

A Message for the Jewish people

From

**The Lord God Almighty and The Holy Spirit**

To all Jewish leaders and to all Jewish people whom God loves so much. Please read this message patiently and to the end. This message is for the saving of God's beloved people: the Jewish nation.

**....for the LORD your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.**

*Deuteronomy Chapter 31; part of verse 6*

## 1. Micah

### Micah 2

<sup>13</sup> One who breaks open the way will go up before them; they will break through the gate and go out. Their king will pass through before them, the LORD at their head.

### Micah 5

#### A Promised Ruler From Bethlehem

<sup>1</sup> Marshal your troops, O city of troops, for a siege is laid against us. They will strike Israel's ruler on the cheek with a rod.

<sup>2</sup> But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labour gives birth and the rest of His brothers return to join the Israelites.

<sup>4</sup> He will stand and shepherd His flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD His God. And they will live securely, for then His greatness will reach to the ends of the earth.

<sup>5</sup> And He will be their peace.

#### Deliverance and Destruction

When the Assyrian invades our land and marches through our fortresses, we will raise against him seven shepherds, even eight leaders of men.

<sup>6</sup> They will rule the land of Assyria with the sword, the land of Nimrod with drawn sword. He will deliver us from the Assyrian when he invades our land and marches into our borders.

<sup>7</sup> The remnant of Jacob will be in the midst of many peoples like dew from the LORD, like showers on the grass, which do not wait for man or linger for mankind.

<sup>8</sup> The remnant of Jacob will be among the nations, in the midst of many peoples, like a lion among the beasts of the forest, like a young lion among flocks of sheep, which mauls and mangles as it goes, and no-one can rescue.

<sup>9</sup> Your hand will be lifted up in triumph over your enemies, and all your foes will be destroyed.

<sup>10</sup> In that day, declares the LORD, I will destroy your horses from among you and demolish your chariots.

<sup>11</sup> I will destroy the cities of your land and tear down all your strongholds.

<sup>12</sup> I will destroy your witchcraft and you will no longer cast spells.

<sup>13</sup> I will destroy your carved images and your sacred stones from among you; you will no longer bow down to the work of your hands.

<sup>14</sup> I will uproot from among you your Asherah poles and demolish your cities.

<sup>15</sup> I will take vengeance in anger and wrath upon the nations that have not obeyed me.

### **Micah 6**

<sup>8</sup> He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

### **Israel's Guilt and Punishment**

<sup>9</sup> Listen! The LORD is calling to the city — and to fear your name is wisdom — Heed the rod and the One who appointed it.

## **2. Nahum**

### **Nahum 1**

<sup>1</sup> An oracle concerning Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

### **The LORD's Anger Against Nineveh**

<sup>2</sup> The LORD is a jealous and avenging God; the LORD takes vengeance and is filled with wrath. The LORD takes vengeance on His foes and maintains His wrath against His enemies.

<sup>3</sup> The LORD is slow to anger and great in power; the LORD will not leave the guilty unpunished. His way is in the whirlwind and the storm, and clouds are the dust of His feet.

<sup>4</sup> He rebukes the sea and dries it up; He makes all the rivers run dry. Bashan and Carmel wither and the blossoms of Lebanon fade.

<sup>5</sup> The mountains quake before Him and the hills melt away. The earth trembles at His presence, the world and all who live in it.

<sup>6</sup> Who can withstand His indignation? Who can endure His fierce anger? His wrath is poured out like fire; the rocks are shattered before Him.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him,

<sup>8</sup> but with an overwhelming flood He will make an end of Nineveh; He will pursue His foes into darkness.

<sup>9</sup> Whatever they plot against the LORD He will bring to an end; trouble will not come a second time.

<sup>10</sup> They will be entangled among thorns and drunk from their wine; they will be consumed like dry stubble.

<sup>11</sup> From you, O Nineveh, has one come forth who plots evil against the LORD and counsels wickedness.

<sup>12</sup> This is what the LORD says: Although they have allies and are numerous, they will be cut off and pass away. Although I have afflicted you, O Judah, I will afflict you no more.

<sup>13</sup> Now I will break their yoke from your neck and tear your shackles away.

<sup>14</sup> The LORD has given a command concerning you, Nineveh: You will have no descendants to bear your name. I will destroy the carved images and cast idols that are in the temple of your gods. I will prepare your grave, for you are vile.

<sup>15</sup>Look, there on the mountains, the feet of one who brings good news, who proclaims peace! Celebrate your festivals, O Judah, and fulfil your vows. No more will the wicked invade you; they will be completely destroyed.

### **Nahum 2**

<sup>13</sup>I am against you, declares the LORD Almighty. I will burn up your chariots in smoke, and the sword will devour your young lions. I will leave you no prey on the earth. The voices of your messengers will no longer be heard.

