but I will correct you in measure he's like a refiners fire and will not leave you altogether unpunished yeah and that's the time of Jacob's trouble so it is gonna be fierce it is gonna be very difficult but God has a purpose and he's really in the end he's gonna have this beautiful jewel back to Zephaniah in that day it shall be said to Jerusalem fear you not this is and all the prophets are saying the same thing we need to reconcile all the prophecies and and reconcile them back to the Torah the prophetic word in the Torah and it all makes sense in that day shall be said to Jerusalem fear you not so as much as all the nations are going to surround Jerusalem to destroy it to wipe out every single Jew in that day shall be said to Jerusalem fear you not and to Zion let not your hands be slack and then we need to go to Zechariah 12 to see why because God is going to empower them he's gonna pour out his spirit upon them according to the the Moses prophecy the Lord your God in the midst of you is mighty he

will save this is the good news he will rejoice over you with joy God himself when he comes and comes to rescue Israel and Judah he is gonna be full of joy to rescue these people and to finally have their hearts turn to him he will rejoice over you with joy he will rest in his love he will joy over you with singing can you imagine that and this is why I just say caution caution people who want to curse Zionists people want to curse the Jews be careful be careful God says he will curse those who curse Abraham and bless those who bless Abraham we have good news for the Zionists you are the children of Abraham you are wicked you are going to be punished but if you hence you will be saved and you will be restored and you will be the people of God and and and God is gonna be so excited that he's going to God Christ Himself is going to sing with joy over Judah try to imagine that that God is going to be so happy so full of joy at the end of this process that he's going to sing with joy over Judah I will gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly so there's going to be a solemn assembly and he's going to gather them and they're gonna have gone through this very painful process I'm going to gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly who are of you to whom the reproach of it was a burden and this is exactly we're just going back to Deuteronomy back to the Torah Moses said in the Torah that at this time when they repent that then the Lord God will end your slavery that when you when he finally gets this wholehearted repentance from you he's going to end your slavery and have compassion upon you and he will return and gather you

from all the nations that's what Christ meant when he said but for the elects sake those days will be shortened because he's gonna gather the elect from all nations and then he's going to sing over them with joy and he'll gather you from all nations where the Lord your God has scattered you and so this he says in Matthew 24 this is what he means he shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet so don't be deceived about his return when he returns the whole world is gonna know because the whole world is going to wail in grief but his people are going to rejoice and say blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord and they're going to acknowledge him as their God and he's going to then with the angels with a great sound of a trumpet and they shall gather together his elect the covenant community from the four winds where they've been scattered because of their rebellion from one end of heaven to the other

and in fact you know we were just talking about a Hollywood and how the Jews had to flee from Eastern Europe and they came to America and came to New York and then from New York fled to Hollywood and and have had and hid their identity but God knows who they are and and so they've been fleeing all over and been enslaved and oppressed and God is now gonna he knows who they are

he's going to gather them from all nations where he has driven them from one end of heaven to the other and so finally the purpose has been achieved back to Zephaniah verse 19 chapter 3 behold at that time I God will undo all that afflict you so these nations unless this you know unless

these days were shortened no flesh would be saved

but for the elects sake these days shall be shortened and behold at that time it will undo all that afflict you and I will save her that halts and so this is how shall I say this who's been injured so I will save her that's been injured that has that that limps around and gathered her that was driven out and I will get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame solve God's gonna identify who these people are and as humiliated as they have been it's gonna turn around and they're gonna be famous and they're going to be acknowledged and they're gonna be brought back to Zion because they're going to be acknowledged as the people of God and the Lord and the Lord your God and this is all this is bear in mind here so what Zephaniah is saying lines up exactly with what Moses Moses said so here in Deuteronomy 30 and the Lord your God will circumcise your heart finally this is what he wanted from the beginning and the heart of your seed to love the Lord your God with all your heart blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord finally and with all your soul that you may live and live forever in the Lord your God now what's gonna happen so all these nations that come to cursed your Selam what happens next he says and the Lord your God he says here we'll put all these curses upon your enemies so again I just want to keep reiterating this if anybody's telling you that Christ is coming to destroy Judah they're lying to you they don't understand that Christ is coming to save Judah and he's going to punish thee he uses the enemies the Gentiles to punish his people and then

