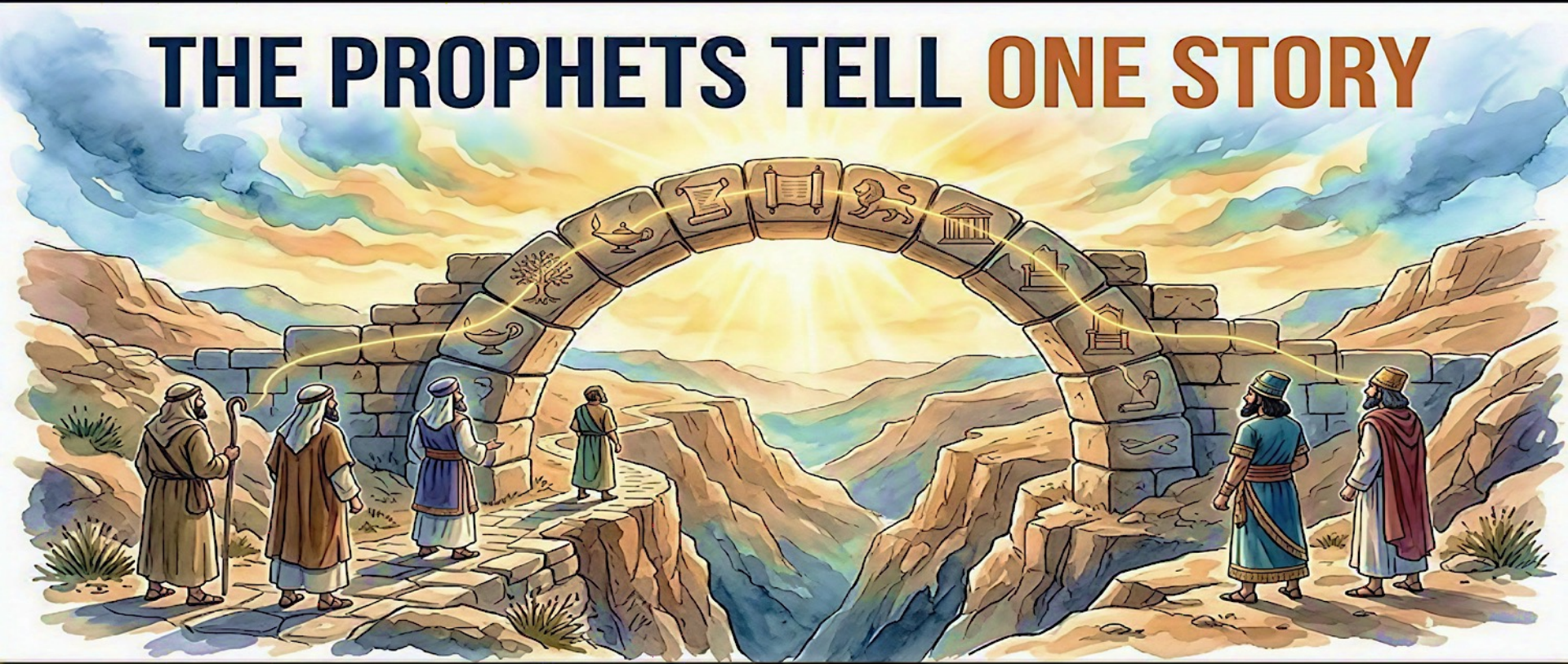


# THE PROPHETS TELL ONE STORY



- Each Prophet offered something different about his era
- If we only had 1 Gospel, or 1 Epistle, we wouldn't have the deeper understanding that we have today
- In the Prophets we find consistency, no contradiction, and how the various eras flow seamlessly together
- The prophecies of earlier Prophets may sometimes already have happened before the Prophet we're studying began to prophesy

# WHO IS THE TYRANT CITY?



- Zeph. 3:1 *“Woe to her who is filthy, defiled; woe to the tyrant city”*
- Jeremiah 6:1 – 8
- The tyrant city is Jerusalem!
- Ezekiel 23:11 – 30
- ***Oholivah*** = figurative for Jerusalem & Judah
- ***Oholav*** = figurative for Samaria and Ephraim/Israel

# POLLUTION IN JERUSALEM

- Zephaniah chapter 3 focuses on Jerusalem and Judah
- Even though the Judeans thought themselves righteous, they lived by doctrines and traditions, and not God's Word
- Zephaniah 3:1
- The pollution is the idolatrous worship practices
- **Yud-Nun-Heh** consonants only
- Adding vowels could be **Yonah** or **yanah**
- **Yonah** is untenable
- **Yanah** is correct meaning oppressive, violence, doing wrong