### **Nahum 3**

<sup>19</sup> Nothing can heal your wound; your injury is fatal. Everyone who hears the news about you claps his hands at your fall, for who has not felt your endless cruelty?

## **3. Zephaniah**

### **Zephaniah 1**

<sup>17</sup> I will bring distress on the people and they will walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD.

### **Zephaniah 2**

<sup>3</sup> Seek the LORD, all you humble of the land, you who do what He commands. ....

### **Zephaniah 3**

#### **The Future of Jerusalem**

<sup>1</sup> Woe to the city of oppressors, rebellious and defiled!

<sup>2</sup> She obeys no-one, she accepts no correction. She does not trust in the LORD, she does not draw near to her God.

<sup>3</sup> Her officials are roaring lions, her rulers are evening wolves, who leave nothing for the morning.

<sup>4</sup> Her prophets are arrogant; they are treacherous men. Her priests profane the sanctuary and do violence to the law.

<sup>5</sup> The LORD within her is righteous; He does no wrong. Morning by morning He dispenses His justice, and every new day He does not fail, yet the unrighteous know no shame.

<sup>6</sup> I have cut off nations; their strongholds are demolished. I have left their streets deserted, with no-one passing through. Their cities are destroyed; no-one will be left — no-one at all.

<sup>7</sup> I said to the city, 'Surely you will fear me and accept correction!' Then her dwelling would not be cut off, nor all my punishments come upon her. But they were still eager to act corruptly in all they did.

<sup>8</sup> Therefore wait for me, declares the LORD, for the day I will stand up to testify. I have decided to assemble the nations, to gather the kingdoms and to pour out my wrath on them — all my fierce anger. The whole world will be consumed by the fire of my jealous anger.

<sup>9</sup> Then will I purify the lips of the peoples, that all of them may call on the name of the LORD and serve Him shoulder to shoulder.

<sup>10</sup> From beyond the rivers of Cush my worshippers, my scattered people, will bring me offerings.

<sup>11</sup> On that day you will not be put to shame for all the wrongs you have done to me, because I will remove from this city those who rejoice in their pride. Never again will you be haughty on my holy hill.

<sup>12</sup> But I will leave within you the meek and humble, who trust in the name of the LORD.

<sup>13</sup> The remnant of Israel will do no wrong; they will speak no lies, nor will deceit be found in their mouths. They will eat and lie down and no-one will make them afraid.

<sup>14</sup> Sing, O Daughter of Zion; shout aloud, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, O Daughter of Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup> The LORD has taken away your punishment, He has turned back your enemy. The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm.

<sup>16</sup> On that day they will say to Jerusalem, Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands hang limp.

<sup>17</sup> The LORD your God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.

<sup>18</sup> The sorrows for the appointed feasts I will remove from you; they are a burden and a reproach to you.

<sup>19</sup> At that time I will deal with all who oppressed you; I will rescue the lame and gather those who have been scattered. I will give them praise and honour in every land where they were put to shame.

<sup>20</sup> At that time I will gather you; at that time I will bring you home. I will give you honour and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes, says the LORD.

## **4. Isaiah**

### **Isaiah 2**

<sup>1</sup> This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:

<sup>2</sup> In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.

<sup>3</sup> Many peoples will come and say, Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us His ways, so that we may walk in His paths. The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

<sup>4</sup> He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war any more.

<sup>5</sup> Come, O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

### **The Day of the LORD**

<sup>6</sup> You have abandoned your people, the house of Jacob. They are full of superstitions from the East; they practise divination like the Philistines and clasp hands with pagans.

<sup>7</sup> Their land is full of silver and gold; there is no end to their treasures. Their land is full of horses; there is no end to the chariots.

<sup>8</sup> Their land is full of idols; they bow down to the work of their hands, to what their fingers have made.

<sup>9</sup> So man will be brought low and mankind humbled — do not forgive them.

<sup>10</sup> Go into the rocks, hide in the ground from dread of the LORD and the splendour of His majesty!

<sup>11</sup> The eyes of the arrogant man will be humbled and the pride of men brought low; the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.

<sup>12</sup> The LORD Almighty has a day in store for all the proud and lofty, for all that is exalted (and they will be humbled),

<sup>13</sup> for all the cedars of Lebanon, tall and lofty, and all the oaks of Bashan,

<sup>14</sup> for all the towering mountains and all the high hills,

<sup>15</sup> for every lofty tower and every fortified wall,

<sup>16</sup> for every trading ship and every stately vessel.

<sup>17</sup> The arrogance of man will be brought low and the pride of men humbled; the LORD alone will be exalted in that day,

<sup>18</sup> and the idols will totally disappear.

