

Through the Bible Course

**November 2, 1947**

**Nahum**

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Key Word: Nineveh

Key Verse: 1:1

Nahum: Means “comforter.” We know nothing of him than this statement in verse 1.

Time: None can be sure but probably about 715-700 BC. A contemporary of Isaiah and Micah. Probably prophesied at time when Sennacherib besieged Jerusalem – 2 Kings 18-20 (These should be read.)

Purpose: To declare God’s judgment against Nineveh, the capital of Assyria. This prophecy was fulfilled 90 to 100 years later.

- I. Chapter 1 – God’s purpose in dealing in judgment with the Assyrian oppressor
  1. Verse 1 – The superscription
  2. Verses 2-6 – God’s majesty in judgment
    - a. Verses 2-3a – statements concerning the being of God
      1. Verse 2 – jealous, takes vengeance on adversaries and reserves wrath for enemies
      2. Verse 3 – slow to anger (book of Jonah) but will not acquit wicked (Exodus 34:6, 7)
    - b. Verses 3b-5 – His power
      1. Verse 3b – has way with whirlwind and storm
      2. Verse 4 – controls sea
      3. Verse 5 – mountains quake
    - c. Verse 6 – who can stand before Him
  3. Verses 7-15 – Comfort and assurance for His people
    - a. Verse 7 – He is good. He knoweth His own.
    - b. Verses 8-12 – also knows enemies – Nineveh is such
      1. Verse 8 – make an utter end of the place
      2. Verse 9 – will make an utter end
      3. Verses 10-12 – destruction foretold: will be drunk – will be burned – be cut down
    - c. Verses 13-15 – Lord will care for Israel
      1. Verse 13 – break yoke off
      2. Verse 14 – will cut off Israel’s idolatry
      3. Verse 15 – deliverance promised to Israel
- II. Chapter 2 – Overthrow, plundering and destruction of Nineveh

1. Verses 1-13 – Capture announced and described – description of besieging army, flood comes, their fear, city plundered, burning
2. This prophecy was literally fulfilled when Cyaxares of Media and Nabopolassa of Babylon besieged and destroyed the city, when river flood, and while the Ninevites were in drunken brawl.

III. Chapter 3 – Nineveh’s guilt and well deserved judgment

1. Verses 1-7 – Great wickedness of Assyrians
  - a. Verse 1 – bloody city
  - b. Verses 2, 3 – always at war and killing her captives
  - c. Verse 4 – picture of her idolatrous condition
  - d. Verses 5-7 – None will bemoan her destruction because of her wickedness
2. Verses 8-13 – Her fate to be like that of city of No
3. Verses 14-19 – Her deserved and complete judgment
  - a. Verse 14 – called upon to protect self
  - b. Verses 15, 16 – their destruction shall be complete
  - c. Verse 17 – their far-flung power
  - d. Verses 18, 19 – there shall be no healing – nations shall be glad

Lesson for us: We see God in His forbearance and love. But we see His holiness which cannot tolerate wickedness, together with His judgment which is neither capricious nor careless.