he comes to save his people and he punishes the Gentiles and that's that's right from the Torah so he says here the Lord your God will put all these curses upon your enemies and on them that hate you which persecuted you back to Zephaniah at that time will I bring you again even in the time that I gather you for I will make you a name and a praise among all people of the earth this is God's agenda this is what God is doing and this is this is why we have to take this gospel and preach it to all nations as a witness so they've been told for I will make you a name and a praise among all people of the earth when I turn back or end your slavery before your eyes says the Lord so God is going to do this for these people and this whole process right from Isaiah he says you are my witnesses so there they're gonna read the Torah they're gonna read the writings and the prophets and they're gonna be able to say God is faithful from the very beginning he declared all of this and he's done exactly these are the people that have the scriptures and they're gonna be able to say this God is faithful so he says you are my witnesses says the Lord and my servant whom I have chosen he hasn't chosen anybody else he's chosen Israel and Israel are his witnesses and that's why this gospel has been to be preached in all the world as a witness somebody understands that the text and the faithfulness of God to his word and and we are the witnesses and so these people now they're going to finally acknowledge their God and his faithfulness and that you may know and believe me that this that's why this this some repentance is gonna be so wholehearted because something they're

gonna finally see that everything that God said everything he said he has done faithfully to the letter but you may know and believe me and understand that I am he finally they're gonna say Jesus Christ is our God before me there was no God formed neither shall there be after me and this is exactly we go all the way back to Torah again exodus 19:5 now therefore if you will obey my voice indeed and keep my covenant so finally this is when they finally get to this point but when they get to this point then you shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people for all the earth is mine and you shall be unto me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation these are the words which you shall speak unto the children of Israel so this is God's objective and unfortunately they failed God they failed the Covenant but God has not failed them and it's quite a circuitous route and it's a very difficult process but God is driving to this end result and let's just go here to Deuteronomy 7 will just conclude here in Deuteronomy 7 to look at the love of God and he says here in verse 6 for you are a holy people unto the Lord you've been chosen by God Israel you are a holy people unto the Lord your God the Lord your God has chosen you to be a special people unto himself and that's what we finally see through this whole process and through the prophecy of Zephaniah he's chosen you to be a special people unto himself above all people that are upon the face of the earth the Lord did not set his love his when he does this he's gonna sing with joy over these people but he did not set his love upon these chosen people

nor choose you because you were more in

number than any people for you were the fewest of all people but because the Lord loved you and because he would keep the oath which which with which sorry and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your father's that's that's this cassette this this covenant faithfulness this covenant love that is unbreakable and and it's why the marriage bond is so important because it reflects this and it should be unbreakable for life till death do us part because it should reflect this and when we look at marriage we should be reminded of God's covenant faithfulness and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your father's has the Lord brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you out of the house of bond men from the hand of Pharaoh king of G to Egypt so as it was at the time of Pharaoh king of Egypt so it will be again at the time of the Beast power and so final verse here verse 9 know therefore that the Lord your God He is God the faithful God which keeps covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations and that int that is the Word of God that is the prophecy of Zephaniah he Zeo everything that we studied in Isaiah it just lines up perfectly and when we look at Matthew 24 Christ is just repeating what Moses said and what all the prophets have said and not a single prophecy will fail because the prophetic word comes from God and God is faithful to his word so that's a Zephaniah the prophecy of Zephaniah and pastor Murray is going to join us now pastor Murray are you there yes I can hear you very clearly and maybe we can just check with the audience and make sure that they can hear you as well and

this time we have video of you as well so we can see

so go ahead and just talk for a bit and let's just confirm that people can hear meanwhile I'm gonna go and check Facebook yeah great to have you thanks for taking the time that started 12 and then from there through Moses and then just recently and how the prophet Isaiah comes through Moses and you know the other thing that I think their customer is you mentioned that I think it's God's guardrails against deception that if it wasn't repetitive and it was only mentioned in one place well then it's my opinion it's your opinion maybe it means something else and we can get into these interpretive discussions and disagreements but the fact that it's repeated so often it's like again a reconciliation that if it doesn't all match then it's not true and so I think that's that's a part of the beauty of the repetitive nature of the prophecy it's impossible for us to run off and believe in the Quran or believe in false interpretations of Scripture or false prophets because they're going to say something and it's just not going to line up with the faithful Word of God [Music]

exactly exactly so three different content

different languages different profit different people over different time periods and they're all saying the same thing

very very good so did we confirm that people can perfect okay excellent and and they can see you this time so that's great we can see it we can see and hear you so yeah so any other thoughts before we get into the Q&A while we wait for some questions and please if you have