<sup>19</sup> Men will flee to caves in the rocks and to holes in the ground from the dread of the LORD and the splendour of His majesty, when He rises to shake the earth.

<sup>20</sup> In that day men will throw away to the rodents and bats their idols of silver and idols of gold, which they made to worship.

<sup>21</sup> They will flee to caverns in the rocks and to the overhanging crags from dread of the LORD and the splendour of His majesty, when He rises to shake the earth.

<sup>22</sup> Stop trusting in man, who has but a breath in his nostrils. Of what account is he?

### **Isaiah 6**

#### **Isaiah's Commission**

<sup>1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of His robe filled the temple.

<sup>2</sup> Above Him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying.

<sup>3</sup> And they were calling to one another: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of His glory.

<sup>4</sup> At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

<sup>5</sup> Woe to me! I cried. I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.

<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar.

<sup>7</sup> With it he touched my mouth and said, See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.

<sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send? And who will go for us? And I said, Here am I. Send me!

<sup>9</sup> He said, Go and tell this people:  
'Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.'

<sup>10</sup> Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.

<sup>11</sup> Then I said, For how long, O Lord? And He answered: Until the cities lie ruined and without inhabitant, until the houses are left deserted and the fields ruined and ravaged,

<sup>12</sup> until the LORD has sent everyone far away and the land is utterly forsaken.

### **Isaiah 29**

<sup>4</sup> Brought low, you will speak from the ground; your speech will mumble out of the dust. Your voice will come ghostlike from the earth; out of the dust your speech will whisper.

<sup>6</sup> the LORD Almighty will come with thunder and earthquake and great noise, with windstorm and tempest and flames of a devouring fire.

## **5. Hosea**

### **Hosea 6**

<sup>11</sup> Also for you, Judah, a harvest is appointed. Whenever I would restore the fortunes of my people.

## **6. Daniel**

### **Daniel 6**

<sup>27</sup> He rescues and He saves; He performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth.

### **Daniel 10**

<sup>21</sup> but first I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth.

### **Daniel 12**

<sup>10</sup> Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand.

## **7. Jeremiah**

### **Jeremiah 11**

<sup>21</sup> ..... 'Do not prophesy in the name of the LORD or you will die by our hands'

### **Jeremiah 13**

<sup>25</sup> This is your lot, the portion I have decreed for you, declares the LORD.....

## **8. Peter**

### **1 Peter 1**

#### **Praise to God for a Living Hope**

<sup>3</sup> Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

<sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade — kept in heaven for you,

<sup>6</sup> In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.

#### **Be Holy**

<sup>13</sup> Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed.

<sup>15</sup> But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;

<sup>20</sup> He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.

<sup>21</sup> Through Him you believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and glorified Him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

### **1 Peter 2**

<sup>4</sup> As you come to Him, the living Stone — rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to Him —

<sup>6</sup> For in Scripture it says: See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in Him will never be put to shame.

<sup>11</sup> Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul.

<sup>15</sup> For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men.

<sup>21</sup> To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in His steps.



## 9. Zechariah

### Zechariah 1

#### A Call to Return to the LORD

<sup>1</sup> In the eighth month of the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Zechariah son of Berekiah, the son of Iddo:

<sup>2</sup> The LORD was very angry with your forefathers.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore tell the people: This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'Return to me,' declares the LORD Almighty, 'and I will return to you,' says the LORD Almighty.

<sup>4</sup> Do not be like your forefathers, to whom the earlier prophets proclaimed: This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'Turn from your evil ways and your evil practices.' But they would not listen or pay attention to me, declares the LORD.

<sup>5</sup> Where are your forefathers now? And the prophets, do they live for ever?

<sup>6</sup> But did not my words and my decrees, which I commanded my servants the prophets, overtake your forefathers? Then they repented and said, 'The LORD Almighty has done to us what our ways and practices deserve, just as He determined to do.'

#### The Man Among the Myrtle Trees

<sup>7</sup> On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, the month of Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Zechariah son of Berekiah, the son of Iddo.

<sup>8</sup> During the night I had a vision — and there before me was a man riding a red horse! He was standing among the myrtle trees in a ravine. Behind him were red, brown and white horses.

<sup>9</sup> I asked, What are these, my lord? The angel who was talking with me answered, I will show you what they are.

<sup>10</sup> Then the man standing among the myrtle trees explained, They are the ones the LORD has sent to go throughout the earth.

<sup>11</sup> And they reported to the angel of the LORD, who was standing among the myrtle trees, We have gone throughout the earth and found the whole world at rest and in peace.

<sup>12</sup> Then the angel of the LORD said, LORD Almighty, how long will you withhold mercy from Jerusalem and from the towns of Judah, which you have been angry with these seventy years?

