

A painting of a swampy forest. The scene is dominated by a murky, greenish-brown water body, likely a swamp or a slow-moving stream. The water is still, reflecting the surrounding trees and sky. Several large, fallen tree trunks and branches are scattered across the water and along the banks. The trees are tall and thin, with dense foliage that filters the light, creating a dappled effect on the water and ground. The overall atmosphere is dark and somewhat somber. A large, semi-transparent green rectangular box is superimposed over the upper portion of the image, containing the text "Drain the Swamp!" in a stylized, gothic font.

Drain the Swamp!

The Judean Culture Wars

- 640 BC - JOSIAH TAKES THE THRONE (2 CHRON. 34:1-2) [8 YRS. OLD]
- 632 BC - JOSIAH SEEKS AFTER GOD (2 CHRON. 34:3) [16 YRS. OLD]
- 630 BC - GOD SEND NAHUM TO ENCOURAGE JOSIAH
- 628 BC - JOSIAH'S MAJOR REFORMS BEGIN (2 CHRON. 34:3-7) [20 YRS OLD]
- 627 BC - ASHURBANIPAL DIES, ASSYRIA BEGINS TO CRUMBLE
- GOD SENDS JEREMIAH (JER. 1:1-3)
 - GOD SENDS ZEPHANIAH (ZEPH. 1:1)
- 622 BC - RESTORATION OF THE TEMPLE (2 CHRON. 34:8-35:19) [26 YRS. OLD]
- 612 BC - NINEVEH IS UTTERLY DESTROYED
- 609 BC - JOSIAH IS KILLED AT MEGIDDO
- 609-586 BC - 4 WEAK, EVIL KINGS (2 CHRON. 36:1-16)
- 607 BC - GOD SENDS HABAKKUK
 - 592 BC - GOD SENDS EZEKIEL (TO EXILES IN BABYLON)
 - 590 BC - GOD SENDS JOEL
 - 586 BC - GOD SENDS OBADIAH

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[8 YRS. OLD]

632 BC - JOSIAH SEEKS AFTER GOD (2 CHRON. 34:3)
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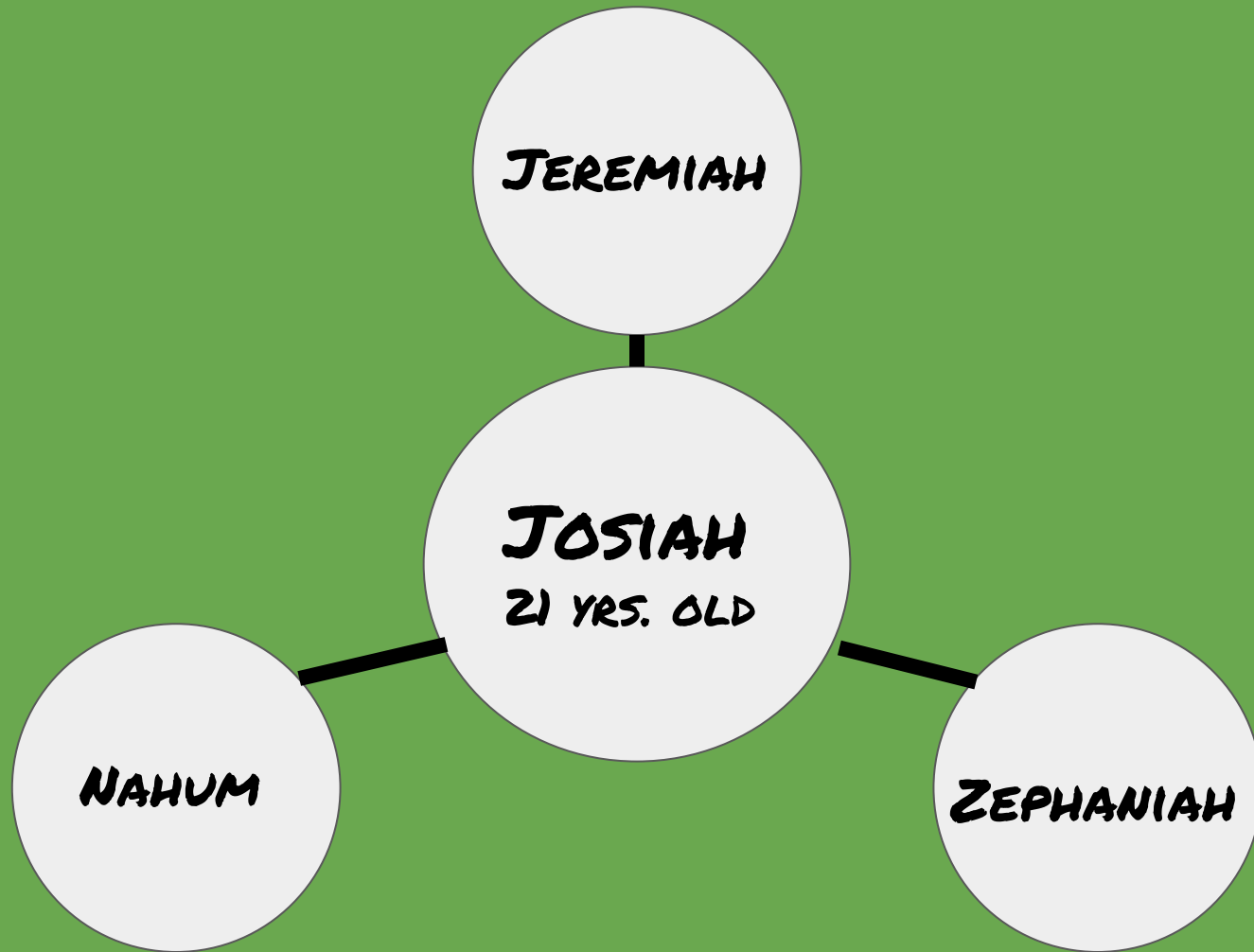
630 BC - GOD SEND NAHUM TO ENCOURAGE JOSIAH
"DON'T WORRY ABOUT NINEVEH... I'VE GOT IT!"

