

Series: Jealous Judge's Justice

Title: God is Judge

Text: Nahum 2

I. The Anger (of the Lord): Nahum 1 God is Jealous

II. The Announcement (of the fall): Nahum 2 God is Judge

III. The Activities (caused the fall): Nahum 3 God is Just

WHO SPEAKS? name means "consolation."

Little is known of Nahum, Galilee; Capernaum

To Comfort Israel regarding the Oppression of Assyria.

TO WHOM?

Addressed to city of Nineveh, capitol of the Assyrian Empire;

ABOUT WHAT?

God's warning of their destruction

150 yrs earlier, God had spared Nineveh in the book of Jonah;

Her more adamant pursuit of idolatry, moral, & ethical decay had now caused God to decree her destruction forever, as also foretold (Zeph 2:13-15; Jonah 3:10; Matt 12:41; Luke 11:32).

WHEN? 663-654BC

Written between the Assyrian destruction of Thebes in 663 BCE and the fall of Nineveh in 612 BCE,

The book has three parts:

- 1) 1st:** Introduction & proclamation of judgment of Nineveh.
- 2) 2nd:** Calamity coming to Nineveh & the Assyrian Empire.
- 3) 3rd:** Why these Permanent judgments are coming.

WHAT WAS THE OCCASION?

Written to show the holiness, mercy, & justice of God;

Written to offer assurance to Israel in captivity that God's covenant with His people was irrevocable.

Peace & redemption would again come to Israel, along with the destruction sign of Nineveh & Assyria, (Na 1:9, 15).

II. NAHUM - CHAPTER 2: Judgment Falls On Nineveh
Historical Context

1. Jerusalem delivered from Assyrian threat.
2. Assyrian Army destroyed: (185K) (II Kings 19:35).
3. Peace was restored for Judah.

God commands Judah to:

1. Keep holy festivals
2. Fulfill vows before Him

Message of Assurance:

1. Wicked Assyrians will not invade again
2. Sennacherib, king of Nineveh, will be cut off
3. God will spare Hezekiah as promised.

Comparable Announcements:

(Isaiah 52:7) → fall of Babylon

(Romans 10:15) → good news of Christ's gospel

Prophetic Announcement

- A Joyous Announcement of the Fall of Nineveh: (Ch 1:15)
- Isaiah 52:7: similar announcement about Babylon's fall.
- God commands Judah to:
 - Celebrate holy festivals - Keep vows before Him.
- Promise:
 - Assyrians will not march through Judah again.
 - Sennacherib, king of Nineveh, will be cut off.

- God will spare Hezekiah as promised.
This message became a “proverb for good news”

New Testament Connection

- Apostle Paul applies the proverb of “good news” in (Romans 10:15) → gospel of Christ.
- The image of the “beautiful feet” is carried forward to describe gospel messengers.

Christian Application

- The messenger who brings hope and victory is blessed with “beautiful feet.”
- Every Christian is called to have “beautiful feet” by carrying the gospel to the lost.
- A book of a Prophetic Vision (Nahum 1:1)

I. Nineveh Warned, v. 1-7.

A. The Invaders Appear: (Vs 1-2)

1. God mocks Ninevites: destruction is foretold.
2. Assyrian invaders emptied the Jews of their wealth.
3. Assyrians will be destroyed in the same way.

B. The Invaders Are Formidable: (Vs 3-5)

1. Shields red w/blood of slain Ninevites.
2. Officers would wear scarlet uniforms. Medo/
3. Torches prepared to burn Nineveh
4. The magnitude of the armies would shake the trees.
5. The chariot wheels caused Sparks (Isa 5:28);

NOTE: All this is yet 40 +/- years in the Future.

This is a book of a Prophetic “*Vision*” God let Nahum see.

C. God Breaches the Walls: (Vs 6-8)

1. Medo/Babylonian Armies regrouped, attacked.
2. Medo/Babylonian Armies laid siege to the city.
 3. Massive rain storm flood undermined the wall’s
 4. Queen captured as a trophy, dishonored.
 5. Nineveh an unbroken empire for 600 years,

II. Nineveh Is Spoiled, v. 9-12.

A. The Conquerers Will Spoil the City: (Vs 9-10)

1. Medo/Babylonian Armies will plunder the city,
2. City deserted, ruined, empty, void. & wasted.

B. The Conquerers Will Taunt Conquered: (Vs 11-12)

1. God mocks their Pride.
2. Lion symbol of Assyrian power
3. Ninevites believed undefeat-able like a lion.

III. Nineveh Destroyed, v. 13.

A. God pronounces Complete Destruction.

The Holy God states directly that He will:

- 1) Burn her chariots in the smoke, (Ps 37:20; 46:9,
- 2) Cause the sword to devour, her young soldiers.
- 3) Cut off her or sources of good & livelihood from the earth.
- 4) Cause her massagers to be silenced (2 Ki 19:23)

Ichabod had been written & decreed upon this 600 year Empire. She had fallen, was now being buried, to rise no more, (Na 3:5; Eze 19:9; 29:3; 38:3; 39:1).

The Abrahamic Covenant is still in Force.

God would make them a nation.

(Gen 12:1-3)

(Gen 27:29)

(Matt 25:40) The Valley of Jehoshaphat (Joel 3)