<sup>13</sup> So the LORD spoke kind and comforting words to the angel who talked with me.

<sup>14</sup> Then the angel who was speaking to me said, Proclaim this word: This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'I am very jealous for Jerusalem and Zion,

<sup>15</sup> but I am very angry with the nations that feel secure. I was only a little angry, but they added to the calamity.'

<sup>16</sup> Therefore, this is what the LORD says: 'I will return to Jerusalem with mercy, and there my house will be rebuilt. And the measuring line will be stretched out over Jerusalem,' declares the LORD Almighty.

<sup>17</sup> Proclaim further: This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'My towns will again overflow with prosperity, and the LORD will again comfort Zion and choose Jerusalem.'

#### **Four Horns and Four Craftsmen**

<sup>18</sup> Then I looked up — and there before me were four horns!

<sup>19</sup> I asked the angel who was speaking to me, What are these? He answered me, These are the horns that scattered Judah, Israel and Jerusalem.

<sup>20</sup> Then the LORD showed me four craftsmen.

<sup>21</sup> I asked, What are these coming to do? He answered, These are the horns that scattered Judah so that no-one could raise his head, but the craftsmen have come to terrify them and throw down these horns of the nations who lifted up their horns against the land of Judah to scatter its people.

#### **Zechariah 2**

<sup>12</sup> The LORD will inherit Judah as His portion in the holy land and will again choose Jerusalem.

<sup>13</sup> Be still before the LORD, all mankind, because He has roused Himself from His holy dwelling.

#### **Zechariah 4**

##### **The Gold Lampstand and the Two Olive Trees**

<sup>1</sup> Then the angel who talked with me returned and wakened me, as a man is wakened from his sleep.

<sup>2</sup> He asked me, What do you see? I answered, I see a solid gold lampstand with a bowl at the top and seven lights on it, with seven channels to the lights.

<sup>3</sup> Also there are two olive trees by it, one on the right of the bowl and the other on its left.

<sup>4</sup> I asked the angel who talked with me, What are these, my lord?

<sup>5</sup> He answered, Do you not know what these are? No, my lord, I replied.

<sup>6</sup> So he said to me, This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty.

<sup>7</sup> What are you, O mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground. Then He will bring out the capstone to shouts of 'God bless it! God bless it!'

<sup>8</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to me:

<sup>9</sup> The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this temple; his hands will also complete it. Then you will know that the LORD Almighty has sent me to you.

<sup>10</sup> Who despises the day of small things? Men will rejoice when they see the plumb-line in the hand of Zerubbabel. (These seven are the eyes of the LORD, which range throughout the earth.)

<sup>11</sup> Then I asked the angel, What are these two olive trees on the right and the left of the lampstand?

<sup>12</sup> Again I asked him, What are these two olive branches beside the two gold pipes that pour out golden oil?

<sup>13</sup> He replied, Do you not know what these are? No, my lord, I said.

<sup>14</sup> So he said, These are the two who are anointed to serve the Lord of all the earth.

### **Zechariah 7**

<sup>10</sup> Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the alien or the poor.....

### **Zechariah 8**

#### **The LORD Promises to Bless Jerusalem**

<sup>1</sup> Again the word of the LORD Almighty came to me.

<sup>2</sup> This is what the LORD Almighty says: I am very jealous for Zion; I am burning with jealousy for her.

<sup>3</sup> This is what the LORD says: I will return to Zion and dwell in Jerusalem. Then Jerusalem will be called the City of Truth, and the mountain of the LORD Almighty will be called the Holy Mountain.

<sup>4</sup> This is what the LORD Almighty says: Once again men and women of ripe old age will sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with cane in hand because of his age.

<sup>5</sup> The city streets will be filled with boys and girls playing there.

<sup>6</sup> This is what the LORD Almighty says: It may seem marvellous to the remnant of this people at that time, but will it seem marvellous to me? declares the LORD Almighty.

<sup>7</sup> This is what the LORD Almighty says: I will save my people from the countries of the east and the west.

<sup>8</sup> I will bring them back to live in Jerusalem; they will be my people, and I will be faithful and righteous to them as their God.

<sup>9</sup> This is what the LORD Almighty says: You who now hear these words spoken by the prophets who were there when the foundation was laid for the house of the LORD Almighty, let your hands be strong so that the temple may be built.

<sup>10</sup> Before that time there were no wages for man or beast. No-one could go about his business safely because of his enemy, for I had turned every man against his neighbour.

<sup>11</sup> But now I will not deal with the remnant of this people as I did in the past, declares the LORD Almighty.

<sup>12</sup> The seed will grow well, the vine will yield its fruit, the ground will produce its crops, and the heavens will drop their dew. I will give all these things as an inheritance to the remnant of this people.

