

Rejoice Over Our Coming Salvation

Promise: repentant faith in Christ is undeservedly & richly rewarded

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Zephaniah 3:14-20; Psalm 85; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 7:18-28
(Third Sunday in Advent, 12/12/21)

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. – v. 17

Lead In – In this penitential season of Advent, the emphasis on repentance is not devoid of joy. Especially on the Third Sunday of Advent there is mention of rejoicing in the coming of our salvation. The Lord himself is spoken of as one who will save and rejoice over us with gladness! And where we are situated in this age, we can rejoice that our salvation has come, is coming, and will come. For indeed, Christ has come, continues to come, and will come again at the end of the age.

I. Too Late to Avert Going into Captivity for Israel

- A. Zeph right with Jeremiah on coming judgment...
- B. But he speaks of a time after the judgment...
- C. The glorious, blessed kingdom of Christ!

II. The Lord Is Not Vindictive, As Are We

III. He Would Have Us Comforted, Even When Punished

- A. He will take away the punishment we deserve...
- B. The mighty one will be in our midst to rescue...
- C. Rejoicing beyond comprehension and imagination!

Parting Shot – The faithful remnant along with prophets like Zephaniah looked forward to our day! Although they may have been a little surprised that after the advent of the Lord there would be a visible removal before a final advent. But the signs of wonders that accompanied Christ, and most especially his conquering of the grave by his death and resurrection would have assured them that sin, death, and the enemy has been defeated. That would provide plenty of rejoicing, even as we are sustained by Word and Sacrament, until all is restored. Rejoice, brothers and sisters, even during the days of pilgrimage. Christ has come, he continues to come, and he will come again!

Zp 1:4 I will stretch out my hand against Judah and against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Zp 1:12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do ill.'

Zp 3:8 "Therefore wait for me," declares the Lord, "for the day when I rise up to seize the prey. For my decision is to gather nations, to assemble kingdoms, to pour out upon them my indignation, all my burning anger; for in the fire of my jealousy all the earth shall be consumed."

Zp 3:9-13 "For at that time I will change the speech of the peoples to a pure speech, that all of them may call upon the name of the Lord and serve him with one accord. ... On that day you shall not be put to shame because of the deeds by which you have rebelled against me; for then I will remove from your midst your proudly exultant ones, and you shall no longer be haughty in my holy mountain. But I will leave in your midst a people humble and

Zephaniah 3:14-20 ESV

Israel's Joy and Restoration

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout,

O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!

¹⁵ **The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies.** The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷ **The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.** ¹⁸ I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. ¹⁹ Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰ At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the Lord.

lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord, those who are left in Israel; they shall do no injustice and speak no lies, nor shall there be found in their mouth a deceitful tongue. For they shall graze and lie down, and none shall make them afraid."

Ez 18:23 Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, declares the Lord God, and not rather that he should turn from his way and live?

1Ti 2:4 [God our Savior] desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Pr 3:11-12 My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of his reproof, for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.

He 12:6-7 For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives. It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?

Mt 13:17 For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

Rejoice Over Our Coming Salvation

Promise: repentant faith in Christ is undeservedly & richly rewarded

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Zephaniah 3:14-20; Psalm 85; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 7:18-28
(Third Sunday in Advent, 12/12/21)

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. – v. 17

Lead In – In this penitential season of Advent, the emphasis on repentance is not devoid of joy. Especially on the Third Sunday of Advent there is mention of rejoicing in the coming of our salvation. The Lord himself is spoken of as one who will save and rejoice over us with gladness! And where we are situated in this age, we can rejoice that our salvation has come, is coming, and will come. For indeed, Christ has come, continues to come, and will come again at the end of the age.

I. Too Late to Avert Going into Captivity for Israel

- A. Zeph right with Jeremiah on coming judgment...
- B. But he speaks of a time after the judgment...
- C. The glorious, blessed kingdom of Christ!

II. The Lord Is Not Vindictive, As Are We

III. He Would Have Us Comforted, Even When Punished

- A. He will take away the punishment we deserve...
- B. The mighty one will be in our midst to rescue...
- C. Rejoicing beyond comprehension and imagination!

Parting Shot – The faithful remnant along with prophets like Zephaniah looked forward to our day! Although they may have been a little surprised that after the advent of the Lord there would be a visible removal before a final advent. But the signs of wonders that accompanied Christ, and most especially his conquering of the grave by his death and resurrection would have assured them that sin, death, and the enemy has been defeated. That would provide plenty of rejoicing, even as we are sustained by Word and Sacrament, until all is restored. Rejoice, brothers and sisters, even during the days of pilgrimage. Christ has come, he continues to come, and he will come again!

Zp 1:4 I will stretch out my hand against Judah and against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

Zp 1:12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do ill.'

Zp 3:8 "Therefore wait for me," declares the Lord, "for the day when I rise up to seize the prey. For my decision is to gather nations, to assemble kingdoms, to pour out upon them my indignation, all my burning anger; for in the fire of my jealousy all the earth shall be consumed."

Zp 3:9-13 "For at that time I will change the speech of the peoples to a pure speech, that all of them may call upon the name of the Lord and serve him with one accord. ... On that day you shall not be put to shame because of the deeds by which you have rebelled against me; for then I will remove from your midst your proudly exultant ones, and you shall no longer be haughty in my holy mountain. But I will leave in your midst a people humble and

Zephaniah 3:14-20 ESV

Israel's Joy and Restoration

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout,

O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!

¹⁵ **The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies.** The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. ¹⁷ **The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.** ¹⁸ I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. ¹⁹ Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰ At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the Lord.

lowly. They shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord, those who are left in Israel; they shall do no injustice and speak no lies, nor shall there be found in their mouth a deceitful tongue. For they shall graze and lie down, and none shall make them afraid."

Ez 18:23 Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked, declares the Lord God, and not rather that he should turn from his way and live?

1Ti 2:4 [God our Savior] desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Pr 3:11-12 My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of his reproof, for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.

He 12:6-7 For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives. It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?

Mt 13:17 For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

2Pe 3:9 The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.