

The Book of Zephaniah

רַחֵל בַּת בְּרִיָּלוֹ

25 Tishrei, 5787

Zephaniah 1

צִפְנְיָה א

¹ THE WORD of HaShem which came unto Zephaniah the son of Cushi, the son of Gedaliah, the son of Amariah, the son of Hezekiah, in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah. ² I will utterly consume all things from off the face of the earth, saith HaShem. ³ I will consume man and beast, I will consume the fowls of the heaven, and the fishes of the sea, and the stumblingblocks with the wicked; and I will cut off man from off the face of the earth, saith HaShem. ⁴ And I will stretch out My hand upon Judah, and upon all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off the remnant of Baal from this place, and the name of the idolatrous priests with the priests; ⁵ And them that worship the host of heaven upon the housetops; and them that worship, that swear to HaShem and swear by Malcam; ⁶ Them also that are turned back from following HaShem; and those that have not sought HaShem, nor inquired after Him. ⁷ Hold thy peace at the presence of the L-rd GOD; for the day of HaShem is at hand, for HaShem hath prepared a sacrifice, He hath consecrated His guests. ⁸ And it shall come to pass in the day of HaShem'S sacrifice, that I will punish the princes, and the king's sons, and all such as are clothed with foreign apparel. ⁹ In the same day also will I punish all those that leap over the threshold, that fill their master's house with violence and deceit. ¹⁰ And in that day, saith HaShem, Hark! a cry from the fish gate, and a wailing from the second quarter, and a great crashing from the hills. ¹¹ Wail, ye inhabitants of Maktesh, for all the merchant people are undone; all they that were laden with silver are cut off. ¹² And it shall come to pass at that time, that I will search Jerusalem with lamps; and I will punish the men that are settled on their lees, that say in their heart: 'HaShem will not do good, neither will He do evil.' ¹³ Therefore their wealth shall become a booty, and their houses a desolation; yea, they shall build houses, but shall not inhabit them, and they shall plant vineyards, but shall not drink the wine thereof. ¹⁴ The great day of HaShem is near, it is near and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of HaShem, wherein the mighty man crieth bitterly. ¹⁵ That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶ A day of the horn and alarm, against the fortified cities, and against the high towers. ¹⁷ And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like the blind, because they have sinned against HaShem; and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as dung. ¹⁸ Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of HaShem's wrath; but the whole earth shall be devoured by the fire of His jealousy; for He will make an end, yea, a terrible end, of all them that dwell in the earth.

