ZEPHANIAH.

1. 1-3. 8 (A, p. 1271). MINATORY.

(Alternations and Introduction.)

A | C | 1. 1-3.
D | J | 4-6.
B | E | 1. 7-15.
F | 2-1-3.


2. came = became: i.e. came to, or was communicated.


2. Zephaniah = hidden of Jehovah, or he whom Jehovah hath hidden (Ps. 27. 5; 31. 18, 20; 83. 3). For the connection see 2. 2.

Hiskiah = Hezekiah.

2. utter consume. Note the Fig. Paronomasia (Ap. 6), for emphasis. Heb. 'aphaph 'aphaph = to end, consume = take away, or make an end of all. "Omit 'things'. " = All; as in Job 42. 2. Ps. 8. 6.

I 54.

2. Suck the LORD = is Jehovah's oracle.

2. I will consume. Note the Fig. Anaphora (Ap. 6).

3. Three times repeated.


5. the wicked = the lawless ones. Heb. 'asha'.


7. remnant. Sept. reads "names", reading šā'am instead of šā'am, as in the next clause.

8. and. Note the Fig. Polyptoton (Ap. 6), for emphasis. "Stumblingblocks" put first for the idols and idolatry, and then idolatry put for the ruin brought about by them.

9. with = together with. Heb. 'eth.

10. the wicked = the lawless ones. Heb. 'asha'.

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7. "Stumblingblocks" put first for the idols and idolatry, and then idolatry put for the ruin brought about by them.

8. and. Some codices, with three early printed editions, Aram., Sept., and Vulg., read this "and" in the text.

9. Chemarims = K'marim = black-robed, or cassocked.


11. Because so clothed; not Kohin, as appointed by Jehovah. Occurs only here; 2 Kings 23. 5, and Hos. 10. 5.


14. From = from after.

15. sought . . . enquired. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 4. 26, where the two Heb. verbs are in the same order, and are rendered "seek . . . seek?"). Ap. 92.


1. 7-19 (E, above). THE DAY OF JEHOVAH. (Alteration.)

E | G | 7.

H | 8-12. Judgments.


2. 20. Zech. 3.

I 3.


VIII (5).


4. A sacrifice. Sept. reads "His sacrifice".

5. bid = separated. Heb. sanctified. See note on Ex. 8. 5.

8. the day of the LORD's sacrifice. See notes on Isa. 2. 12; 13. 6.

9. day. Put by Fig. Metonymy (of Adjunct), Ap. 6, for the judgments executed in it. Punish = visit upon. Ref. to Pent. (Ex. 32. 4). Ap. 92.


11. children = sons; i.e. the royal house. Cp. 1 Kings 22. 46; 2 Kings 11. 2.

12. those that leap, &c. No reference to idolatrous practice, as in 1 Kings 18. 26; but to the servants of rulers sent to enter the houses of others and steal.

13. Fig. Periphrasis (Ap. 6), for robbers.

14. (Of Cause). Ap. 6, for the booty procured.

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10 the noise of a cry. Fig. Plemasn. Ap. 6.
11 Makthah=the mortars. Probably the local name of the merchants' quarter in the Tyropoeon valley, west of Zion. Ap. 68, p. 100. So called from its basin-like shape.

12 And it shall come to pass at that time, that I will search Jerusalem with o candles, and punish the men that are settled on their lees: that say in their heart, 1 The LORD will not do good, neither will He do evil.

13 Therefore their goods shall become a booty, and their houses a desolation: they shall also build houses, but not inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, but not drink the wine thereof.

14 O The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, even the voice of the day of i the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly.

15 That day is a day of i wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness,

16 A day of i the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers.

17 And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD; and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung.

18 Neither their silver nor their gold shall be able to deliver them in the day of i the LORD'S wrath; but the whole land shall be devoted by the fire of His jealousy: for He shall make even a speedy riddance of all them that dwell in the land.

