

Zephaniah 3 • Restoration of Israel

Part One: People's Behavior

1. (v.1-2) The rebellious are biblically “**defiled**” because they are no longer spiritually **pure** and fit for His **service** as they once were. They become self-absorbed **tyrants** seeking to rule others in **God's** place.
2. (v.3-4) The rebellious get the **leaders** they deserve who lead away from **God's** path of eternal life to the **world's** path of inevitable destruction.
3. (v.5) God cannot, forever, **abide** the what results from **rebellion**.
4. (v.6-7) Rebellion is not just a **behavior**, but a **lifestyle** in direct contradiction to God's **preferences**.

Part Two: God's Response

5. (v.8) Everything **defiled** must be gathered together and **destroyed**.
6. (v.9) The opposite of rebellion is **faithfulness** to God's Word and ways. God always maintains a **faithful** remnant.
7. (v.10) God's remnant **maintains** the right spiritual condition necessary to **serve** Him in His presence, what He calls “**My worshipers**”.
8. (v.11-13) God will work spiritual **renewal** among those who seek to never leave His **presence** or **ways**.

Part Three: Restoration

9. The **physical** return of Israel is a prelude to the greater sign of their **spiritual** return.
10. (v.18-20) The faithful remnant restores **service** to God the way it should be because they **serve** Him from the **heart**. They are more concerned for “**Zion**” than “**Israel**”.