questions you can post them on Facebook or post them on CGI church online org and we will then address them here I think that just as a reminder especially of what we went through in Revelation that God's people are not here to be hidden from tribulation exactly it is not to worry about us to make sure perfect that's a really good really good point so yeah very good yes so let's start off with the first question and that was actually from last week and last week it was from Christie who asked about the abomination of desolation and if I remember rightly her question was you know will there be another temple in Jerusalem in order for this prophecy about the abomination of desolation to be fulfilled so maybe if you don't mind you to sort of maybe take a first crack at that and then I'll give I'll give my thoughts as well the sacrifices I think and you've given a message three years ago I'd like to find that maybe post that have a chance to though I think when we consider that the twofold nature of the abomination of desolation obviously historically goes back to the typist because it means yes and they not to be in revolt against that but Daniel it's really covered in Daniel in several places Daniel 9 and 11 and then obviously Christ covers it in his prophecies and it does seem obviously other prophets talked about exactly right talk about you know the temple in sacrifices will happen again and it when you consider all that we've studied in Isaiah and the other prophets there will come a time that God raises up these Gentile folks to teach us teach God's people a lesson that the entire worship system they will lose access to the entire worship system in part that

is the daily sacrifices but I think that the sacrifices are just representative of the entire worship system that they will lose access to God so that he's trying to attract their attention yeah so Christ says in Matthew 23 to the Jews there that your house is left unto you desolate so we have to tie the abomination of desolation or the abomination that makes desolate to this curse that Christ gave to Jerusalem so whatever it is it has to do with Jerusalem which is the holy city and it's an abomination which is it's a form of idolatry so if we look at an entire curse epiphanies where he set up an idol right in the temple in the Holy of Holies and and that was the abomination that made desolate so it's a form of superiority you know this is sort of the Allahu Akbar moment of of my God is greater than your God and so these Gentiles come in and they completely defile the temple in order to prove that their God is greater and so and there's two interpretations I've seen of this one is saying that you know the Jews are not God's people anymore the land is not holy anymore and that it's really Christians are the temple and so the abomination that makes desolate is the mark of the beast and it's those Christians who are the temple of God who succumb and allow themselves to receive the mark of the beast this is the abomination that makes desolate so that's one interpretation I don't buy that I think when we look at all of the context of all the prophecies that we've been looking at that God is interested in refining Judah and Matthew 24 is specifically a curse against Judah and more specifically Jerusalem and they are still his people so I think that there

will be a temple set up and then I also wanted to look into this Marie where Christ said at the time you know this generation will not pass until all these things are fulfilled and and the disciples said you know look at the temple like it's not all bad look how beautiful the temple is and Christ Bailey said maybe you didn't understand me not one stone will be left upon another when I say desolate I mean desolate my understanding is that the Wailing Wall is part of that original temple and so if that is true then one stone was still left upon another that that remnant of the wall that they built upon one stone was still left upon another and that did happen within 40 years a generation being 40 years that did happen within 40 years of the prophecy and so so it was like a foretaste but it wasn't the complete thing and Christ Himself said when we see this abomination of desolation so I think that when it happens again it'll be total and thorough so my expectation is that there will be another temple and I did see Kristi did point out an article where there there are planning to start the sacrifices again and to invite nations to participate in these sacrifices with them so we you know we just don't see what tomorrow is going to look like and we try to interpret the prophecies based on history with everything that's led us up to now and it's hard for us to imagine a tomorrow that is completely different from today and so however this prophecy unfolds it's going to unfold in a world that looks nothing like today Christ says you're gonna see Wars rumors of wars famines earthquakes the earth is gonna go through upheaval and tomorrow is gonna be very different and so I see a scenario personally where the Jews will be establishing themselves and establishing their worship in Jerusalem and God is not going to have it and he's going to allow the enemy the Gentiles to come in and to make desolate with this abomination and you cover two possible scenarios and I I don't agree that it's a second scenario because it's the same sentence of talking about abomination of desolation

you keep matches that those willing to give me to the mountains so it's going to be so destructive so so scary it's just yeah exactly exactly and and I think we have lost this focus that God has on Judah the actual physical people of Judah who are blinded for now I think we've lost focus and we just wanna make everything about Christians and and I think if we're faithful to the text God has not forgotten Judah and he's working a work through us to save Judah to save a remnant in Judah and we actually are sorry I was because they we actually are Judah you know we're the seeing part of Judah God God separated Judah into two parts those that are blind and his disciples that were blessed to see and we've been really graphed into that seeing part of Judah that believing part of Judah

