

## **Why the People Perish**

by Tim Dooley Zephaniah was a descendant of good King Hezekiah and was contemporary with Jeremiah and Habakkuk. He prophesied in the days of King Josiah and undoubtedly had some impact on the king's efforts to reform the spiritual climate of the Northern Kingdom of Judah.

As one will notice from the other prophets it is common to declare what exactly the people had done (and were doing) that would bring about God's wrath and judgment on the people. Hosea spoke the word of the Lord saying, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being My priest. Since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children" (Hosea 4:6).

Zephaniah gives four clearly defined faults in Zeph. 3:2 which would lead to the demise of the people:

- Jerusalem did not obey the voice of God.
- She would not be corrected.
- She did not put her trust in the Lord.
- She would not draw near to Him.

Men are no different today and neither is the Lord (Hebrews 13:8). Many in our nation and, yes, even in the church, refuse to obey, will not be told they are wrong without getting angry and defensive, do not truly trust in the Lord by following His Word, and continually move further and further away from God and move closer and closer to hell.

In order to be spiritually blessed by God and saved when this life is over it is imperative that every accountable man and woman:

Obey Him: "When the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. (2 Thess. 1:7-8).

When we sin we must allow His Word to correct us: "For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation; but the sorrow of the world produces death" (2 Corinthians 7:10). "Furthermore, we had earthly fathers to discipline us, and we respected them; shall we not much rather be subject to the Father of spirits, and live?" (Hebrews 12:9).

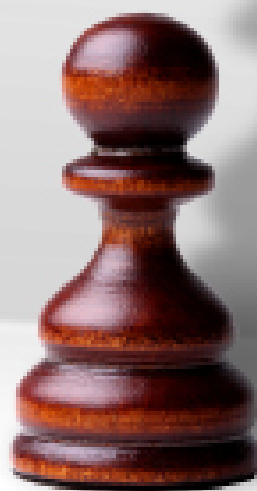
We must put our trust in the Lord: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5).

And we must draw near to Him: "Let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water" (Hebrews 10:22).

Where am I lacking in saving myself from this crooked generation (Acts 2:40)? We must die to ourselves and live to righteousness in this world (1 Peter 2:24) if we hope to live with Him in eternity. Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38), confess His name with your words and your life (Matthew 10:32 – 33), and be faithful (Revelation 2:10; Matthew 25:21, 23).

# JESUS

## THE PERFECT LEADER



### THE WESTHILL SUMMER SERIES 2015

Compassionate Leader (June 3) • Servant Leader (June 10) • Redeeming Leader (June 17) • Humble Leader (June 24) • Bold Leader (July 1) • Forgiving Leader (July 8) • Visionary Leader (July 22)  
Motivating Leader (July 29) • Transformational Leader (August 5) • Prayerful Leader (August 12)  
Charismatic Leader (August 19) • Sacrificial Leader (August 26)

# Correspondence/Encouragement

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## Mission Works

### **Westhill Works**

Benevolence Program

### **Local Works**

Cherokee Children's Home - www.chc4kids.org  
House to House, Heart to Heart  
Preaching Students - Southwest School of Bible Studies  
The Truth in Love - www.ttil.tv  
WVBS Online School - school.wvbs.org

### **Prison Works**

La Poynor Prison Ministry - Steve & Carrie Handley

### **Foreign Works**

New Zealand Harvest Missions - James & Emily Cammock

## Leadership

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Cory Myers - 512.627.6672 (Youth & Family)  
Tim Cooke - 903.641.5515 (Seniors)

# Prayer List

**Julie Dilbeck** will be receiving her fourth treatment tomorrow.

**Meagan Gould** has begun treatments in a clinical trial. Please, continue to pray.

**Eric Robinson** and his family lost their home in a fire. If you'd like to help them financially, see James Olsen or the office.

**Eddie Villarreal** and his family lost their home in a fire. They are friends of the Baumgartners.

**Our Love and Sympathy** are extended to Melba & Eleanor Bower at the passing of Melba's sister-in-law. Her service was held Saturday in Hillsboro. Please, keep their whole family in your prayers.

**Continue to Remember:** J.D. Beggs, Don Bowen, Mary Butler, Florence Dickey, Pat Ellis, Buster Hayes, Velma McDougald, Eula Parrish, Mildred Wooten, Gerry Harris, Howie Hawkins, Marie Mayes, Dalton McCullough, Patty McGee, Jayme Schafer.

**Service Men:** Clay Bayes, Jason Book, Alston Compton, Robert Johnson, Ryan Payne, Douglas Ramsey, Ryan Stewart, Morgan Weaver, and Payton Weaver

**Granbury Street Church of Christ** in Cleburne is hosting a series of gospel lessons on "The Christian World View" with guest speaker Richard Melson September 27-30.

### Birthdays This Week

August 24 - Christine Howard, Darlyn Olsen

August 28 - Charlotte Weaver, Pat Wheat

August 29 - Lee Owens

**Next Week's Class** Overview of Minor Prophets  
Hosea - Malachi

### Records for August 16, 2015

Bible Class .....	202
AM Worship.....	284
PM Worship.....	127
Wednesday .....	136
Contribution .....	\$8,471.47

# Announcements

"Dear Sweet Sisters in Christ, I just wanted to say thank you for the wonderful lunch you gave us after my grandmother's funeral service. It was so delicious and even better because I know it was given in love...I appreciate your hard work and thank you for your love." Cathy Haden Fuchs

**The Questionnaires** Cory passed out to the youth group and parents are due today.

**5th Sunday Next Week.** Everyone is invited to bring your favorite dish and stay for lunch together followed immediately by our 2<sup>nd</sup> service led by the young men of the congregation. There will not be a 6:00 PM service.

**Our Lectureship,** "The Power of One," is coming up October 11-14. Invitation cards are available at the back of the auditorium.

**Wylie Church of Christ** invites our ladies to their Ladies' Day, Saturday, September 12 at 9:00 AM.

## Privileged to Serve

<b>Song Leader</b>	David Baumgartner
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Russell Bankes
<b>Communion Leader</b>	Billy Roughton
<b>Communion Servers</b>	
Bryan Bearden	Carter Bearden
Dan Gibson	Jim Haden
Joshua Haden	Nick Hoffman
Ricky Jennings	Darrell Olsen
Eric Olsen	George Schmidt
Dalton Shastid	David Shastid
Paul Stewart	
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Darrell Olsen
<b>Nursery</b>	Josie Horn & Korri Owens
<b>PM Song Leader</b>	David Dilbeck
<b>PM Opening Prayer</b>	Wade Hall
<b>PM Closing Prayer</b>	Brody Owens
<b>Wed. Song Leader</b>	Tyler Baumgartner
<b>Summer Series</b>	Wayne Jones
<b>August Contact Elder</b>	Paul Stewart - 903.872.3464