

**Advent 2024**  
**“Joy”**  
**Zephaniah 3:14-20 (NIV)**  
**December 15, 2024**

**Sermon Points:**

**1. Introductory Question:** *“What image of God do you imagine?”*

- Our mental image of God impacts our thoughts of him
- Zephaniah gives us 3 images of the LORD

**2. Zephaniah’s Images**

- King (v.15)
  - Unlike kings of Israel and today
  - He judges, we can trust
    - Punishment: Day of the LORD – bad news and good news
- Warrior (v.17)
  - Saves actively and by His presence
  - He saves, we can trust
    - Advent: Day of the LORD – past and future
- Singer (v.17)
  - God delights and rejoices
  - He loves, we can receive

**3. Takeaway:** *An Assured Home Gives Us Joy*

- Assured? 3 images of God’s character (v.14-17)
- Home? We are exiles, but God gives promises (v.18-20)
  - Jews’ Exile: Babylon
  - Humanity’s Exile: Sin and Shame
  - Christians’ Exile: World

**4. Concluding Question:** *“What image of God do you need this season?”*

- Feel no control? God is King
- Feel alone? God is Warrior
- Feel unlovable? God is Singer

Fill in John’s definition of “exile” for us today!

**Exile:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Discussion Questions:**

1. Which image in Zephaniah 3:14-17 of the LORD speaks to you the most?
2. Where do you feel most at home? Why there?
3. How can God’s character and promises give you joy? How can you share this with others?