2. 1 Gather=Collect. Heb. kăshāsh. Occurs only in Ex. 5. 7, 13. Num. 16. 32, 33. 1 Kings 17. 10, 12. It is not the same word as in 3. 8, 18; or in 3. 19, 20. See the notes there.

2 day=judgment. See note on 1. 9.

3 Seek... see. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 4. 29), as in 1. 6. judgment=ordinances; as in Isa. 56. 2. Jer. 8. 7. ye shall be hid. Referring to Isa. 26. 20, and the meaning of the name Zephaniah.

4 For Gaza. Supply the logical Ellipsis (Ap. 6), here, and in vv. 8, 12, 13; 3. 1, thus: "Mine anger shall be upon Gaza, saith the Lord, for" (Ap. 6), for emphasis. Note the Fig. Paronomasia (Ap. 6), for emphasis. Heb. 'azūhā . . . 'āsūbāh. Ashkelon. Now 'āsālān, on the coast of Philistia. desolation = ruin. Long since fulfilled. Ashdod. Now Estūd. The same as Azotus in Acts 8. 40.

at the noon day: i.e. during the noon day siesta.

5 Woe unto the inhabitants of the sea coast, the nation of the Cherethites! the word of the LORD is against you; O Canaan, the land of the Philistines, I will even destroy thee, that there shall be no inhabitant.

6 And the sea coast shall be dwellings and cottages for shepherds, and folds for flocks.

7 And the coast shall be for the remnant of the house of Judah; they shall feed thereupon: in the houses of Ashkelon shall they lie down in the evening: for the LORD their God shall visit them, and turn away their captivity.

8 o I have heard the reproach of Moab, and
518 the revilings of the children of Ammon, whereby they have reproached My People, and magnified themselves against their border.

9 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, Surely Moab shall be as Sodom, and the children of Ammon as Gomorrah, even and the breeding of nettles, and salt pits, and a perpetual desolation: the residue of My People shall spoil them, and the remnant of My People shall possess the cities thereof.

10 This shall they have for their pride, because they have reproached and magnified themselves against the People of the LORD of hosts.

11 The LORD will be terrible unto them: for He will afflict all the gods of the earth: and men shall worship Him, every one from his place, even all the isles of the heathen.

12 Ethiopia also, shall be slain by My sword.

13 And He will stretch out His hand against the north, and destroy Assyria; and will make Nineveh a desolation, and dry like a wilderness.

14 And flocks shall lie down in the midst of her, all the beasts of the nations: both the cormorant and the bittern shall lodge in the upper lintels of it; their voice shall sing in the windows; desolation shall be in the thresholds: for He shall uncover the graves.

15 The rejoicing city shall be desolate, the cedars of Lebanon shall be cut down with the axe, and every morning thereof, every one thereof shall be turned to the wilderness: all that be the graven images thereof shall be cut in pieces, as the gravers thereof knew not.

D 3 Woe to her that is filthy and polluted, to the oppressing city!

2 She obeyed not the voice; she received not correction; she trusted not in the LORD; she drew not near to her God.

3 Her princes within her are roaring lions; her judges are evening wolves; they gnaw not the bones till the morrow.

4 Her prophets are light and treacherous persons: her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they have done violence to the law.

5 The just LORD is in the midst thereof; He will not do iniquity: every morning doth He bring His judgment to light, He faileth not; but the unjust knoweth no shame.

B F 6 I have cut off the nations: their towers are desolate; I made their streets waste, that none passeth by: their cities are destroyed, so that there is no man, that there is none inhabitant.

7 I said, Surely thou wilt fear Me, thou wilt receive instruction; so their dwelling should not be cut off, howsoever I punished them; but they rose early, and corrupted all their doings.

E 8 Therefore wait ye upon Me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for My determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them Mine indignation, even all My fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of My jealousy.

children = sons.


reproached. See Judg. 11. 12-28.

