

Gospel Transformation and Renewal

Zephaniah 3:12-13



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But I will leave among you a humble and lowly people,
And they will take refuge in the name of the LORD.
The remnant of Israel will do no wrong and tell no lies,
Nor will a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths;
For they will feed and lie down with no one
to make them tremble.

Big Idea

The LORD promised to transform and renew His people, and we know that this transformation and renewal are worked out through the provisions of the gospel.

We are talking about the gospel!

Zephaniah 3:9

For then I will give to the peoples purified lips,
That all of them may call on the name of the LORD.

Zephaniah 3:11

In that day you will feel no shame because of all your deeds
by which you have rebelled against Me.

**We know that purification and removal
of guilt are accomplished in Christ.**

We are talking about the gospel!

Zephaniah 3:19

Behold, I am going to deal at that time with all your oppressors,
I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will turn their
shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

We know these things are fulfilled in Christ.

This is about transformation and renewal

Zephaniah 3:13

The remnant of Israel will do no wrong and tell no lies,
Nor will a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths;
For they will feed and lie down with no one
to make them tremble.

**We know that transformation and renewal
are brought about through the gospel.**

Transformation and renewal through the gospel

2 Corinthians 3:18

But **we all**, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, **are being transformed** into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

Colossians 3:9-10

Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices, and have put on **the new self who is being renewed** to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him.



Transformation and Renewal

The gospel transforms our dispositions.

Transformed Dispositions

The gospel creates a disposition
of brokenness.



Zephaniah 3:12

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Zephaniah 3:12

But I will leave among you a **humble and lowly** people,
And they will take refuge in the name of the LORD.

**I will leave among you a broken
and contrite people.**

Psalm 51:17

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
A broken and a contrite heart, O God,
You will not despise.

**Brokenness and contrition are the
beginning of the gospel.**

Matthew 5:3

Blessed are **the poor in spirit**,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Brokenness is the beginning of the gospel because no one will come to be healed or rescued who does not need healing or rescue.

Mark 2:17

It is not those who are healthy who need a physician,
but those who are sick;
I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.

Transformed Dispositions

The gospel creates a disposition of brokenness.

The gospel creates a disposition of trust.



The background of the slide is a grayscale photograph of a rocky, mountainous landscape. The rocks are jagged and layered, with a small, dark opening or cave entrance visible in the lower-left quadrant. The sky is a pale, clear blue, visible through the upper part of the rock formation.

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But I will leave among you a humble and lowly people,

And **they will take refuge in the name
of the LORD.**

This is an act of trust!

Zephaniah 3:12

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Zephaniah 3:9

For then I will give to the peoples purified lips,
That all of them may call on the name of the LORD.



This is an act of trust!

Zephaniah 3:9

For then I will give to the peoples purified lips,

**That all of them may call on the
name of the LORD.**

The gospel holds out rescue and refuge to sinners who are under condemnation, and *it is God* who awakens the souls of His people to believe it.

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Zephaniah 3:9

For then **I will give to the peoples purified lips,**

That all of them may call on the name of the LORD.

God enables the lips of His
people to call on Him in faith.



Ephesians 2:8

For by grace you have been saved through faith;
and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.

Ephesians 2:8

For by grace you have been saved through faith;

and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.



Even your faith is a gift!

Ephesians 2:8

For by grace you have been saved through faith;

and that not of yourselves, **it is the gift of God.**

This transformation brought
about by God's grace disposes
the soul to trust in Him!

Habakkuk 2:4

Behold, as for the proud one,
His soul is not right within him;
But the righteous will live by his faith.



Transformation and Renewal

The gospel transforms our dispositions.

The gospel renews our operations.

Renewed Operations

The gospel renews the operations
of the will.



Zephaniah 3:13

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What is this renewal of will?

Jeremiah 31:31-34

“I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,” declares the LORD.

This is a promise of transformation and renewal that is fulfilled in Christ!

Romans 1:16-17

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written,
“But the righteous man shall live by faith.”

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“But the righteous man shall live by faith.”

Ephesians 2:10

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

Renewed Operations

The gospel renews the operations of our will.

The gospel renews the operations
of our mouths.

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Note the need for this renewal!

Isaiah 6:5

Woe is me, for I am ruined!
Because I am a man of unclean lips,
And I live among a people of unclean lips.

Romans 3:13-14

Their throat is an open grave,
With their tongues they keep deceiving,
The poison of asps is under their lips;
Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness.

Zephaniah 3:9

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That all of them may call on the name of the LORD.

Zephaniah 3:9

For then I will give to the peoples purified lips,

**That all of them may call on the
name of the LORD.**

The operations of the tongue are wickedness apart from Christ, but by grace He has purified our lips and renewed our speech enabling us to confess Christ and speak truth.

Romans 10:9-10

...that **if you confess with your mouth** Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and **with the mouth he confesses**, resulting in salvation.

Psalm 15:1-2

“O LORD, who may abide in Your tent?
Who may dwell on Your holy hill?
He who walks with integrity, and works righteousness,
And speaks truth in his heart.”



Transformation and Renewal

The gospel transforms our dispositions.

The gospel renews our operations.

The gospel provides for our satisfactions.

Provision for Satisfaction

The gospel provides for the satisfaction
of our appetites.



Zephaniah 3:13

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to make them tremble.



Psalm 23:1

The LORD is my shepherd,
I shall not want.

Ezekiel 34:13-15

For thus says the Lord GOD...

“I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the streams,
and in all the inhabited places of the land.

I will feed them in a good pasture, and their grazing ground
will be on the mountain heights of Israel.

There they will lie down on good grazing ground
and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.

I will feed My flock and I will lead them to rest,”
declares the Lord GOD.

Every human appetite, *properly understood*, is satisfied in Christ.

Feeding on Christ in the gospel will fulfill the cravings of your soul.

John 6:35 and 51

Jesus said to them,

“I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger,
and he who believes in Me will never thirst.”

“I am the living bread that came down out of heaven;
if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread
also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh.”

Provision for Satisfaction

The gospel provides for the satisfaction of our appetites.

The gospel provides for the satisfaction
of our strivings.



Zephaniah 3:13

For they will feed and lie down with no one
to make them tremble.

Zephaniah 3:13

For they will feed and **lie down** with no one
to make them tremble.

Zephaniah 3:13

**For they will feed and lie down with no one
to make them tremble.**

Psalm 23:1-3 and 5

The LORD is my shepherd,
I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside quiet waters.

Psalm 23:1-3 and 5

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The LORD is my shepherd,
I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside quiet waters.

**You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.**

Rest from human striving is only found in the rest provided by Christ, held out to us in the gospel.

Matthew 11:28

Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden,
and I will give you rest.

Hebrews 4:2-3

For indeed we have had good news preached to us,
just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit them,
because it was not united by faith in those who heard.

For we who have believed enter that rest.

Conclusion:

Is your soul dispositioned toward a brokenness that leads you to seek for refuge in the cross of Christ?

Are you seeing a renewal of your will and your words?

Are you being satisfied in Christ and resting in His salvation?