¹ דְּבַר-יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר הָיָה, אֶל-צִפְנְיָה בֶן-כּוּשִׁי בֶן-גְּדַלְיָה, בֶּן-אֲמַרְיָה, בֶּן-חִזְקִיָּה--בִּימֵי יְאֹשָׁהוּ בֶן-אֲמוֹן, מֶלֶךְ יְהוּדָה. ² אֲסַף אֲסַף כָּל, מַעַל פָּנָי הָאֲדָמָה--נְאֻם-יְהוָה. ³ אֲסַף אֲדָם וּבְהֵמָה, אֲסַף עוֹף-הַשָּׁמַיִם וְדֹגֵי הַיָּם, וְהַמְכַשְׁלוֹת, אֶת-הָרֹשָׁעִים; וְהַכֹּרְתִי אֶת-הָאָדָם, מַעַל פָּנָי הָאֲדָמָה--נְאֻם-יְהוָה. ⁴ וְנָטִיתִי יָדִי עַל-יְהוּדָה, וְעַל כָּל-יֹשְׁבֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם; וְהַכֹּרְתִי מִן-הַמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה, אֶת-שְׂאֵר הַבָּעַל--אֶת-שֵׁם הַכְּמָרִים, עִם-הַכֹּהֲנִים. ⁵ וְאֶת-הַמִּשְׁתַּחֲוִיִּים עַל-הַגִּגֹּת, לְצַבֵּא הַשָּׁמַיִם; וְאֶת-הַמִּשְׁתַּחֲוִיִּים הַנִּשְׁבָּעִים לַיהוָה, וְהַנִּשְׁבָּעִים בַּמִּלְכָּם. ⁶ וְאֶת-הַנְּסוּגִים, מֵאַחֲרֵי יְהוָה; וְאֲשֶׁר לֹא-בִקְשׁוּ אֶת-יְהוָה, וְלֹא דָרְשׁוּהוּ. ⁷ הִס, מִפָּנָי אֲדֹנֵי יְהוָה: כִּי קָרוֹב יוֹם יְהוָה, כִּי-הִכִּין יְהוָה זֶבַח הַקֹּדֶשׁ קִרְאָיו. ⁸ וְהָיָה, בְּיוֹם זֶבַח יְהוָה, וּפְקֻדָּתִי עַל-הַשָּׂרִים, וְעַל-בְּנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ--וְעַל כָּל-הַלִּבְשִׁים, מִלְּבוּשׁ נָכְרִי. ⁹ וּפְקֻדָּתִי, עַל כָּל-הַדּוֹלֵג עַל-הַמִּפְתָּן--בְּיוֹם הַהוּא: הַמִּמְלָאִים בֵּית אֲדֹנֵיהֶם, חֲמָס וּמִרְמָה. ¹⁰ וְהָיָה בְּיוֹם הַהוּא נְאֻם-יְהוָה, קוֹל צִעָקָה מִשְׁעַר הַדָּגִים, וַיִּלְלָה, מִן-הַמִּשְׁנָה; וְשָׁבַר גָּדוֹל, מִהַגְבָּעוֹת. ¹¹ הִילִילוּ, יֹשְׁבֵי הַמִּכְתָּשׁ: כִּי גִדְמָה כָּל-עַם כְּנַעַן, נִכְרְתוּ כָל-נְטִילֵי כֶסֶף. ¹² וְהָיָה בָּעֵת הַהִיא, אֲחַפֵּשׂ אֶת-יְרוּשָׁלַם בְּנִירוֹת; וּפְקֻדָּתִי עַל-הָאֲנָשִׁים, הַקִּפָּאִים עַל-שְׁמִרְיָהֶם, הָאֲמָרִים בְּלִבָּבָם, לֹא-יִיטִיב יְהוָה וְלֹא יִרְעַ. ¹³ וְהָיָה חֵילָם לַמִּשְׁסָה, וּבְתִיָּהֶם לְשִׁמְמָה; וּבְנֵי בָתִּים, וְלֹא יֵשְׁבוּ, וְנִטְעוּ כִרְמִים, וְלֹא יִשְׁתּוּ אֶת-יַיִנָם. ¹⁴ קָרוֹב יוֹם-יְהוָה הַגָּדוֹל, קָרוֹב וּמֹהֵר מְאֹד; קוֹל יוֹם יְהוָה, מִר צִרְחַ שֵׁם גְּבוּר. ¹⁵ יוֹם עֲבָרָה, הַיּוֹם הַהוּא: יוֹם צָרָה וּמִצּוּקָה, יוֹם שָׂאָה וּמִשׁוּאָה, יוֹם חִשָּׁד וְאִפְלָה, יוֹם עֶזֶן וְעִרְפָּל. ¹⁶ יוֹם שׁוֹפָר, וּתְרוּעָה, עַל הָעָרִים הַבְּצֻרוֹת, וְעַל הַפְּנוֹת הַגְּבוּהוֹת. ¹⁷ וְהִצַּרְתִּי לְאָדָם, וְהִלְכּוּ כַּעֲוָרִים--כִּי לַיהוָה, חֲטָאוּ; וְשִׁפְדוּ דָמָם כְּעֶפֶר, וּלְחֲמָם כַּגִּלְלִים. ¹⁸ גַּם-כֶּסֶפָם גַּם-זָהָבָם לֹא-יֻכַּל לְהַצִּילָם, בְּיוֹם עֲבָרַת יְהוָה, וּבְאֵשׁ קִנְאָתוֹ, תֹּאכַל כָּל-הָאָרֶץ: כִּי-כָלָה אֵד-נִבְהָלָה יַעֲשֶׂה, אֶת כָּל-יֹשְׁבֵי הָאָרֶץ.

