

Connect timeless truths with today's news.

### **CONVICTION OVERTURNED**

Back in 2003, someone robbed a Walgreens store at gunpoint in Dania Beach, Florida. A witness tentatively identified 33-year-old Leonard Cure as someone who might've been the robber. There was evidence that Cure was miles away at the time of the crime, but a jury nevertheless convicted him, and he was given a lifetime sentence plus ten years. This month, however, the state attorney's office got the entire case thrown out, and Cure was not only released from prison after sixteen years but was also granted record compensation of \$817,000 and 120 hours of college tuition and fees. "No amount of money will get those years back for Mr. Cure or give him peace," said Broward State Attorney Harold Pryor, "but it is a small gesture that recognizes Mr. Cure was wronged."

### **PUNISHMENT RESCINDED**

After years spent in Babylonian exile because of the rebellion and idolatry of the people of Judea, God promised through Zephaniah to bring them home. The Lord announced his intention to cancel his punishment, cease his rebuke, and deal with any who had oppressed them. God's discipline of his people was not without end.

1. What's the worst case of injustice you know of? How should things have gone instead?
2. When have you felt the Lord's discipline?
3. This passage depicts the Lord rejoicing over his people with singing. What do you think that means?

### **Additional Resources**

*These videos and materials are for your personal use. If you show videos in class, be sure to have the necessary rights to do so.*

Music Video, Traditional: ["Were You There?" by Johnny Cash](#)

Music Video, Multicultural: ["You Are Unrivaled" by Noel Robinson](#)

Music Video, Contemporary: ["Holy" by Steffany Gretzinger](#)

[Guzik's Commentary on Zephaniah 3](#)

[JFB Commentary on Zephaniah 3](#)

[Bible Hub Commentaries on Zephaniah 3:17](#)