628 BC - JOSIAH'S MAJOR REFORMS BEGIN (2 CHRON. 34:3-7)
[20 YRS OLD]

627 BC - ASHURBANIPAL DIES, ASSYRIA CRUMBLES

- GOD SENDS JEREMIAH (JER. 1:1-3)

- GOD SENDS ZEPHANIAH (ZEPH. 1:1)



JEREMIAH

JOSIAH
21 YRS. OLD

NAHUM

ZEPHANIAH

ZEPHANIAH

"SEEK GOD IN HUMILITY"

ZEPHANIAH

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1. GOD IS A JEALOUS GOD (1:18)

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 - A. THE NATION BELONGS TO HIM (JOSHUA 24:13-24)

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 - A. THE NATION BELONGS TO HIM (JOSHUA 24:13-24)
 - B. JERUSALEM WILL BE HIS AGAIN (ZEPH. 3:16-20)

ZEPHANIAH

"SEEK GOD IN HUMILITY"

1. GOD IS A JEALOUS GOD (1:18)
 - A. THE NATION BELONGS TO HIM (JOSHUA 24:13-24)
 - B. JERUSALEM WILL BE HIS AGAIN (ZEPH. 3:16-20)
2. THE PEOPLE HAVE FORGOTTEN HIM (ZEPH. 3:2)

ZEPHANIAH

"SEEK GOD IN HUMILITY"

1. GOD IS A JEALOUS GOD (1:18)
 - A. THE NATION BELONGS TO HIM (JOSHUA 24:13-24)
 - B. JERUSALEM WILL BE HIS AGAIN (ZEPH. 3:16-20)
2. THE PEOPLE HAVE FORGOTTEN HIM (ZEPH. 3:2)
 - A. THEY DON'T LISTEN TO GOD
 - B. THEY DON'T ACCEPT INSTRUCTION
 - C. THEY DON'T TRUST IN HIM
 - D. THEY DON'T DRAW NEAR TO HIM

A CLOSER LOOK AT 3:1-

- A. THEY DON'T LISTEN TO GOD
("WHAT IS TRUTH?")
- B. THEY DON'T ACCEPT INSTRUCTION
("WHAT IS RIGHT AND WRONG?")
- C. THEY DON'T TRUST IN HIM
("WHAT CAN I RELY ON?")
- D. THEY DON'T DRAW NEAR TO HIM
("WHAT WILL I SERVE/WORSHIP")

ZEPHANIAH

"SEEK GOD IN HUMILITY"

REMINDER: ALL THE KINGS OF JUDAH WERE DESCENDANTS OF DAVID/SOLOMON (I CHRON. 3)

SOLOMON - WROTE PROVERBS FOR HIS "SONS"
(PRINCES AND KINGS) TO KNOW WISDOM

PROV. 1:2-3 "HEAR MY VOICE, RECEIVE INSTRUCTION"

PROV. 1:5 "A WISE MAN WILL HEAR"

PROV. 1:7-8 "FEAR THE LORD, DON'T DESPISE WISDOM
AND INSTRUCTION, HEAR THIS!"

PROV 2:1-11 "WORDS TO LIVE BY!"

PROV. 3:1; 4:1, 10, 20; 5:1, 7 ETC....

ZEPHANIAH

"SEEK GOD IN HUMILITY"

APPLICATION: WHAT DO THE RIGHTEOUS DO IN
THIS KIND OF WORLD?

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THIS KIND OF WORLD?

ZEPH. 2:1-3

SEEK THE LORD

SEEK RIGHTEOUSNESS ("HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD")

SEEK HUMILITY

ZEPHANIAH

"SEEK GOD IN HUMILITY"

FOR US:

KEEP THE WORD OF GOD CENTRAL IN OUR CHURCH, FAMILIES, BUSINESS, ENTERTAINMENT, RELATIONSHIPS, BUDGETING

BE HUMBLE: IN YOUR CONVERSATIONS, IN YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA, WITH YOUR FAMILY, AMONG YOUR FRIENDS, IN YOUR WORSHIP, AT YOUR JOB