<sup>13</sup> As you have been an object of cursing among the nations, O Judah and Israel, so will I save you, and you will be a blessing. Do not be afraid, but let your hands be strong.

<sup>14</sup> This is what the LORD Almighty says: Just as I had determined to bring disaster upon you and showed no pity when your fathers angered me, says the LORD Almighty,

<sup>15</sup> so now I have determined to do good again to Jerusalem and Judah. Do not be afraid.

<sup>16</sup> These are the things you are to do: Speak the truth to each other, and render true and sound judgment in your courts;

<sup>17</sup> do not plot evil against your neighbour, and do not love to swear falsely. I hate all this, declares the LORD.

<sup>18</sup> Again the word of the LORD Almighty came to me.

<sup>19</sup> This is what the LORD Almighty says: The fasts of the fourth, fifth, seventh and tenth months will become joyful and glad occasions and happy festivals for Judah. Therefore love truth and peace.

<sup>20</sup> This is what the LORD Almighty says: Many peoples and the inhabitants of many cities will yet come,

<sup>21</sup> and the inhabitants of one city will go to another and say, 'Let us go at once to entreat the LORD and seek the LORD Almighty. I myself am going.'

<sup>22</sup> And many peoples and powerful nations will come to Jerusalem to seek the LORD Almighty and to entreat Him.

<sup>23</sup> This is what the LORD Almighty says: In those days ten men from all languages and nations will take firm hold of one Jew by the hem of his robe and say, 'Let us go with you, because we have heard that God is with you.'

### **Zechariah 9**

<sup>11</sup> As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit.

### **Zechariah 12**

<sup>3</sup> On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves.

**Zechariah 13** <sup>9</sup> .....They will call on my name and I will answer them; I will say, 'They are my people,' and they will say, 'The LORD is our God.'

### **Zechariah 14**

#### **The LORD Comes and Reigns**

<sup>1</sup> A day of the LORD is coming when your plunder will be divided among you.

<sup>2</sup> I will gather all the nations to Jerusalem to fight against it; the city will be captured, the houses ransacked, and the women raped. Half of the city will go into exile, but the rest of the people will not be taken from the city.

<sup>3</sup> Then the LORD will go out and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle.

<sup>4</sup> On that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, east of Jerusalem, and the Mount of Olives will be split in two from east to west, forming a great valley, with half of the mountain moving north and half moving south.

<sup>5</sup> You will flee by my mountain valley, for it will extend to Azel. You will flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD my God will come, and all the holy ones with Him.

<sup>6</sup> On that day there will be no light, no cold or frost.

<sup>7</sup> It will be a unique day, without daytime or night-time — a day known to the LORD. When evening comes, there will be light.

<sup>8</sup> On that day living water will flow out from Jerusalem, half to the eastern sea and half to the western sea, in summer and in winter.

<sup>9</sup> The LORD will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one LORD, and His name the only name.

<sup>10</sup> The whole land, from Geba to Rimmon, south of Jerusalem, will become like the Arabah. But Jerusalem will be raised up and remain in its place, from the Benjamin Gate to the site of the First Gate, to the Corner Gate, and from the Tower of Hananel to the royal winepresses.

<sup>11</sup> It will be inhabited; never again will it be destroyed. Jerusalem will be secure.

<sup>12</sup> This is the plague with which the LORD will strike all the nations that fought against Jerusalem: Their flesh will rot while they are still standing on their feet, their eyes will rot in their sockets, and their tongues will rot in their mouths.

<sup>13</sup> On that day men will be stricken by the LORD with great panic. Each man will seize the hand of another, and they will attack each other.

<sup>14</sup> Judah too will fight at Jerusalem. The wealth of all the surrounding nations will be collected — great quantities of gold and silver and clothing.

<sup>15</sup> A similar plague will strike the horses and mules, the camels and donkeys, and all the animals in those camps.

<sup>16</sup> Then the survivors from all the nations that have attacked Jerusalem will go up year after year to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, and to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.

<sup>17</sup> If any of the peoples of the earth do not go up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD Almighty, they will have no rain.

<sup>18</sup> If the Egyptian people do not go up and take part, they will have no rain. The LORD will bring on them the plague He inflicts on the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.

<sup>19</sup> This will be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not go up to celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles.

<sup>20</sup> On that day **HOLY TO THE LORD** will be inscribed on the bells of the horses, and the cooking pots in the LORD's house will be like the sacred bowls in front of the altar.

<sup>21</sup> Every pot in Jerusalem and Judah will be holy to the LORD Almighty, and all who come to sacrifice will take some of the pots and cook in them. And on that day there will no longer be a Canaanite in the house of the LORD Almighty.