¹ Gather yourselves together, yea, gather together, O shameless nation; ² Before the decree bring forth the day when one passeth as the chaff, before the fierce anger of HaShem come upon you, before the day of HaShem'S anger come upon you. ³ Seek ye HaShem, all ye humble of the earth, that have executed His ordinance; seek righteousness, seek humility. It may be ye shall be hid in the day of HaShem'S anger. ⁴ For Gaza shall be forsaken, and Ashkelon a desolation; they shall drive out Ashdod at the noonday, and Ekron shall be rooted up. ⁵ Woe unto the inhabitants of the sea-coast, the nation of the Cherethites! the word of HaShem is against you, O Canaan, the land of the Philistines; I will even destroy thee, that there shall be no inhabitant. ⁶ And the sea-coast shall be pastures, even meadows for shepherds, and folds for flocks. ⁷ And it shall be a portion for the remnant of the house of Judah, whereon they shall feed; in the houses of Ashkelon shall they lie down in the evening; for HaShem their G-d will remember them, and turn their captivity. ⁸ I have heard the taunt of Moab, and the revilings of the children of Ammon, wherewith they have taunted My people, and spoken boastfully concerning their border. ⁹ Therefore as I live, saith HaShem of hosts, the G-d of Israel: Surely Moab shall be as Sodom, and the children of Ammon as Gomorrah, even the breeding-place of nettles, and saltpits, and a desolation, for ever; the residue of My people shall spoil them, and the remnant of My nation shall inherit them. ¹⁰ This shall they have for their pride, because they have taunted and spoken boastfully against the people of HaShem of hosts. ¹¹ HaShem will be terrible unto them; for He will famish all the gods of the earth; then shall all the isles of the nations worship Him, every one from its place. ¹² Ye Ethiopians also, ye shall be slain by My sword. ¹³ And He will stretch out His hand against the north, and destroy Assyria; and will make Nineveh a desolation, and dry like the wilderness. ¹⁴ And all beasts of every kind shall lie down in the midst of her in herds; both the pelican and the bittern shall lodge in the capitals thereof; voices shall sing in the windows; desolation shall be in the posts; for the cedar-work thereof shall be uncovered. ¹⁵ This is the joyous city that dwelt without care, that said in her heart: 'I am, and there is none else beside me'; how is she become a desolation, a place for beasts to lie down in! Every one that passeth by her shall hiss, and wag his hand.

