

h Meaning, **8** God was not angrie with **8** waters, but **8** by this means he wolde destroy his enemies and deliuer his Church.
i And so didest vse all **8** elements as instrumēt for the destruction of thine enemies
k That is, thy power
l For he had not only made a covenant wth Abraham, but renewed it with his posteritie.
m Read Nom 30.11
n He alludeth to **8** red sea & Iordē, which **8** sue passage to Gods people, & shewed signes of their obedience, as it were by lifting vp of their hands
o As appeareth Ioh 10. 12.
p According to thy cōmandement the same was directed by the weapons of thy people, that fought in thy cause, as though it durst not go forwarde
q Signifying that there is no saluation, but by Christ.
r From the top to the toe thou hast destroyed the enemies.

8 Was the Lord angrie against the **8** riuers: or was thine angrie against the floods: or was thy wrath against the sea, that thou didest ride vpon thine horses? thy charrettes brought saluation.
9 Thy **8** bowe was manifestely reueiled, & the **8** othes of the tribes were a sure worde, Sélah. **8** didest cleaue the earth with riuers.
10 The mountaines sawe thee, and they trembled: the streame of the water **8** passed by: the depe made a noise, and lift vp his hand on hie.
11 The **8** sunne and moone stood stil in their habitation: **8** at the light of thine arrowes they went, and at the bright shining of thy speares.
12 Thou trodest downe the land in angrie, and didest thresh the heathen in displeasure.
13 Thou wentest forthe for the saluation of thy people, *even* for saluation with thine **8** Anointed: thou hast wounded the head of the house of the wicked, and discourdest the foundations vnto the **8** necke, Sélah.

14 Thou didest **8** strike thorowe with his owne itaues the heades of his villages: they came out as a whirlewinde to scatter me: their reioycing was as to deuoure the poore secretly.
15 Thou didest walke in the sea with thine horses vpon the heape of great wateis.
16 When I **8** heard, my belie trembled: my lippes shoke at the voyce: **8** ottēnes entred into my bones, and I trembled in my selfe, that I might rest in **8** the day of trouble: for when he cometh vp **8** vnto the people, he shal destroy them.
17 For the figtre shal not flourish, nether shal frute *be* in the vines: the labour of the oliue shal fail, and the fieldes shal yelde no meat: the shepe shalbe cut of from the folde, and there shalbe no bullocke in the stalles.
18 But I wil reioyce in the Lord: I wil ioy **8** in the God of my saluation.
19 The Lord God *is* my strength: he wil make my fete like hinds fete, & he wil make me to walke vpon mine hie places. **8** To the chief singer on Neginothái.

8 God destroyed his enemies bothe great and small with their owne weapōs, though they were neuer so fierce against his Church.
8 He returneth to that which he spake in **8** 2. ver and sheweth how he was afraid of Gods iudgements.
8 He sheweth that **8** faithful can neuer haue true rest, except they fele before **8** weight of Gods iudgements.
8 That is, the enemies but **8** godlie shalbe quiet, **8** nowig that all things shal turne to good vnto the **8**.
8 He declareth wherein standeth the comfort & ioy of the faithful, though they se neuer so great afflictions prepared
8 The chief singer vpon the instrumentes of musicke shal haue occasion to praise God for **8** is great deliuerance of his Church.

ZEPHANIAH.

THE ARGUMENT.

Seeing the gre t rebellion of the people, and that there was now no hope of amendement, he denounceth the great iudgement of God, which was at hand, shewing that their countrey shulde be viterly destroyed, and they caried away captiues by the Babylonians. Yet for the comfort of the faithful he prophesied of Gods vengeance against their enemies, as the Philistims, Moabites, Assyrians and others, to assure them that God had a continual care over them. And as the wicked shulde be punished for their sinnes and transgressions: so he exhorteth the godlie to pacience, and to trust to finde mercie by reason of the fre promes of God made vnto Abraham: and therefore quietly to abyde til God shewe them the effect of that grace, whereby in the end they shulde be gathered vnto him, and counted as his people and children.

CHAP. I.

Threatnings against Iudáh and Ierusalém, because of their idolatry.



He worde of the Lord, which came vnto Zephaniáh the sonne of Cushi, the sonne of Gedaliáh, the sonne of Amariáh, the sonne of Hizkiáh, in the daies of **8** Iosiáh, the sonne of **8** Amón King of Iudáh.

