

I Love to Tell the Story
Application Questions

Isaiah-Zephaniah

Many hear the message of the prophets with a harsh tone of judgment. How does this compare with the description given in Isaiah 65:2-3? (see also how this view of God compares to what is said in Genesis 15:13-16 and II Peter 3:9-10)

How do you explain the judgment of God and the mercy of God found in those verses?

Ezra-Esther/Haggai-Malachi

When the people returned to the land from captivity, they at first rebuilt the altar, then the Temple, and years later, the walls around Jerusalem. Because of the previous destruction of Jerusalem, and the enemies who did not want them back in the land, their living conditions were very harsh. They became cynical towards God's care for them, started giving God "left-overs" (Malachi 1:6-14), and gave up on the work He wanted them to do. The prophets exhorted the people with the promises that God's Messiah was coming, and they needed to stay focused on preparing for his arrival.

In what ways do difficult times make you doubt God's care for you?

How does it affect the heart with which you give your love to God?

How does knowing that God has a bigger plan going on help us through our immediate trials?

What do you need to be doing to be prepared for His coming?