¹ הַתְּקוּשְׁשׁוּ, וְקוּשׁוּ--הַגּוֹי, לֹא נִכְסֶף. ² בְּטָרֶם לָדֶת חֶק, כְּמִץ עֶבֶר יוֹם; בְּטָרֶם לֹא-יָבוֹא עֲלֵיכֶם, חֶרוֹן אֶף-יְהוָה--בְּטָרֶם לֹא-יָבוֹא עֲלֵיכֶם, יוֹם אֶף-יְהוָה. ³ בִּקְשׁוּ אֶת-יְהוָה כָּל-עַנְיֵי הָאָרֶץ, אֲשֶׁר מִשְׁפָּטוֹ פָּעָלוּ; בִּקְשׁוּ-צֶדֶק, בִּקְשׁוּ עֲנָה--אִוִּילֵי תִסְתְּרוּ, בְּיוֹם אֶף-יְהוָה. ⁴ כִּי עֲזָה עֲזוּבָה תִהְיֶה, וְאִשְׁקָלוֹן לְשִׁמְמָה; אֲשֶׁדּוֹד, בְּצִהְרֵים יִגְרְשׁוּהָ, וְעֶקְרוֹן, תִּעָקֵר. ⁵ הִוֵּי, יֹשְׁבֵי חֶבֶל הַיָּם--גּוֹי כְּרִיתִים; דְּבַר-יְהוָה עֲלֵיכֶם, כְּנֹעַן אֶרֶץ פְּלִשְׁתִּים, וְהַאֲבִדְתִּידָהּ, מֵאֵין יוֹשֵׁב. ⁶ וְהִיטָה חֶבֶל הַיָּם, נוֹת כָּרֶת רָעִים--וְגִדְרוֹת צֹאן. ⁷ וְהִיטָה חֶבֶל, לְשֹׁאֲרֵית בֵּית יְהוּדָה--עֲלֵיהֶם יִרְעוּן: כִּבְתִּי אִשְׁקָלוֹן, בְּעָרֵב יִרְבְּצוּן--כִּי יִפְקְדֵם יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיהֶם, וְשָׁב שְׁבוּתָם שְׁבִיתָם. ⁸ שְׁמַעְתִּי חֲרַפַּת מוֹאָב, וְגִדְפִי בְנֵי עַמּוֹן--אֲשֶׁר חֲרָפוּ אֶת-עַמִּי, וַיִּגְדְּלוּ עַל-גִּבּוֹלָם. ⁹ לָכֵן חִי-אֲנִי נָאִם יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, כִּי-מוֹאָב כְּסֹדֶם תִּהְיֶה וּבְנֵי עַמּוֹן כְּעַמָּרָה, מִמֶּשֶׁק חֶרוֹל וּמִכְרָה-מָלַח וּשְׁמִמָּה, עַד-עוֹלָם; שֹׁאֲרֵית עַמִּי יִבְזוּם, וַיִּתֵּר גּוֹי יִנְחָלוּם. ¹⁰ זֹאת לָהֶם, תַּחַת גְּאוֹנָם: כִּי חֲרָפוּ וַיִּגְדְּלוּ, עַל-עַם יְהוָה צְבָאוֹת. ¹¹ נִזְרָא יְהוָה, עֲלֵיהֶם, כִּי רָזָה, אֶת כָּל-אֱלֹהֵי הָאָרֶץ; וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲווּ-לוֹ אִישׁ מִמְּקוֹמוֹ, כָּל אֲנֵי הַגּוֹיִם. ¹² גַּם-אֲתָם כּוֹשִׁים, חֲלָלֵי חֲרָבֵי הַמָּה. ¹³ וַיֵּט יָדוֹ עַל-צִפּוֹן, וַיֹּאבֵד אֶת-אֲשׁוּר; וַיִּשֶׁם אֶת-בְּיָנוּה לְשִׁמְמָה, צִיָּה כְּמִדְבָּר. ¹⁴ וּרְבִצּוֹ בְּתוֹכָהּ עֲדָרִים, כָּל-חִיתוֹ-גּוֹי--גַּם-קֶאֱת גַּם-קֶפֶד, בְּכִפְתָּרֶיהָ יִלְיָנוּ; קוֹל יִשׁוֹרֵר בְּחִלּוֹן, חֲרֵב בְּסֶף, כִּי אֲרִזָּה, עָרָה. ¹⁵ זֹאת הָעִיר הָעֲלִיזָה, הַיּוֹשֶׁבֶת לְבִטָּחָה, הָאֲמָרָה בְּלִבָּבָהּ, אֲנִי וְאַפְסִי עוֹד; אִידָהּ הִיטָה לְשִׁמְמָה, מִרְבִּץ לַחֲיָה--כָּל עוֹבֵר עָלֶיהָ, יִשְׂרָק וַיִּנְיַע יָדוֹ.