8 King 22.1.
8 King 21.19
8 Noe **8** God was angrie wth these cumme creatures, but because man was so wicked for whole cause they were created, God maketh them to take parte of the punishment with him.

1 I wil surely destroy all things frō of the land, saith the Lord.
2 I wil destroy man and beast: I wil destroy the **8** foules of the heauen, & the fish of the sea, & iuines shalbe to the wicked, & I wil cut of man from of the land, saith **8** Lord.

4 I wil also stretche out mine hand vpō Iudáh, and vpon all the inhabitāts of Ierusalém, & I wil cut of the remnāt of Bál frō this place, and the names of the **8** Chemarims with the Priestes,
5 And them that worship the hoste of heauen vpon the house toppes, and them that worship and swear by the Lord, and by **8** Malchám,
6 And them that are turned backe frō the Lord, and those that haue not fought the Lord, nor inquired for him.
7 Be stil at the presence of the Lord God: for the day of the Lord is at hand: for the Lord hath prepared a sacrifice, & hath sanctified his ghestes.

8 Which were an order of superstitious men appointed to minister in the seruice of Bál, and were as his peculiar chapelens, read 2. King 23.5: ho-sea 10.5
8 He alludeth to their idole Molech, which was for bidden Leu. 20.2, yet they called him their king and made him as a god: therefore he here noteth them that wil bothe saye they worship God, & yet will swear by idoles and serue them: which halting is here cōdemned, as Exek 10.39 2. king 17.35.

teeth them that wil bothe saye they worship God, & yet will swear by idoles and serue them: which halting is here cōdemned, as Exek 10.39 2. king 17.35.

8 And it shalbe in the day of the Lords sacrifice, that I wil visite the princes & the Kings children, and all such as ate clothed with d strange apparel.

9 In the same day also wil I visit all those that e dance vpon the thresholde so proudly, which fil their masters houses by crueltie and deceit.

10 And in that day, saith y Lord, there shalbe a novce, and crye from the f nith gate, & an howling fro the seconde gate, & a great destruction from the hilles.

11 Howle ye inhabitants of s the lowe place: for the cöpanie of the marchants is destroyed: all thei that bare siluer, are cut of.

12 And at that time wil I seache Ierusalem with b lightes, and visite the men that are frosen i in their dregges, & say in their hearts, The Lord wil nether do good nor do euil.

13 Therefore their goods shalbe spoiled, & their houses waite: * thei shal also buylde houses, but not inhabit them, and thei shal plant vineyardes, but not drinke the wine thereof.

14 The great day of the Lord is nere: it is nere, and hasteth greatly, euen the voyce of the day of the Lord: b the strong man shal crye there bitterly.

15 * That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and heauines, a day of destruction and desolation, a day of obscuritie and darkenes, a day of cloudes & blackenes,

16 A day of the trumpet and alarime against the strong cities, & against the hie towres.

17 And I wil bring distress vpon men, that thei shal walke like blinde men, because thei haue sinned against the Lord, and their blood shalbe powred out as dust, and their flesh as the dongue.

18 * Nether their siluer nor their golde shal be able to deliuer them in the day of the Lords wrath, but the * whole land shalbe deuoured by the fyre of his ielousie: for he shal make euen a speedieriddance of all the that dwell in the land.

CHAP. II.

He moueth to returne to God, s Prophecying destruction against the Philistims, Moabites & others.

1 **G**Ather a your selues, euen gather you, O thei a nation not worthy to be loued,

2 Before the decre come forthe, and ye be as chaffe that passeth in a day, & before the fierce wrath of the Lord come vpon you, & before the day of the Lords angre come vpon you.

3 Seke ye the Lord all the meke of y earth, which b haue wrought his iudgement: seke righteousnes, seke lowlines, if so be that ye may be hid in the day of the Lords wrath.

4 For c Azzáh shal be forsaken, and Ashkelón

desolate: thei shal driue out Ashdód at the none day, & Ekrón shal be rooted vp.

5 **W**O vnto y inhabitants of the sea d coast: the nation of the Cherethims, the worde of the Lord is against you: ó Canaan, the land of the Philistims, I wil euen destroy thee without an inhabitant.

6 And the sea coast shalbe dwellings & cottages for shepherdes and shepfoldes.

7 And that coast shal be for the e remnant of the house of Iudáh, to fede thereupon: in the houses of Ashkelón shal thei lodge towarde night: for y Lord their God shal visite them, & turne away their captiuitie.