in order to help save the blind part of Judah perfect obviously this whole the church has replaced yes very good is it is it to do with the abomination of desolation

so maybe just before we go there Christie says it would be an abomination to sacrifice because it would deny Christ's sacrifice let me just see if I can just digest this it would be an abomination to sacrifice because it

would deny Christ's sacrifice I think if I'm understanding you correctly Christie I think what you're saying is for the Jews to engage in sacrifice that in itself is an abomination because they're not acknowledging Christ and I think it is it's highly disrespectful but I wouldn't call it an abomination they they have never known Christ you know they they they ve just never known him but their worship was accepted before when they didn't even know who Christ was this abomination if you if we look at how that term is used in the Old Testament it is idolatry extreme it is it is Gentile idolatry that is imposed upon the people of God to completely deny Yahweh and to make basically make Satan God God Satan says I will be like the Most High and these are the servants of Satan that are establishing Satan is the Most High and that's that's what makes it a Bominable and and also they're the purpose of this abomination it's not just that it's an abomination it has a purpose the purpose of this abomination is to make Jerusalem desolate and so Christ says to Judah when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel and whoever reads this prophecy in Daniel you better understand what it's all about

when you see this Judah run for your life

because this is the moment of superiority this is the moment of the exaltation of Satan and this is the moment when he's going to unleash his wrath upon this people so for those who finally accept the advice the instruction of Christ run for your life and so it's not just an abomination it's an abomination that makes desolate and

it comes from Gentiles okay see so you have another question there she starts based based on the scriptures we have studied is Judah / Israel the harvest so do you want to turn to that scripture let me just catch up to you revelation 17

and 80 yeah I guess chapter 17 verse beginning in verse 1 through those days you want to go back to first 1/2 so yeah I can read it okay then one of the seven angels who had seven of the seven bowls came and talked with me saying to me come I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication so he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy having seven heads and ten horns

the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet that Dorne was gold and precious stones and pearls having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication and on her forehead a name was been Mystery Babylon the Great the mother of harlots and the abominations of the earth

I saw the one drunk with the blood of the Saints and the murderers Jesus did you so yeah if I take a crack at this I would say so the question was that his are Israel and Judah this harlot I say absolutely not absolutely not Israel and Judah are the bride that Christ is coming to marry they're the bride that when he comes he's gonna sing with great joy over them that these are his people wicked as they are and unfaithful as they are he's faithful to the Covenant

and he's driving this whole process to create a pure people that he can actually use to save the rest of the world

this woman is Babylon this is the Beast this the order this is the collusion with the political beast and and she is for Gentile she's over the seas so she's Gentile and it's the opposite this is the woman that is trying to destroy Israel and Judah and God is coming to save Israel and Judah and this is the source of the abomination that makes desolate and it goes all the way back to Genesis 11 very good you know that's where that's where Satan started that religious system - that's right very good very good any other questions there Marie I see a question here from Marlene what is the source of this information about the daily sacrifices starting on September 25th and so Christi you have shared that article with me on Facebook maybe you can just post it to Facebook so that those like Marlene who want to read more about that would have access to that so so Marlene hang tight there we'll get Christi to post that article let me see if I can see if there's anything else here it's hard with Facebook because once the if I don't see the questions come up live I generally will just miss them okay so Christi did post her comment and yes I've lost those let me just quickly check one more source here and that's this

just a lot of people saying hello which is great hello to everybody and yeah I don't have any more questions here Marie so that's definitely uh and what I want to do next week so we're coming up to the feast season I want to cover the book of Obadiah next week is just one

chapter so that'll be easy to cover we'll cover that in one sitting and then Psalm 25 you had pointed out to me I think one of the Brethren said that they can't find it I went through the archive I can't find it either so I think what I'll do will do Obadiah God willing next week then we'll do Psalm 25 just to make sure we have that in the archive and then we'll take a break for the holy days and come back after the Feast of Tabernacles okay so thanks so much faster Murray appreciate your support and contribution as always and thank you everybody and well we'll stop here and just say again just how incredible God is how faithful he is how faithful he is to his word and so we just need to be searching the Scriptures and realizing that every word that God speaks is faithful and we can rely on his word good night pastor Murray good night brethren