

Hide Or Be Hidden

(Zephaniah 1:12; 2:3)

- Introduction:
1. We all have probably played the game Hide and Seek.
 - a. If you have played with children, you will understand that the “art” of hiding is an acquired ability.
 - b. Children have to learn such lessons as “sound travels,” and “one has to be out of sight to be hidden.”
 2. Zephaniah tell us that we have the choice of “hiding” or “being hidden.”
 3. Let’s take a brief look at this obscure book and see what we can learn.

I. Background to the Book of Zephaniah

- A. Zephaniah was written just prior to Judah being overrun and disciplined by God through the Babylonians.
- B. Zephaniah’s message was two part
 1. Judgment is coming (Zephaniah 1:1-3:8).
 2. Restoration follows judgment (Zephaniah 3:9-20)

II. Sins For Which They Were Guilty

- A. Mixed loyalties (Zephaniah 1:4-5).
- B. Backsliders (Zephaniah 1:5-6).
- C. Complacency (Zephaniah 1:12; 2 Peter 3:4).

III. The Choice: To Hide Or Be Hidden

- A. If we choose to hide...
 1. It is God who searches for us.
 2. You will be exposed.
 3. (Zephaniah 1:12)
 4. (Ecclesiastes 12:14;
- B. If we choose to be hidden...
 1. Our sins will be covered.
 2. (Zephaniah 2:3).
 3. (Romans 4:7).
 4. (Romans 8:31-34).

- Conclusion:
1. The “Day of the Lord” came upon Judah and the people were carried away into captivity.
 2. Likewise, there will be another great “Day of the Lord” in which none shall be able to hide from his presence.
 3. Our only hope is to be hidden by him.