8 I haue heard the reproche of Moab, and the rebukes of the children of Ammón, whereby they vbraided my people, and smagnified the selues against their borders.

9 Therefore, as I liue, saith the Lord of hostes, the God of Israél, surely Moab shal be as Sodóm, and the children of Ammón as Gomoráh, euen the breeding of nettels and salt pittes, and a perpetual desolation: the residue of my folke shal spoile them, & the remnant of my people shal possesse them.

10 This shal thei haue for their pride, because thei haue reproched and magnified the selues against the Lord of hostes people.

11 The Lord wil be terrible vnto the s: for he wil consume all the gods of the earth, and euerie man shal worship him fro his place, euen all the yles of the heathen.

12 Ye Moriás also shalbe slaine by my sworde with them.

13 And he wil stretche out his hand against the North, and destroy Ashúr, and wil make Nineuéh desolate, and waste like a wilderness.

14 And flockes shal lie in the middes of her, and all the beastes of the nations, and the pellicane, & the owle shal abide in the vpper postes of it: the voyce of birdes shal sing in the windowes, and desolations shalbe vpon the postes: for the cedres are vncovered.

15 This is i the reioycing citie that dwelt carelesse, that said in her heart, I am, and there is none besides me: how is she made waste, and the lodging of the beastes! euerie one that passeth by her, shal hissle and wagge his hand.

CHAP. III.

4 Against the gouerners of Ierusalem. s Of the calling of all the Gentiles. 13 A comfort to the residue of Israél.

1 **W**O to her that is filthy and polluted, to the robbing a citie.

2 She heard not the voyce: she receiued not correctiö: she trusted not in the Lord: she drue not nere to her God.

3 Her prices within her are as roaring liös: her iudges are as * wolues in the euening, which

d Meaning the courtiers v did imitate y frage apparel of other nations to winne their fauour thereby, & to appeare glorious in y eyes of all other, read Eze. 23, 14

e He meaneth the seruantes of the rulers which made other mens houses and reioyce and leape for ioy whē they can get any pray to please their master with all

f Signifying y all y corners of the citie of Ierusalem shul be ful of trouble

g This is met of the strate of the marchātes which was lower then y rest of the place about it h So that nothing shal escape me

i By their profertie they are hardened in their wickednes

Deut 28, 30. amos 1, 11

k They that trusted in their owne strength and contemned the Prophets of God.

Ier 30, 7.

ioel 2, 11.

amos 1, 18. Ezek, 7, 19.

Chap. 3, 8.

a He exhortheth them to repentance & willecth them to descēd into them selues & gather them selues together, lest they be scattered like chaffe

b That is, w haue liued vprightly & godly according as he prescribeth by his worde

c He comforteth the faithful in that, y God wolde change his punishments from them vnto the Philistims their enemies and other nations.

d That is, G 11 like by the 50 uarios he meaneth the people that were to the Jewes and so head of it read this were met euen in their fore he callith them Canaanites vnto the Lord appointed to be named

e He sheweth why God wil destroy their enemies, because their countrey might be a resting place for his Church f These nations presumed to take from y Jewes that countrey w the Lord had giuen them.

g When he shal deliuer his people and destroy their enemies and idoles, his glorie shal shine through out all the worlde

h Read Isa. 34, 11 Or, in age bogge

i Meaning, Nineuéh, which reioycing so much of her strength and prosperitie, shulde be thus made waste & Gods people deliuered.

a That is, Ierusalem.

Ezek, 22, 27. msc 3, 11. Habak, 1, 8.

b They are so greedy y they eat vp bones and all
c The wicked thus boasted that God was euer among them, but the Prophet asweth that that can nor excuse their wickednes for God wil not beare with their finnes: yet that he did patiently abide and sent his Prophetes continually to call them to repénce, but he profited nothing.
d By the destruction of other nations: he sheweth that the Iewes shulde haue learned to feare God
e They were most earnest & reay to do wickedly
f Seing ye wil not repén, you shal loke for my vengeance aswel as other nations
g Let any shulde thinke that what Gods glorie shuld haue perished when Iudáh was destroyed, he sheweth that he wil publish his grace through all y world
h By with one shoulder, as Hof 6.9
i That is, the Iewes shal come aswel as y Gétilles: which is to be vnderstand vnder the tyme of the Gospel. For they shal haue full remission of their finnes: and the hypocrites which boasted of the Temple, which was also thy pride in tyme past, shal be taken from thee.

