

ISRAEL'S SIN IS AMERICA'S SIN

Zephaniah 3:1-4/I Cor. 10:11

INTRODUCTION:

- These are dark days on the pages of time!
- Never before has America stood on such shaky soil.
- The similarity of America today with God's people in the Old Testament is shocking.
- We are traveling the same road that ancient Israel traveled!
- We are making some of the same major mistakes which Israel made.
- Let us consider some of these mistakes.

⇒ I. ISRAEL FAILED TO OBEY THE VOICE OF GOD; vs. 2.

1. It was disobedience that caused Israel to wander in the darkness;
Josh. 5:6.
2. It was disobedience that caused King Saul to lose his kingdom,
1 Sam. 15:26-28.
3. It is our command to obey Him; John 2:5; 1 Sam. 15:22.

⇒ II. ISRAEL FAILED TO RECEIVE THE CORRECTION OF GOD; vs. 2.

1. Correction is an evidence of God's great love; Prov. 3:12.
2. Correction is received through the Scripture; II Tim. 3:16.
3. Correction is refused by many and results in death; Prov. 15:10.

⇒ III. ISRAEL FAILED TO TRUST IN THE LORD; vs. 2.

1. Those who trust only in the strength of a nation shall come to shame;
Isa. 30:1-3.
2. Those who trust in their wealth can not ransom nor redeem themselves; Ps. 49:6, 7.

3. Those who trust in the Lord shall, figuratively, walk many times through
the valley of the shadow of death; Job 13:15.

4. Those who trust in the Lord are assured that He shall direct their paths;
Prov. 3:5, 6.

⇒ IV. ISRAEL FAILED TO DRAW NEAR TO GOD; vs. 2.

1. To draw near to God with a true heart is God's demand; Heb. 10:22.
2. To draw near to God is to have Him draw near to you; James 4:8.
3. To draw near to God with lip service only is an awful sin; Isa. 29:13.

⇒ V. ISRAEL FAILED TO PERPETUATE FAITHFUL PREACHERS; vs. 4.

1. Israel produced prophets who undermined God's Word; Jer. 14:13-16.
2. Israel produced pastors who scattered and divided the flock; Jer. 23:1, 2.
3. Israel produced teachers who transgressed God's law; Isa. 43:27.
4. Israel produced the harvest of their own iniquity; Hos. 8:7; Gal. 6:7, 8.