

COME BACK

Purifying Love | Zephaniah

1. What does the phrase *“love that refines, not destroys”* mean to you? Can you think of a time when God’s correction felt painful but was ultimately loving? How can we distinguish between God’s judgment meant for destruction and His purification meant for renewal?
2. Zephaniah’s prophecy combines both the thunder of judgment and the melody of redemption. Why do you think we need both messages in our spiritual life?
3. Josiah reformed the people’s behaviour; Zephaniah called for a reformation of the heart. Why are both necessary for true revival? How does Josiah’s courage to seek God despite his family’s sinful legacy inspire us to break negative patterns in our own lives or families?
4. What might a “double team effect” look like in today’s Church or community—when truth and leadership, or word and action, walk hand in hand? Where do you see the need for both prophetic voices and faithful leadership in our current culture?
5. Zephaniah begins with God saying, *“I will sweep away everything from the face of the earth.”* How does this image make you feel about God’s holiness? Chris described God’s wrath as *“the shadow side of His love.”* What does that mean? How can anger and love coexist in God?
6. Why do we often seek God’s comfort without His correction? What helps you welcome His refining work instead of resisting it?
7. Zephaniah 2:3 says, *“Seek the Lord...perhaps you may be hidden on the day of the Lord’s anger.”* What does the word “perhaps” tell us about God’s heart? How can God’s confrontation of sin actually be an invitation to mercy? Why is God’s purification described not as punishment, but as preparation? What is He preparing His people for?
8. Zephaniah 3:17 says, *“He will rejoice over you with singing.”* How does the image of God singing over His people change the way you see Him? What might it look like for you personally to live as someone God delights in, not just someone He forgives?
9. In what ways can the Church today embody Zephaniah’s message — confronting sin, calling to repentance, and celebrating redemption? How can we keep our hearts aligned with both the voice of conviction and the hand of action in our walk with God?



What did you discover about God in this passage?
What did you discover about people in this passage?
How will you commit to obey this passage this week?
With whom will you share what you have learned?