¹ Woe to her that is filthy and polluted, to the oppressing city! ² She hearkened not to the voice, she received not correction; she trusted not in HaShem, she drew not near to her G-d. ³ Her princes in the midst of her are roaring lions; her judges are wolves of the desert, they leave not a bone for the morrow. ⁴ Her prophets are wanton and treacherous persons; her priests have profaned that which is holy, they have done violence to the law. ⁵ HaShem who is righteous is in the midst of her, He will not do unrighteousness; every morning doth He bring His right to light, it faileth not; but the unrighteous knoweth no shame. ⁶ I have cut off nations, their corners are desolate; I have made their streets waste, so that none passeth by; their cities are destroyed, so that there is no man, so that there is no inhabitant. ⁷ I said: 'Surely thou wilt fear Me, thou wilt receive correction; so her dwelling shall not be cut off, despite all that I have visited upon her'; but they betimes corrupted all their doings. ⁸ Therefore wait ye for Me, saith HaShem, until the day that I rise up to the prey; for My determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them Mine indignation, even all My fierce anger; for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of My jealousy. ⁹ For then will I turn to the peoples a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of HaShem, to serve Him with one consent. ¹⁰ From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia shall they bring My suppliants, even the daughter of My dispersed, as Mine offering. ¹¹ In that day shalt thou not be ashamed for all thy doings, wherein thou hast transgressed against Me; for then I will take away out of the midst of thee thy proudly exulting ones, and thou shalt no more be haughty in My holy mountain. ¹² And I will leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall take refuge in the name of HaShem. ¹³ The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies, neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth; for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid. ¹⁴ Sing, O daughter of Zion, shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem. ¹⁵ HaShem hath taken away thy judgments, He hath cast out thine enemy; The King of Israel, even HaShem, is in the midst of thee; thou shalt not fear evil any more. ¹⁶ In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: 'Fear thou not; O Zion, let not thy hands be slack. ¹⁷ HaShem thy G-d is in the midst of thee, a Mighty One who will save; He will rejoice over thee with joy, He will be silent in His love, He will joy over thee with singing.' ¹⁸ I will gather them that are far from the appointed season, who are of thee, that hast borne the burden of reproach. ¹⁹ Behold, at that time I will deal with all them that afflict thee; and I will save her that is lame, and gather her that was driven away; and I will make them to be a praise and a name, whose shame hath been in all the earth. ²⁰ At that time will I bring you in, and at that time will I gather you; for I will make you to be a name and a praise among all the peoples of the earth, when I turn your captivity before your eyes, saith HaShem.