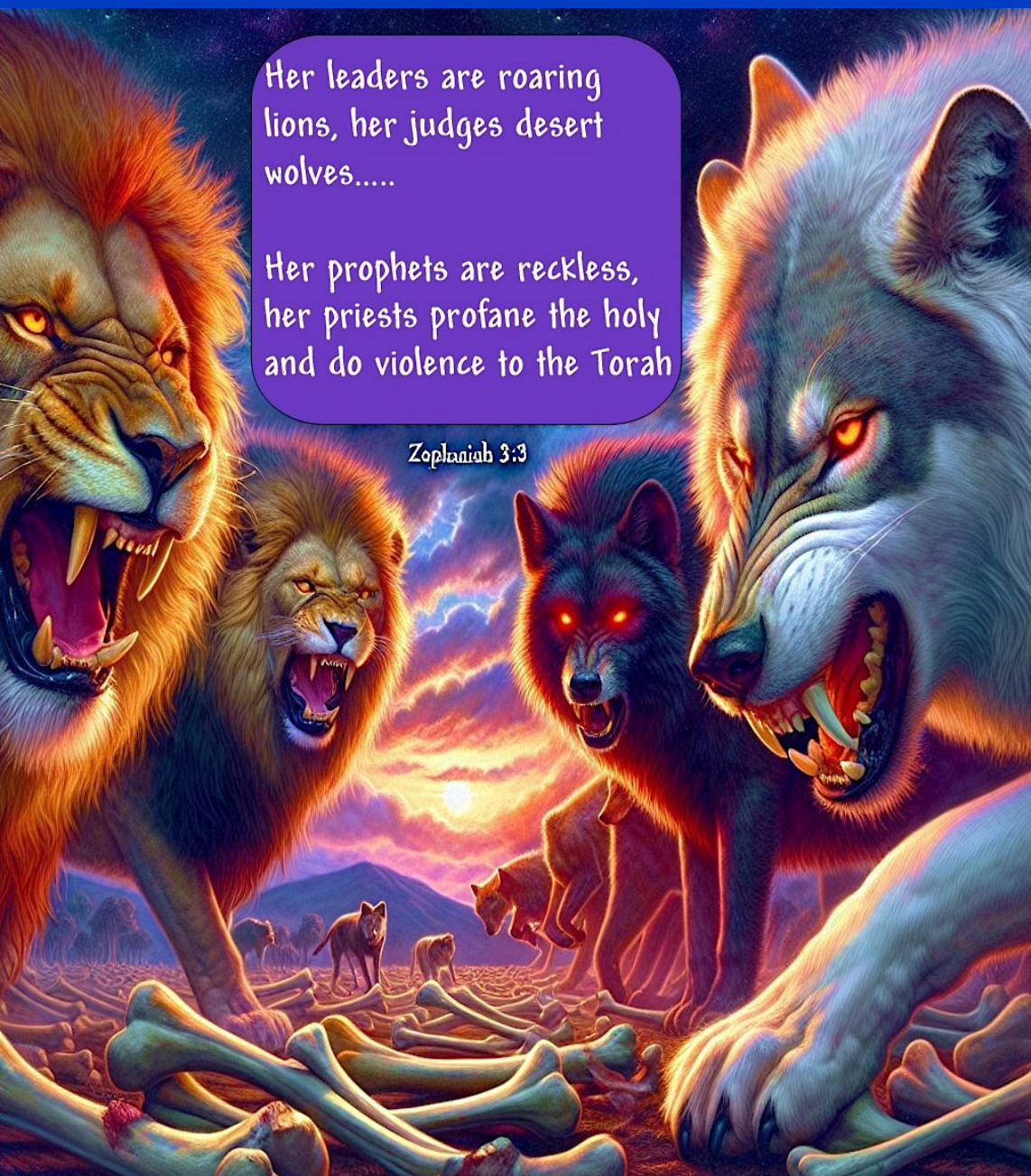




# REFUSING GOD'S CORRECTION

Zephaniah 3:2

- “She” is referring to Jerusalem
- “Listen” is a poor choice of words... should be “obey”
- Proverbs 12:1
- Proverbs 29:1
- Proverbs 10:17
- A wise man accepts correction  
BECAUSE he has drawn close to God
- The Judeans knew God, but they chose to trust  
in their doctrines and traditions, even in false-gods



Her leaders are roaring  
lions, her judges desert  
wolves.....

Her prophets are reckless,  
her priests profane the holy  
and do violence to the Torah

Zephaniah 3:3

- Jerusalem didn't obey God's voice
- They didn't accept His correction
- They did not trust God
- Jerusalem did not draw near to Him
- Zephaniah vss. 3 and 4 to be read together
- 4 classes of Jerusalem's leadership



# JUDGE.PROPHET.PRIEST.KING.

The leaders of Jerusalem

- Princes, kings; did not reign in fairness and justice
- Judges; magistrates didn't render fair verdicts
- Prophets; the professional prophets for hire who told people what they wanted to hear
- Priests; Levite priests that led people to engage in idolatry and syncretism, and away from the Torah



# He Applies His Justice Morning by Morning

Zephaniah 3:5



## THE GOD WHO SEES AND HEARS

- Zeph. 3:5 ***“YHWH, who is righteous, is there among them...”***
- Ezekiel 22:26
- Ezekiel speaks in covenant terminology
- The Law of Moses:
  - 1) explains holy and common
  - 2) clean and unclean
  - 3) God’s ordained Sabbaths
- Priests’ supreme duty is to serve God and to protect His holiness



- Constantinian Church has created their own doctrines, articles of faith, catechism
- Does Christianity know what God calls holy/common, clean/unclean, what His Sabbaths are?
- For a Believer to attempt to obey The Law makes one an enemy to the institutional Church
- Those who abandon Church doctrine, but take up classic Judaism aren't much different

# THE ELOHIM AND THE DIVINE COUNCIL



- ***Bobboqer bobboqer*** = morning by morning
- “Renders the just verdict” ***Mishpat*** = justice
- The priests and the judges are to act like God’s Divine Council in Heaven
- Zephaniah 3:6
- This verse speaks of God’s wrath that He has visited upon the nations

# GOD'S WRATH ON THE NATIONS

- To “cut-off” nations means to destroy and to separate them spiritually from God
- The notion is to remind Judah what God has already done as a warning of their fate
- Attacking cities as an example of what will happen to Jerusalem
- Destruction so complete, they're abandoned forever, like Nineveh

