





### When Headlines and Heaven Intersect

Gaza. A name heavy with history, tragedy, and tension. Today, it is once again at the center of international headlines, this time because of a bold and controversial proposal by U.S. President Donald Trump, who has suggested that America take control of Gaza to rebuild it from ruin.

But could there be more to this proposal than geopolitics? Could it be that in a swirl of diplomatic noise and political shockwaves, we are witnessing echoes of something ancient, something foretold in the pages of the Bible?

In this episode of *Inside The Epicenter*, Joel and Lynn Rosenberg dive deep into **Zephaniah chapter 2**, unpacking one of the most overlooked prophecies in Scripture and exploring whether we are watching it unfold before our very eyes. As a ministry that exists to bless Israel and Her Neighbors in the name of Jesus, *The Joshua Fund* calls believers not only to observe the signs of the times but also to respond with prayer, discernment, and action.

### Gaza and the God of the Bible

Joel Rosenberg begins with a strong biblical assertion: **Gaza is under judgment.** Not because of politics, but because of a long spiritual rebellion against the God of Israel.

"For eight decades, the people of Gaza have cursed Israel, waged war, and embraced terrorism. In light of Genesis 12:3, where God

promises to curse those who curse Israel, we must consider the possibility that Gaza has chosen judgment."

This is not spoken with delight or vengeance, but with a sober recognition of Scripture's warnings. **God's patience** has been long, but Scripture teaches that when His patience ends, judgment comes, often swiftly and dramatically.

And yet, even in judgment, God's **mercy shines through**. Rosenberg reminds listeners that God's heart is still for the people of Gaza. He draws a powerful parallel to the people of Nineveh, another city once marked for destruction:

"God sent Jonah to preach repentance to Nineveh, and when they responded with brokenness, God relented. Could the same not be possible for Gaza if the Church responds with compassion and prayer?"

## **Zephaniah 2: A Prophecy for Our Time?**

Most believers have never studied Zephaniah in depth. Yet tucked away in this brief prophetic book is a stunning word that speaks directly to Gaza's future. Zephaniah 2:4–7 reads:

"Gaza will be abandoned... Woe to the inhabitants of the seacoast... The land will belong to the remnant of the house of Judah... and the Lord their God will restore their fortunes."

Joel outlines a few critical takeaways from this passage:

- **Abandonment:** Gaza will be emptied of its residents a sweeping judgment on its inhabitants.
- Transfer of Land: The land will not remain desolate but will be restored to Judah, symbolizing Israel's inheritance.
- Divine Intervention: This is not political conquest it is God Himself who restores, redeems, and
  returns the land.

Joel emphasizes that these events are not assigned to the far-off millennial kingdom. The language of Zephaniah suggests these things will occur "before the day of the Lord"—before the great end-times culmination.

# President Trump's Plan: Coincidence or Prophetic Alignment?

Then comes the startling modern twist.

In a recent statement, President Trump declared his intention to see the United States take a "long-term ownership" of Gaza and transform it into a land of opportunity, jobs, and peace. What shocked many—including Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu—was the scope and boldness of Trump's vision.

Is it possible that President Donald Trump is going to carry out what he's saying when he says we're going to move all the Palestinians of Gaza out of the Gaza Strip and never let them come back in? Could this geopolitical bombshell have a prophetic shadow behind it?

Joel Rosenberg doesn't claim divine insight into Trump's motives. But he asks the question every biblically-minded Christian should be asking:

"Is it possible that without knowing it, Trump is moving in sync with Zephaniah 2?"

The idea that Gaza might be emptied of Palestinians and restored to Israel as a permanent part of the nation's inheritance is no longer theoretical. It is now part of the public dialogue.

And whether or not this specific plan comes to pass, it has brought **Zephaniah 2** into focus in a way not seen in our lifetime.

## God's Justice and the Church's Mission

Rosenberg reminds us that judgment and mercy are not mutually exclusive. God can pronounce judgment on a nation or a people group while still inviting them to repentance.

"We must pray for Gaza, not because we approve of its actions, but because we believe in the power of the Gospel to transform even the darkest places."

This is where the Church comes in. The mission of *The Joshua Fund* is not political; it is spiritual. To **bless Israel** 

**and Her Neighbors** means serving Palestinians, Israelis, Arabs, and Jews - all in the name of Jesus.

As believers, we are called to:

- Intercede for peace in the region.
- Support ministries that bring practical aid and the Gospel to both sides of the conflict.
- Discern the times by knowing and studying Scripture deeply.
- **Stand firm** in hope, remembering that God's promises will not fail.

# Zephaniah's Urgency: A Warning and a Hope

Zephaniah 2 opens with a powerful plea:

"Gather yourselves together... before the decree takes effect... before the day of the Lord's anger comes upon you."

(Zephaniah 2:1–2)

The repetition of "before" is intentional. God, through His prophet, is warning His people, and by extension, the world, that time is short. The Day of the Lord is coming. The call is to seek the Lord, seek righteousness, and seek humility.

This is not merely about Gaza. This is about all of us. Zephaniah reminds us that **God's justice is real**, but so is

**His mercy**. Those who seek Him can find shelter, even when the storm comes.

#### What Should We Do Now?

The events unfolding in Gaza, the statements made by world leaders, and the ancient words of Zephaniah are converging in a way that should stir the Church to action.

This is not the time to be passive.

This is not the time to be fearful.

This is the time to be watchful, prayerful, and faithful.

We may not know if Zephaniah 2 is being fulfilled before our eyes, but we do know this: **God's Word is true, and He is sovereign over the affairs of men.** 

#### Let us:

- **Pray** for the people of Gaza to encounter Jesus.
- **Support** the work of ministries like *The Joshua Fund*.
- **Study the Word**, especially the prophets, with fresh eyes.
- **Stand with Israel**, not out of politics, but because God has not forgotten His promises.

"The coast shall be for the remnant of the house of Judah... for the Lord their God will intervene for them and return their captives."

- Zephaniah 2:7

Taken from transcript of <u>Trump's BOLD Gaza Proposal—Does It Fulfill Biblical PROPHECY?</u> | Inside The Epicenter Podcast

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