## 10. Obadiah

### Obadiah 1

<sup>1</sup> The vision of Obadiah.

This is what the Sovereign LORD says about Edom — We have heard a message from the LORD: An envoy was sent to the nations to say, Rise, and let us go against her for battle —

<sup>2</sup> See, I will make you small among the nations; you will be utterly despised.

<sup>3</sup> The pride of your heart has deceived you, you who live in the clefts of the rocks and make your home on the heights, you who say to yourself, 'Who can bring me down to the ground?'

<sup>4</sup> Though you soar like the eagle and make your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down, declares the LORD.

<sup>5</sup> If thieves came to you, if robbers in the night — Oh, what a disaster awaits you — would they not steal only as much as they wanted? If grape pickers came to you, would they not leave a few grapes?

<sup>6</sup> But how Esau will be ransacked, his hidden treasures pillaged!

<sup>7</sup> All your allies will force you to the border; your friends will deceive and overpower you; those who eat your bread will set a trap for you, but you will not detect it.

<sup>8</sup> In that day, declares the LORD, will I not destroy the wise men of Edom, men of understanding in the mountains of Esau?

<sup>9</sup> Your warriors, O Teman, will be terrified, and everyone in Esau's mountains will be cut down in the slaughter.

<sup>10</sup> Because of the violence against your brother Jacob, you will be covered with shame; you will be destroyed for ever.

<sup>11</sup> On the day you stood aloof while strangers carried off his wealth and foreigners entered his gates and cast lots for Jerusalem, you were like one of them.

<sup>12</sup> You should not look down on your brother in the day of his misfortune, nor rejoice over the people of Judah in the day of their destruction, nor boast so much in the day of their trouble.

<sup>13</sup> You should not march through the gates of my people in the day of their disaster, nor look down on them in their calamity in the day of their disaster, nor seize their wealth in the day of their disaster.

<sup>14</sup> You should not wait at the crossroads to cut down their fugitives, nor hand over their survivors in the day of their trouble.

<sup>15</sup>The day of the LORD is near for all nations. As you have done, it will be done to you; your deeds will return upon your own head.

<sup>16</sup>Just as you drank on my holy hill, so all the nations will drink continually; they will drink and drink and be as if they had never been.

<sup>17</sup>But on Mount Zion will be deliverance; it will be holy, and the house of Jacob will possess its inheritance.

<sup>18</sup>The house of Jacob will be a fire and the house of Joseph a flame; the house of Esau will be stubble, and they will set it on fire and consume it. There will be no survivors from the house of Esau. The LORD has spoken.

<sup>19</sup>People from the Negev will occupy the mountains of Esau, and people from the foothills will possess the land of the Philistines. They will occupy the fields of Ephraim and Samaria, and Benjamin will possess Gilead.

<sup>20</sup>This company of Israelite exiles who are in Canaan will possess the land as far as Zarephath; the exiles from Jerusalem who are in Sepharad will possess the towns of the Negev.

<sup>21</sup>Deliverers will go up on Mount Zion to govern the mountains of Esau. And the kingdom will be the LORD's.

## **11. Habakkuk**

### **Habakkuk 1**

<sup>1</sup>The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet received.

#### **Habakkuk's Complaint**

<sup>2</sup>How long, O LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, Violence! but you do not save?

<sup>3</sup>Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds.

<sup>4</sup>Therefore the law is paralysed, and justice never prevails. The wicked hem in the righteous, so that justice is perverted.

#### **The LORD's Answer**

<sup>5</sup>Look at the nations and watch — and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told.

<sup>6</sup>I am raising up the Babylonians, that ruthless and impetuous people, who sweep across the whole earth to seize dwelling-places not their own.

<sup>7</sup>They are a feared and dreaded people; they are a law to themselves and promote their own honour.

<sup>8</sup>Their horses are swifter than leopards, fiercer than wolves at dusk. Their cavalry gallops headlong; their horsemen come from afar. They fly like a vulture swooping to devour;

<sup>9</sup> they all come bent on violence. Their hordes advance like a desert wind and gather prisoners like sand.

<sup>10</sup> They deride kings and scoff at rulers. They laugh at all fortified cities; they build earthen ramps and capture them.

<sup>11</sup> Then they sweep past like the wind and go on — guilty men, whose own strength is their god.

### **Habakkuk's Second Complaint**

<sup>12</sup> O LORD, are you not from everlasting? My God, my Holy One, we will not die. O LORD, you have appointed them to execute judgment; O Rock, you have ordained them to punish.

<sup>13</sup> Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrong. Why then do you tolerate the treacherous? Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves?

<sup>14</sup> You have made men like fish in the sea, like sea creatures that have no ruler.

