THE SINS OF JERUSALEM ARE PRESENT DAY SINS

Zephaniah 3: 1 - 4

INTRODUCTION:

1. The prophet Zephaniah listed four sins of Jerusalem.
2. In Zephaniah 3:2:
   (1) "She obeyed not the voice"
   (2) "she received not correction"
   (3) "she trusted not in the Lord"
   (4) "She drew not near to her God"
3. These were the sins of God's people, and these are still the major sins of God's people.
4. Let us study these sins.

I. SHE OBEYED NOT THE VOICE OF GOD

1. They heard God speak, but they took no heed -- Zeph. 3:7
2. They were rebellious and had hardness of heart and were filled with presumption.
   (1) Sins will bring about hardness of heart -- Heb. 3:13
3. Her prophets are described in verse 4 -- they deceived the people.
4. Her priests are described in verse 4.
5. God has spoken to the human family and to His people and it is sin not to obey His voice -- Heb. 1: 1 - 2; Matt. 17:5; Matt. 7: 21
6. His word is filled with solemn warning to sinners:
   (1) Acts 17: 30 - 31
   (2) Luke 13:3
   (3) Rom. 1:32
   (4) Rom. 2: 8 - 9
   (5) Mark 16:15 - 16
   (6) Heb. 9:27; Rev. 20: 11 -15
   (7) II Thess. 1: 8 - 9
   (8) II Cor. 5: 10
   (9) John 8: 24, 27
   (10) Matt. 25:41
   (11) Matt. 25: 30
7. His word extends the great and tender invitation -- Matt. 11: 28 - 30; Rev. 22:17
8. His Word extends His saving grace -- Tit. 2: 11 - 12; Acts 20:24; Eph. 2:8; Rom. 1:16
9. Sinner friend, to fail to obey the voice of God is SIN.

10. Many members of the church hear God speak, but obey not His voice:
   (1) He speaks on ATTENDANCE -- Heb. 10:25; Acts 2:42; 20:7; John 4:24
   (2) He speaks on GIVING -- I Cor. 16: 1 - 2; Acts 20:35
   (3) He speaks on a PURE LIFE -- Rom. 12:1 - 2; Rom. 6: 22; 6:12
   (4) He speaks on MODESTY -- I Tim. 2: 9 - 10
   (5) He speaks on LOVE OF BRETHREN -- I John 4:20; I Pet. 1:22
   (6) He speaks on ATTITUDES -- Phil. 2: 2 - 5

III. SHE RECEIVED NOT CORRECTION

1. God has always corrected His people -- Heb. 12: 5, 6 - 9; Rom. 5: 3 - 5
2. The church at Laodicea -- Rev. 3:19
3. God's Word is for CORRECTION -- II Tim. 3:16
4. The man of God, the preacher, is to use this Word to correct the sinful lives of God’s people -- II Tim. 4: 2 - 5
5. When correction is administered and we feel the correction, BUT are not instructed by it, we sin in our rebellion.
6. Brother and sister, what is your ATTITUDE toward the correction that comes from this pulpit??

III. SHE TRUSTED NOT IN THE LORD

1. She put her faith in false gods, in her military power, and in alliances with foreign nations.
2. Such "arms of flesh" utterly fail.
3. Brethren today put their trust in human wisdom, in money, and the innovations of men -- I Cor. 3:7; Isa. 55:11; I Cor. 2:4 - 5
4. God wants us to put our trust in Him -- Heb. 13: 5 - 6
   (1) He does not want us to worry about what we are going to eat, drink and put on -- Matt. 6: 24 - 33
   (2) David trusted in God -- Psa. 11: 1; Psa. 23:1; 16:1
   (3) Paul trusted in Christ -- Phil. 4:13
   (4) We are to trust in the Lord -- Eph. 6:10; Heb. 11:6; Rom. 4: 18 - 21

IV. SHE DREW NOT NEAR TO HER GOD

1. She did not draw near to God in faith and in supplication.
2. James said, "Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you" --James 4:8
3. We are to "draw nigh" to God in faith -- II Cor. 5:7; Heb. 11:6
4. We are to "draw nigh" to God in time of trouble -- I Pet. 5:7; Heb. 13:5
5. We are to "draw nigh" to God in worship -- John 4: 23 - 24
6. We are to "draw nigh" to God in prayer -- Phil. 4: 6 - 7; James 5:16
7. We develop a strong relationship with God by daily Bible study, prayer, meditation, teaching others, and trusting God for our needs.
CONCLUSION:

1. Friend, what is your relationship with God?? Matt. 15:8

2. Do you HEAR and OBEY His voice?

3. Do you take CORRECTION?

4. Do you TRUST in God?

5. Do you DRAW NIGH to God??

6. Won't you obey the gospel NOW?

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