

SOMETIMES I LIE AWAKE AT NIGHT,
AND I ASK, "WHERE HAVE I GONE WRONG?"
THEN A VOICE SAYS TO ME, "THIS IS GOING
TO TAKE MORE THAN ONE NIGHT."



¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!

Zephaniah 3:14

14 Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!

Zephaniah 3:14

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸
give thanks in all circumstances; for this is
the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸
give thanks in all circumstances; for this is
the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

“Rejoice” means having an attitude of joy in response to the truth of God.”

“It is a settled confidence arising out of my life in Christ and a bold expectant hope for the future regardless of present conditions.” –
Steward Brown

**God has taken away
our punishment**

¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies.

Zephaniah 3:15

The Book of Zephaniah

CHAPTER I

THE word of the LORD which came
unto Zeph-a-ni'-ah the son of
hi, the son of Ged-a-li'-ah, the
Am-a-ri'-ah, the son of Hiz-ki'-
the days of Jo-si'-ah the son of
king of Judah.
will utterly consume
the land

9 In the same day also will I pun-
ish all those that leap on the thresh-
old, which fill their masters' houses
with ^Rviolence and deceit.
10 And it shall come
that day, saith the LORD
shall

¹ The word of the LORD that came to Zephaniah the son of Cushi, son of Gedaliah, son of Amariah, son of Hezekiah, in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah.

Zephaniah 1:1

'he (Amon) did evil in the eyes of the LORD, as his father Manasseh had done. He walked in all the ways of his father; he worshipped the idols his father had worshipped and bowed down to them. He forsook the LORD, the God of his fathers, and did not walk in the way of the LORD.'

2 Kings 21:20-22

¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies.

Zephaniah 3:15

⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us
peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.

⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—everyone—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:5-6

Here is the
LAMB OF GOD
who takes away the sin
of the world!

John 1:29



¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments
against you; he has cleared away your
enemies.

Zephaniah 3:15

²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

1 Corinthians 15:25-26

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵ “O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

⁵⁶ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

⁵⁷ But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Corinthians 15:54b-56

God is with us

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your
midst;
you shall never again fear evil. (15b)

¹⁷ The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save; (17a)

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your
midst;
you shall never again fear evil. (15b)

¹⁷ The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save; (17a)

13 So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!"

14 And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

15 "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"

John 12:12-15

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall never again fear evil.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

“Fear not, O Zion;
let not your hands grow weak.

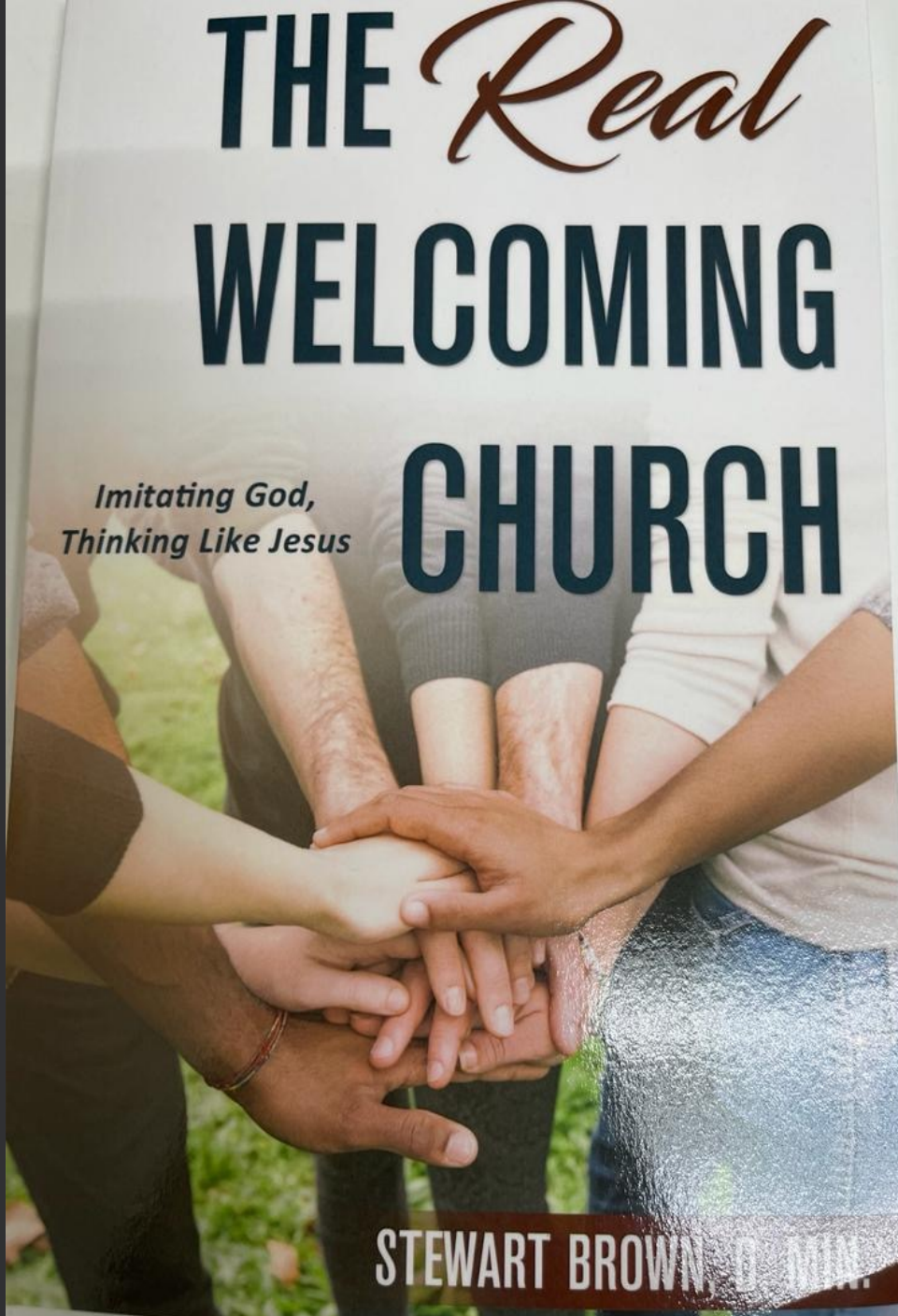
Zephaniah 3:15b-17

¹⁷ The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.

Zephaniah 3:15b-17

THE *Real* WELCOMING CHURCH

*Imitating God,
Thinking Like Jesus*



STEWART BROWN, PH.D.

God will bring us Home

¹⁸ I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

²⁰ At that time I will bring you in,
at the time when I gather you together;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes," says the LORD.

Zephaniah 3:18, 20

“It’s hard to believe, as some do, that Zephaniah is simply describing a situation where, after a time of exile, God would gather his people together, restore their fortunes, give them honour and praise and bring them home to Jerusalem. If it does mean no more than that, then many of the promises that God gave to the people here were unfulfilled at that time.”

- Gordon Bridger

“It is much more likely that Zephaniah is pointing forward to that time or that day when God will come with judgment and salvation and bring home the remnant of believers to his heavenly home.”

“So once more we must look forward to that day or that time (in God’s good time) at the end of the age, for these promises to be completely fulfilled.”

- Gordon Bridger

'Do not let your heart be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.'

John 14:1-3