

God in the Ruins

The Message of the Minor Prophets

NAHUM

Nahum 1-3

5/1/2022

GOD AND THE EVIL EMPIRE

- God will bring an end to _____ and _____ powers in history.
- God's _____ and _____ compel him to orchestrate the downfall of oppressive nations.

THE CHARACTER OF GOD

1. God is _____: Nineveh _____ fall.
(Exodus 34:14, Deuteronomy 32:35)
2. God is _____: _____ will Nineveh fall.
3. God is _____: _____ Nineveh will fail.

NINEVEH IS JUDGED FOR:

- Their ruthlessness _____. (Proverbs 6:16-19)
- Their _____.
- Their _____ and _____ - confidence.

SUMMARY THOUGHTS

1. The fall of Nineveh is an _____ of how God is at work in history.
2. Violence and arrogance sow the _____ of their own _____.
3. God is _____ by the death of the innocent. His _____ and _____ compel him to act.
4. 4. God acting against evil and violence is _____ news.

Nahum invites every reader to _____ themselves before God's justice and to _____ him.

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NAHUM 1

A prophecy concerning Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

² The Lord is a jealous and avenging God; the Lord takes vengeance and is filled with wrath. The Lord takes vengeance on his foes and vents his wrath against his enemies. ³ **The Lord is slow to anger but great in power; the Lord will not leave the guilty unpunished.** His way is in the whirlwind and the storm, and clouds are the dust of his feet...

⁵ The mountains quake before him and the hills melt away. The earth trembles at his presence, the world and all who live in it. ⁶ Who can withstand his indignation? Who can endure his fierce anger? His wrath is poured out like fire; the rocks are shattered before him. ⁷ **The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him...**

⁸ ...with an overwhelming flood he will make an end of Nineveh; he will pursue his foes into the realm of darkness...

⁹⁻¹³ Whatever they plot against the Lord he will bring to an end... The Lord has given a command concerning you, Nineveh: You will have no descendants to bear your name... Although they have allies and are numerous, they will be destroyed and pass away. Although I have afflicted you, Judah, I will afflict you no more.

¹⁴ I will destroy the images and idols that are in the temple of your gods. I will prepare your grave...

¹⁵ Look, there on the mountains, the feet of one who brings good news, who proclaims peace! Celebrate your festivals, Judah, and fulfill your vows. No more will the wicked invade you; they will be completely destroyed.

NAHUM 2

¹⁻⁴ An attacker advances against you, Nineveh... brace yourselves!... The shields of the soldiers are red... the chariots storm through the streets, rushing back and forth through the squares.

⁵⁻¹⁰ Nineveh summons her troops... they dash to the city wall; the protective shield is put in place. The river gates are thrown open and the palace collapses. It is decreed that Nineveh be exiled and carried away... She is pillaged, plundered, and stripped! Hearts melt, knees give way, bodies tremble, every face grows pale.

¹¹⁻¹³ "I am against you," declares the Lord Almighty. "I will burn up your chariots in smoke, and the sword will devour your young lions. I will leave you no prey on the earth. The voices of your messengers will no longer be heard."

NAHUM 3

¹ Woe to the city of blood, full of lies, full of plunder, never without victims...

⁴ all because of the wanton lust of a prostitute, alluring, the mistress of sorceries, who enslaved nations by her prostitution and peoples by her witchcraft...

⁸ Are you better than Thebes?... She was taken captive and went into exile...

¹² All your fortresses are like fig trees with their first ripe fruit; when they are shaken, the figs fall into the mouth of the eater...

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