



# STUDY GUIDE

Study Guide 4 of 4

## Zephaniah

A 4-part Study

Taught by Dr. Anne Davis

**Session 4:** End Times Prophecy

A BibleInteract Production

# Zephaniah

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**SUMMARY:** In Zephaniah chapter 3 we see that God’s judgment will be most severe on the political and religious leaders of His people. Then we see again that God will select a righteous remnant that will dwell in the Millennial Kingdom with the Lord God in their midst. Although many of Zephaniah’s prophecies were first fulfilled when the Babylonians took Israel into exile, Scripture offers multiple fulfillment of prophecy that gives us a glimpse of the prophetic future.

## WORDS TO BE DEFINED

1. Baptism by fire \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_
2. אָשָׁר \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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3. Daughter of Zion \_\_\_\_\_  
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## QUESTIONS FOR COMPREHENSION

1. What is meant by “end times” (be careful; don’t answer with your tradition). \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. Give three example of multiple fulfillment of prophecy. \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. What are the three baptisms in Matthew 3:11? What do all three have in common? What makes each one different? \_\_\_\_\_

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### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why does God hold the political and religious leaders of His people to a higher standard and judge them more severely than the rest of His people? Do you think this is fair? What kind of leadership role do you have in your own personal life? For example, do you have a role as a wife or husband or mother or father? How does Scripture instruct us on these roles, and to what extent will you be judged by God?

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2. In Matthew 3:11 we read about baptism by fire and its relation to judgement. Consider the following verses in their context and take brief notes on their meaning.

Malachi 3:2 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Genesis 19:24 \_\_\_\_\_  
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1 Kings 18:38 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Exodus 29:18 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Romans 12:1 \_\_\_\_\_  
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a. What kind of interpretation do you get if you treat these verses literally about God's judgement? How has this literal interpretation affected Christian theology?  
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b. How does fire act as a metaphor? Remember that a metaphor is an extended symbol that removes "like" or "as". \_\_\_\_\_  
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c. How does fire act as an important feature in the ancient practice of sacrificing animals to God? \_\_\_\_\_  
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d. Now that animal sacrifice has ended, and believers in Christ have the gift of the Holy Spirit, how does Paul explain the higher principal of sacrifice to believers in Christ in Romans 12:1-2? \_\_\_\_\_  
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e. How can a believer in Christ be a living sacrifice? \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. Read the following verses and take brief notes about God “testing” His people.

Exodus 15:25 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Exodus 6:4 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Exodus 17:2, 7 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Exodus 20:20 \_\_\_\_\_  
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a. How and why does God test His people? \_\_\_\_\_  
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b. How do we test God? \_\_\_\_\_  
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4. Now read the following verses in their context and take brief notes on the meaning.

1 Peter 1:7 \_\_\_\_\_  
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1 Corinthians 3:15 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Isaiah 4:4 \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

Jeremiah 11:20 \_\_\_\_\_  
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a. What does it mean to be metaphorically “tested by fire”? What makes this phrase a metaphor? What is its relationship to judgment? \_\_\_\_\_  
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b. 1 Corinthians 3:15 is a powerful verse. How is the burning of a man’s work related to God’s judgment? What does it mean that we can be saved through fire? \_\_\_\_\_  
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c. Luke 3:17 tells us that the “chaff” will be burned up. What does the chaff represent? \_\_\_\_\_  
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d. Explain “the spirit of judgment and the spirit of burning” in Isaiah 4:4. \_\_\_\_\_  
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e. In Jeremiah 11:20 we are told that God “tries [examines] the feelings and the heart.” Look up in a concordance the Hebrew word translated “feelings” to determine its Hebraic meaning. What is the relationship between the heart and the “feelings”? \_\_\_\_\_  
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