9 saith the LORD of hosts = [is] the oracle of Jehovah of hosts, the God of Israel. See note on 1 Sam. 1. 3. the God of Israel. See note on Isa. 29. 23.

This shall be as Sodom. Ref. to Pent. (Gen. 19. 24, 25).

Ap. 92.

the breeding of nettles, &c. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 29. 22, &c.). Ap. 92.

of My People. Some codices, with two early printed editions (one Rabbinic), read " of the nations ".

People = nation.

possess = inherit.

11 reproach = to cause to waste away.

the isles of the heathen = the coast-lands of the nations. Ref. to Pent. (Gen. 10. 2). Ap. 92. The phrase occurs nowhere else.

isles = coast-lands.

heathen = nations.

12 See note on " For ", v. 4.

13 And He. See note on " For ", v. 4.

stretch out His hand. Idiom for executing judgment.

the north: i.e. against Assyria, because although west of Canaan, the road and entrance was by the north.

14 all = all kinds of. Fig. Synecdoche (of Genus), Ap. 6.

upper lintels = chapiters, or carved capitals.

cedar work: i.e. the wainscoting.

15 wag his hand. Idiom expressive of derision.

3, 1 Woe = Alas for! See note on " For ", v. 4.

her: i.e. Jerusalem. See the Structure, p. 1272.

filthy = rebellious.

polluted. Heb. git'áh, (1) to redeem; (2) to make or deem common or unclean. A Homonym, with two meanings. Not the same word as in v. 4.

2 she received not. Some codices, with two early printed editions, Aram., Syr., and Vulg., read " neither hath she accepted ". correction = discipline, trusted = confided. Heb. ba'āš. Ap. 89. 1. Not the same word as in v. 12.

the LORD. Heb. Jehovah. Ap. 4. II.

she drew not near, &c. Some codices, with one early printed edition, Aram., Sept., and Syr., read " neither unto her God hath she drawn near ".


3 gnaw not; or, reserve not.

4 light = reckless.


every morning = morning by morning. See Ps. 101. 8.

unjust = perverse. Heb. 'āwil. See Ap. 44. vi.

towers. See note on 1. 16.


3 Therefore, &c. The Masoréth (Ap. 30 and 98) calls attention to the fact that this verse (v. 8) contains all the letters of the Heb. alphabet, including the five final letters. This implies that the verse takes in the whole purpose of Jehovah concerning Israel.

upon; or, for.

saith the LORD = [is] Jehovah's oracle.


gather = gather in. Not the same word as in 2. 1.

assemble = gather out. for all the earth. See 1. 18; and cp. the Structure (" E " and " E "), p. 1272.

the fire of My Jealousy. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 4. 24).
9 For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the LORD, to serve Him with one consent.

10 From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia My suppliants, even the daughter of My dispersed, shall bring Mine offering.

11 In that day shalt thou not be ashamed for all thy doings, wherein thou hast transgressed against Me: for then I will take away out of the midst of thee them that rejoice in thy pride, and thou shalt not more be haughty because of My holy mountain.

12 I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor People, and they shall trust in the name of the LORD.

13 The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity, nor speak lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth: for they shall feed and lie down, and none shall make them afraid.

14 Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem.

15 The LORD hath taken away thy judgment, He hath cast out thine affliction and thine enemy.

16 In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, "Fear thou not:" and to Zion, "Let not thine hands be slack."

17 The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; He will save, He will rejoice over thee with joy; He will rest in His love, He will joy over thee with singing.

18 I will gather them that are sorrowful for the solemn assembly, who are of thee, to whom the reproach of it was a burden.

19 Behold, at that time I will undo all that afflict thee: and I will save her that halteth, and gather her that was driven out; and I will get them praise and fame in every land where they have been put to shame.

20 At that time will I bring you again, even in the time that I gather you: for I will make you a name and a praise among all people of the earth.

21 Then will I turn back your captivity before your eyes, saith the LORD.