which^b leaue not the bones til the morowe.
 4 Her prophetes are light, & wicked persones: her priests haue polluted the Sanctuary: they haue wrested the Law.
 5 The iust Lord is in the middes thereof: he wil do none iniquitie: euery morning doeth he bring his iudgement to light, he faileth not: but the wicked wil not learne to be ashamed.
 6 I haue^d cut of the natiós: their towres are desolate: I haue made their streetes waste, that none shal passe by: their cities are destroyed without man and without inhabitant.
 7 I said, Surely thou wilt feare me: y wil receiue instruction: so their dwelling shulde not be destroyed how soeuer I visited the, but^e they rose early & corrupted all their workes.
 8 Therefore^f waite ye vpon me, saith the Lord, vntil the daye that I rise vp to the pray: for I am determined to gather the nations, and that I wil assemble the kingdoms to powre vpon them mine indignacion, *euén* all my fierce wrath: for all the earth shalbe deuoured with the fyre of my ielousie.
 9 Surely^g then wil I turne to the people a pure language, that they may all call vpon the Name of the Lord, to serue him with one consent.
 10 From beyonde the riuers of Ethiopia, the^h daughter of my dispersed, praying vnto me, shal bring me an offering.
 11 In that daye shalt thou not be ashamed for all thy workes, wherein thou hast transgressed against me: for then I wil take away out of the middes of thee them that reioyce of thy pride, & thou shalt no more be proude of mine holie Mountaine.
 12 Then wil I leaue in the middes of thee an humble and poore people: and they shal trust in the Name of the Lord.
 13 The remnant of Israél shal do none iniquitie, nor speake lies: nether shal a deceitful tongue be founde in their mouth: for they shalbe fed, and lie downe, and none shal make them afraid.
 14 Reioyce, *o* daughter Ziön: be ye ioyful, *o* Israél: be glad and reioyce with all thine heart, *o* daughter Ierusalém.
 15 The Lord hathe taken away thy iudgements: he hathe cast out thineⁱ enimie: the King of Israél, *euén* the Lord is in the middes of^m thee: thou shalt se no more euil.
 16 In that day it shalbe said to Ierusalém, Feare thou not, *o* Ziön: let not thine háds be faint.
 17 The Lord thy God in y middes of thee is mightie: he wil saue, he wil reioyce ouer thee with ioye: he wil quiet him self in his loue: he wil reioyce ouer thee with ioye.
 18 After a certine time wil I gather the afflicted that were of thee, & them that bare the reproche for^o it.
 19 Beholde, at that time I wil bruisse all that afflict thee, & I wil saue her that halteth, and gather her that was cast out, and I wil get them praise and fame in all the lands of their shame.
 20 At that time wil I bring you againe, & then wil I gather you: for I wil giue you a name and a praise amog all people of the earth, when I turne backe your captiuitie before your eyes, saith the Lord.

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k That is, y punishment for thy sinne
l As the Assyrians, Caldeas, Egyptians, and other nations
m To defende thee as by thy finnes thou hast put him away and left thy selfe naked. as Exod. 32.25
n Signifying, y God deliuereth to shewe his loue and great affection toward his Church
o That is, them that were had in hatred and reuiled for y Church and because of their religion.
p I wil deliuer the Church w now is afflicted, as Micah 4.6
q As among the Assyrians and Caldeans y did mocke them and put the to shame.

H A G G A I.

T H E A R G U M E N T.

When the time of the seuentie yeres captiuitie prophesied by Ieremiah, was expired, God raised vp Haggái, Zechariah and Malachi to comforte the Iewes and to exhorie them to the buylding of the Temple, which was a figure of the spiritual Temple and Church of God, whose perfection and excellencie stod: in Christ. And because that all were giuen to their owne pleasures & commodines, he declareth that that plague of famine, which God sent them among them, was a iuste rewarde of their ingratitude, in that they contemned Gods honour, who had deliuered them. Yet he comforteth them, if they wil returne to the Lord, with the promes of greater felicitie, forasmuche as the Lord wil finish the worke that he hathe begonne, and send Christ whome he had promised, and by whome they shulde attaine to pursue ioy and glorie.