<sup>15</sup> The wicked foe pulls all of them up with hooks, he catches them in his net, he gathers them up in his drag-net; and so he rejoices and is glad.

<sup>16</sup> Therefore he sacrifices to his net and burns incense to his drag-net, for by his net he lives in luxury and enjoys the choicest food.

<sup>17</sup> Is he to keep on emptying his net, destroying nations without mercy?

### **Habakkuk 2**

<sup>1</sup> I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what He will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint.

### **The LORD's Answer**

<sup>2</sup> Then the LORD replied:

Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it.

<sup>3</sup> For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.

<sup>4</sup> See, he is puffed up; his desires are not upright — but the righteous will live by his faith —

<sup>5</sup> indeed, wine betrays him; he is arrogant and never at rest. Because he is as greedy as the grave and like death is never satisfied, he gathers to himself all the nations and takes captive all the peoples.

<sup>6</sup> Will not all of them taunt him with ridicule and scorn, saying, 'Woe to him who piles up stolen goods and makes himself wealthy by extortion! How long must this go on?'

<sup>7</sup> Will not your debtors suddenly arise? Will they not wake up and make you tremble? Then you will become their victim.

<sup>8</sup> Because you have plundered many nations, the peoples who are left will plunder you. For you have shed man's blood; you have destroyed lands and cities and everyone in them.



<sup>9</sup>Woe to him who builds his realm by unjust gain to set his nest on high, to escape the clutches of ruin!

<sup>10</sup>You have plotted the ruin of many peoples, shaming your own house and forfeiting your life.

<sup>11</sup>The stones of the wall will cry out, and the beams of the woodwork will echo it.

<sup>12</sup>Woe to him who builds a city with bloodshed and establishes a town by crime!

<sup>13</sup>Has not the LORD Almighty determined that the people's labour is only fuel for the fire, that the nations exhaust themselves for nothing?

<sup>14</sup>For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

<sup>15</sup>Woe to him who gives drink to his neighbours, pouring it from the wineskin till they are drunk, so that he can gaze on their naked bodies.

<sup>16</sup>You will be filled with shame instead of glory. Now it is your turn! Drink and be exposed! The cup from the LORD's right hand is coming round to you, and disgrace will cover your glory.

<sup>17</sup>The violence you have done to Lebanon will overwhelm you, and your destruction of animals will terrify you. For you have shed man's blood; you have destroyed lands and cities and everyone in them.

<sup>18</sup>Of what value is an idol, since a man has carved it? Or an image that teaches lies? For he who makes it trusts in his own creation; he makes idols that cannot speak.

<sup>19</sup>Woe to him who says to wood, 'Come to life!' Or to lifeless stone, 'Wake up!' Can it give guidance? It is covered with gold and silver; there is no breath in it.

<sup>20</sup>But the LORD is in His holy temple; let all the earth be silent before Him.

### **Habakkuk 3**

<sup>19</sup>The Sovereign LORD is my strength; He makes my feet like the feet of a deer, He enables me to go on the heights.

## **12. Malachi**

### **Malachi 4**

#### **The Day of the LORD**

<sup>1</sup>Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire, says the LORD Almighty. Not a root or a branch will be left to them.

<sup>2</sup>But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall.

<sup>3</sup>Then you will trample down the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I do these things, says the LORD Almighty.

<sup>4</sup> Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel.

<sup>5</sup> See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes.

<sup>6</sup> He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse.

## **13. Amos**

### **Amos 2**

<sup>16</sup> Even the bravest warriors will flee naked on that day, declares the LORD.

### **Amos 3**

#### **Witnesses Summoned Against Israel**

<sup>1</sup> Hear this word the LORD has spoken against you, O people of Israel — against the whole family I brought up out of Egypt:

<sup>2</sup>You only have I chosen of all the families of the earth; therefore I will punish you for all your sins.

<sup>3</sup>Do two walk together unless they have agreed to do so?

<sup>4</sup> Does a lion roar in the thicket when he has no prey? Does he growl in his den when he has caught nothing?

<sup>5</sup> Does a bird fall into a trap on the ground where no snare has been set? Does a trap spring up from the earth when there is nothing to catch?

<sup>6</sup> When a trumpet sounds in a city, do not the people tremble? When disaster comes to a city, has not the LORD caused it?

<sup>7</sup>Surely the Sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing His plan to His servants the prophets.

<sup>8</sup>The lion has roared — who will not fear? The Sovereign LORD has spoken — who can but prophesy?

<sup>9</sup>Proclaim to the fortresses of Ashdod and to the fortresses of Egypt: Assemble yourselves on the mountains of Samaria; see the great unrest within her and the oppression among her people.

<sup>10</sup>They do not know how to do right, declares the LORD, who hoard plunder and loot in their fortresses.

