



The Book of Nahum

July 5, 2026

Ice Breaker

What is one law or rule you remember breaking as a kid, and what happened as a result?

Key Verses

- Nahum 1:2
- Nahum 1:3
- Nahum 1:7
- John 3:16

Questions

- The Pastor described God as slow to anger yet unwilling to leave the guilty unpunished. How do you personally hold those two truths together in your understanding of who God is?
- Nineveh repented under Jonah's preaching but returned to wickedness over a hundred years later. What does that pattern warn us about in our own spiritual lives?
- The sermon described Assyria as one of the most brutal and oppressive empires of the ancient world. How does knowing that God eventually judged such a powerful nation affect your trust in Him when you see injustice in the world today?
- The Pastor said that God's mercy and God's judgment cannot be separated. Do you tend to emphasize one over the other in how you think about God? Why do you think that is?

- The name Nahum means 'comfort,' and the message of Nineveh's coming destruction was actually good news for the people of Judah. How can the reality of God's judgment be a source of comfort and hope for believers?
- The Pastor mentioned that he often struggles with pride and wanting to be in control. In what areas of your life do you find it hardest to trust that God is in control?
- The sermon pointed out that our battle is not against flesh and blood but against spiritual forces. How does that perspective change the way you respond to difficult relationships or troubling world events?
- If God's mercy is on full display in sending Jesus to take the punishment for our sin, how should that reality shape the way we extend grace and mercy to the people around us this week?

Life Application

This week, identify one area of your life where you have been trying to stay in control rather than trusting God. Write it down, pray over it each day, and intentionally surrender it to Him. As a reminder of His character, memorize or meditate on Nahum 1:7, "The Lord is good, a stronghold in the days of trouble, and He knows those who take refuge in Him."

Key Takeaways

- God is all powerful and the one true ruler over all creation. Nothing and no one can stand against Him, and He holds everything together by His being.
- God is a righteous judge who will not leave the guilty unpunished. His justice is certain, whether for ancient empires like Assyria or for individuals today.
- God is merciful. He is slow to anger and gives people opportunities to repent, as He did with Nineveh. His greatest act of mercy is sending Jesus to bear the punishment for our sin.
- God's justice and mercy are not opposites. They are two inseparable parts of His character that work together and are both fully on display throughout Scripture.
- The message of Nahum is ultimately a message of hope for God's people. When the wicked are judged, those who take refuge in God experience peace and freedom from oppression.

Ending Prayer

Lord, thank You for the time we have shared together today in Your Word. Thank You that You are not a distant or indifferent God, but one who is all powerful, perfectly just, and overflowing with mercy. Remind us this week that You are in control of every situation we face, both personally and in the world around us. Where we have sinned, thank You for the mercy You have shown us through Jesus. Where we see injustice, help us to trust that You are a righteous judge who sees everything. And where we are tempted to take back control, give us the humility to surrender to You. May we leave here today walking more closely with You and extending to others the same grace You have so freely given us. In Jesus' name, amen.