

Zephaniah
Lesson 1 (introduction)

I. Title,

A. Zephaniah,

- i. **The Author,**
- ii. **His Linage,**

See Matthew 1:9&10

II. History

A. The time of the writing,

- i. **“In the days of Josiah”**

See II Kings 23:29 & II Chronicles 35:20-24

I Kings 13:1-3 “And, behold, there came a man of God out of Judah by the word of the Lord unto Beth-el: and Jeroboam stood by the altar to burn incense. 2 And he cried against the altar in the word of the Lord, and said, O altar, altar, thus saith the Lord; Behold, a child shall be born unto the house of David, Josiah by name; and upon thee shall he offer the priests of the high places that burn incense upon thee, and men's bones shall be burnt upon thee. 3 And he gave a sign the same day, saying, This is the sign which the Lord hath spoken; Behold, the altar shall be rent, and the ashes that are upon it shall be poured out. ”

- ii. **Wonder Why God didn't stop the coming destruction?**

II Kings 22:16-17&19&20 “Thus saith the Lord, Behold, I will bring evil upon this place, and upon the inhabitants thereof, even all the words of the book which the king of Judah hath read: 17 Because they have forsaken me, and have burned incense unto other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the works of their hands; therefore my wrath shall be kindled against this place, and shall not be quenched..... 19 Because thine heart was tender, and thou hast humbled thyself before the Lord, when thou heardest what I spake against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, that they should become a desolation and a curse, and hast rent thy clothes, and wept before me; I also have heard thee, saith the Lord. 20 Behold therefore, I will gather thee unto thy fathers, and thou shalt be gathered into thy grave in peace; and thine eyes shall not see all the evil which I will bring upon this place.”

See Also II Chronicles 34

III. Theme, The Day of the Lord,

A. Prophecies of Contrast,

- i. **The Day of the Lord,**

See Isaiah 13:9; Joel 1:15, 2:28-32; Amos 5:18

- ii. **Prophecies of Dark times,**

- iii. **Prophecies of Light times,**