¹ הוּי מְרָאָה, וְנִגְאָלָה--הָעִיר, הַיּוֹנָה. ² לֹא שָׁמְעָה בְּקוֹל, לֹא לָקְחָה מוֹסֵר; בִּיהוֹנָה לֹא בִטָּחָה, אֶל-אֱלֹהֶיהָ לֹא קָרְבָה. ³ שָׁרִיָּה בְּקִרְבָּה, אֲרִיּוֹת שְׁאֲגִים; שְׁפָטִיָּה זֹאבֵי עָרֵב, לֹא גִרְמוּ לַבִּקָּר. ⁴ נְבִיאֶיהָ, פְּחִזִּים, אַנְשֵׁי, בְּגָדוֹת; כְּהֻנָּה, חֲלָלוּ-קֹדֶשׁ, חֲמָסוֹ, תוֹרָה. ⁵ יְהוֹנָה צָדִיק בְּקִרְבָּה, לֹא יַעֲשֶׂה עוֹלָה; בַּבִּקָּר בַּבִּקָּר מִשְׁפָּטוֹ יִתֵּן לְאוֹר, לֹא נִעְדָּר, וְלֹא-יִדְעַע עוֹל, בִּשְׁת. ⁶ הִכְרַתִּי גוֹיִם, נִשְׁמוּ פְּנוֹתָם--הִחְרַבְתִּי חוּצוֹתָם, מִבְּלִי עוֹבֵר; נִצְדוּ עֲרֵיהֶם מִבְּלִי-אִישׁ, מֵאִין יוֹשֵׁב. ⁷ אָמַרְתִּי אֶד-תִּירָאִי אוֹתִי, תִּקְחִי מוֹסֵר, וְלֹא-יִכְרַת מַעוֹנָה, כֹּל אֲשֶׁר-פָּקַדְתִּי עָלֶיהָ; אֲכֹן הַשְׁכִּימוּ הַשְּׁחִיתוּ, כֹּל עַלִּילוֹתָם. ⁸ לָכֵן חֲכוּ-לִי נָא-יְהוֹנָה, לְיוֹם קוֹמִי לַעֲד: כִּי מִשְׁפָּטִי לְאַסֹּף גוֹיִם לְקַבְּצִי מִמְּלָכוֹת, לְשַׁפֵּד עֲלֵיהֶם זַעֲמִי כֹל חֲרוֹן אַפִּי--כִּי בָאֵשׁ קִנְאַתִּי, תֹּאכַל כָּל-הָאָרֶץ. ⁹ כִּי-אִז אֶהַפֵּד אֶל-עַמִּים, שְׁפָה בְרוּרָה, לְקַרֵּא כָל־שֵׁם יְהוֹנָה, לַעֲבֹדוֹ שְׁכֵם אֶחָד. ¹⁰ מֵעַבָּר, לְנִהְרֵי-כוּשׁ--עֲתָרִי, בֵּת-פּוּצִי, יוֹבִלּוֹן, מִנְחָתִי. ¹¹ בְּיוֹם הַהוּא, לֹא תִבּוֹשִׁי מִכֹּל עַלִּילַתֶּיךָ, אֲשֶׁר פָּשַׁעְתָּ, בִּי: כִּי-אִז אֶסִּיר מִקִּרְבְּךָ, עַלְיָזִי גֵאוֹתֶיךָ, וְלֹא-תוֹסִפִּי לְגִבְהָה עוֹד, בְּהַר קָדְשִׁי. ¹² וְהִשְׁאַרְתִּי בְּקִרְבְּךָ, עַם עֹנִי וְדָל; וְחָסוּ, בְּשֵׁם יְהוֹנָה. ¹³ שְׁאֲרִית יִשְׂרָאֵל לֹא-יַעֲשׂוּ עוֹלָה, וְלֹא-יִדְבְּרוּ כִזָּב, וְלֹא-יִמָּצֵא בְּפִיהֶם, לְשׁוֹן תִּרְמִית: כִּי-הִמָּה יִרְעוּ וְרַבְצוּ, וְאִין מִחְרִיד. ¹⁴ רִנִּי, בֵּת-צִיּוֹן--הִרְיֶעוּ, יִשְׂרָאֵל; שְׁמַחִי וְעַלְיָזִי בְּכָל-לֵב, בֵּת יְרוּשָׁלַם. ¹⁵ הִסִּיר יְהוֹנָה מִשְׁפָּטֶיךָ, פָּנָה אִיבֹד; מָלַךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוֹנָה בְּקִרְבְּךָ, לֹא-תִירָאִי רָע עוֹד. ¹⁶ בְּיוֹם הַהוּא, יֵאמֹר לִירוּשָׁלַם אֶל-תִּירָאִי: צִיּוֹן, אֶל-יִרְפוּ יְדֶיךָ. ¹⁷ יְהוֹנָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּקִרְבְּךָ, גִּבּוֹר יוֹשִׁיעַ; יוֹשִׁיעַ עַלְיָךְ בְּשִׁמְחָה, יַחְרִישׁ בְּאַהֲבָתוֹ--יְגִיל עַלְיָךְ, בְּרִנָּה. ¹⁸ נֹגִי מִמוֹעֵד אֶסְפָּתִי, מִמָּד הָיוּ--מִשְׁאֵת עָלֶיךָ, חֲרָפָה. ¹⁹ הִנְנִי עֹשֶׂה אֶת-כָּל-מַעֲנֶיךָ, בְּעֵת הַהִיא; וְהוֹשַׁעְתִּי אֶת-הַצִּלְעָה, וְהִנְדַּחְתִּי אֶקְבִּץ, וְשִׁמְתִּים לְתַהֲלָה וּלְשֵׁם, בְּכָל-הָאָרֶץ בְּשֵׁמָתָם. ²⁰ בְּעֵת הַהִיא אָבִיא אֶתְכֶם, וּבְעֵת קִבְּצִי אֶתְכֶם: כִּי-אֶתֵּן אֶתְכֶם לְשֵׁם וּלְתַהֲלָה, בְּכָל עַמֵּי הָאָרֶץ, בְּשׁוֹבִי אֶת-שְׁבוּתֵיכֶם לְעֵינֵיכֶם, אָמַר יְהוֹנָה.

Faith Symbols

- Christian✝.
- Dharmic☸.
- Jewish✡.
- Muslim: Shia☪, Sunni☞.
- Pagan: Apollo☼, Hermes☿.
- Pantheist☯.
- Atheist☒.