<sup>11</sup>Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says: An enemy will overrun the land; he will pull down your strongholds and plunder your fortresses.

<sup>12</sup>This is what the LORD says: As a shepherd saves from the lion's mouth only two leg bones or a piece of an ear, so will the Israelites be saved, those who sit in Samaria on the edge of their beds and in Damascus on their couches.

<sup>13</sup>Hear this and testify against the house of Jacob, declares the Lord, the LORD God Almighty.

<sup>14</sup>On the day I punish Israel for her sins, I will destroy the altars of Bethel; the horns of the altar will be cut off and fall to the ground.

<sup>15</sup> I will tear down the winter house along with the summer house; the houses adorned with ivory will be destroyed and the mansions will be demolished, declares the LORD.

#### **Amos 4**

<sup>13</sup> He who forms the mountains, creates the wind, and reveals His thoughts to man, He who turns dawn to darkness, and treads the high places of the earth — the LORD God Almighty is His name.

#### **Amos 5**

<sup>14</sup> Seek good, not evil, that you may live. Then the LORD God Almighty will be with you, just as you say He is.

### **14. Joel**

#### **Joel 1**

<sup>6</sup> A nation has invaded my land, a powerful army without number; it has the teeth of a lion, the fangs of a lioness.

<sup>7</sup> It has laid waste my vines and ruined my fig trees.

<sup>10</sup> The fields are ruined, the ground is dried up; the grain is destroyed,

<sup>15</sup> Alas for that day! For the day of the LORD is near; it will come like destruction from the Almighty.

<sup>16</sup> Has not the food been cut off before our very eyes — joy and gladness from the house of our God?

#### **Joel 2**

##### **An Army of Locusts**

<sup>1</sup> Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill. Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming. It is close at hand —

<sup>2</sup> a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness. Like dawn spreading across the mountains a large and mighty army comes, such as never was of old nor ever will be in ages to come.

<sup>3</sup> Before them fire devours, behind them a flame blazes. Before them the land is like the garden of Eden, behind them, a desert waste

<sup>10</sup> Before them the earth shakes, the sky trembles, the sun and moon are darkened, and the stars no longer shine.

<sup>12</sup> “Even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.”

<sup>14</sup> Who knows? He may turn and have pity and leave behind a blessing — grain offerings and drink offerings for the LORD your God.

#### **Joel 3**

##### **The Nations Judged**

<sup>1</sup> In those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem,

<sup>2</sup> I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. There I will enter into judgment against them concerning my inheritance, my people Israel, for they scattered my people among the nations and divided up my land.

<sup>3</sup> They cast lots for my people and traded boys for prostitutes; they sold girls for wine that they might drink.

<sup>4</sup> Now what have you against me, O Tyre and Sidon and all you regions of Philistia? Are you repaying me for something I have done? If you are paying me back, I will swiftly and speedily return on your own heads what you have done.

<sup>5</sup> For you took my silver and my gold and carried off my finest treasures to your temples.

<sup>6</sup> You sold the people of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks, that you might send them far from their homeland.

<sup>7</sup> See, I am going to rouse them out of the places to which you sold them, and I will return on your own heads what you have done.

<sup>8</sup> I will sell your sons and daughters to the people of Judah, and they will sell them to the Sabeans, a nation far away. The LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup> Proclaim this among the nations: Prepare for war! Rouse the warriors! Let all the fighting men draw near and attack.

<sup>10</sup> Beat your ploughshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears. Let the weakling say, I am strong!

<sup>11</sup> Come quickly, all you nations from every side, and assemble there. Bring down your warriors, O LORD!

<sup>12</sup> Let the nations be roused; let them advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will sit to judge all the nations on every side.

<sup>13</sup> Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, trample the grapes, for the winepress is full and the vats overflow — so great is their wickedness!

<sup>14</sup> Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

<sup>15</sup> The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars no longer shine.

<sup>16</sup> The LORD will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth and the sky will tremble. But the LORD will be a refuge for His people, a stronghold for the people of Israel.

### **Blessings for God's People**

<sup>17</sup> Then you will know that I, the LORD your God, dwell in Zion, my holy hill. Jerusalem will be holy; never again will foreigners invade her.

<sup>18</sup> In that day the mountains will drip new wine, and the hills will flow with milk; all the ravines of Judah will run with water. A fountain will flow out of the LORD's house and will water the valley of acacias.

<sup>19</sup> But Egypt will be desolate, Edom a desert waste, because of violence done to the people of Judah, in whose land they shed innocent blood.

<sup>20</sup> Judah will be inhabited for ever and Jerusalem through all generations.

<sup>21</sup> Their bloodguilt, which I have not pardoned, I will pardon. The LORD dwells in Zion!

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