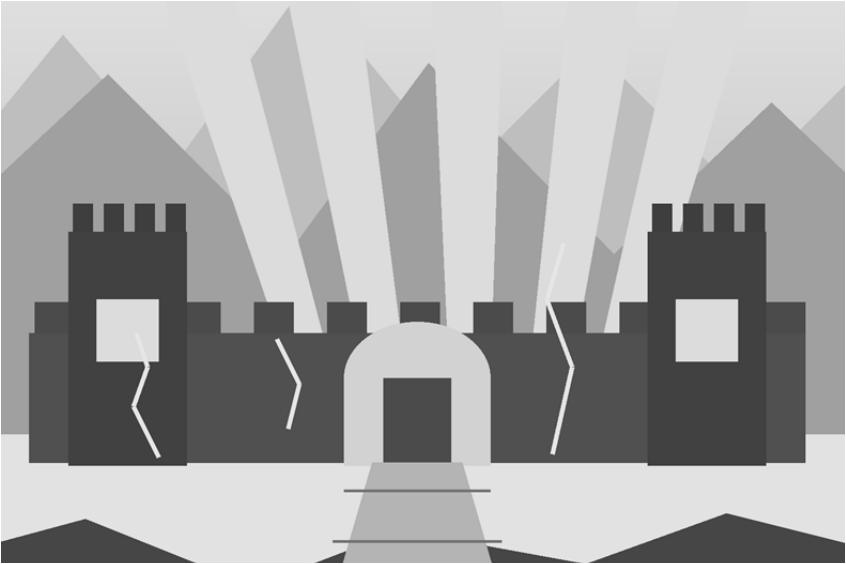


A MINOR PROPHET WITH A MAJOR MESSAGE

THE BOOK OF NAHUM



*"The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble.
He cares for those who trust in him."
Nahum 1:7*

A 5-Day Devotional Guide

Day 1: God Is Patient, Not Passive

Scripture: *Nahum 1:3, 7*

Nahum is a heavy book, but it is not the story of an angry God looking for a reason to punish. It is the story of a holy God who refuses to let evil reign forever.

Nineveh had already received mercy in the days of Jonah. They repented, and God spared them. But more than a century later, they had returned to pride, cruelty, idolatry, and violence. Nahum reminds us that God's patience is not permission. His delay is not approval. His mercy is not weakness.

God is "slow to anger," which means He is not impulsive or petty. Before judgment, there had been warning. Before warning, there had been mercy. Before mercy was ignored, there had been time to turn.

That speaks to us. We cannot live on yesterday's obedience or someone else's repentance. When God puts His finger on an attitude, habit, or hidden compromise, He is not trying to shame us. He is calling us home.

The same God who stands against evil is also "good" and a "refuge" for those who trust Him. Run to Him today.

Reflect:

Where have I mistaken God's patience for permission?

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for Your patience. Help me respond to Your mercy with humility, repentance, and obedience.

Day 2: A Refuge in Real Trouble

Scripture: *Nahum 1:7*

Right in the middle of Nahum's strong warnings is one of the most comforting promises in Scripture, "The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble." This verse is the heartbeat of the book.

Judah knew trouble. Assyria was powerful, cruel, and intimidating. God's people felt small under a yoke they could not break. Yet God did not tell them to pretend the trouble was not real. He gave them something stronger than denial. He gave them Himself.

A refuge is not the absence of a storm. A refuge is the safe place you run to while the storm is still raging. Sometimes God removes the trouble quickly. Sometimes He strengthens us while we wait. But either way, He cares for those who trust Him.

Nahum reminds the wounded that God sees what others miss. He is not indifferent to injustice, cruelty, pressure, fear, or pain. The Lord is good even when life is not. He is near even when the situation has not changed.

So bring Him what you are carrying. Bring the fear, the wound, the question, the anxiety, and the burden. The safest place for the soul is the presence of God.

Reflect:

What trouble do I need to bring honestly into God's refuge today?

Prayer:

Good Father, be my refuge. Help me trust Your care even when the storm has not yet passed.

Day 3: The God Who Breaks the Yoke

Scripture: *Nahum 1:13*

Judah lived under the shadow of Assyria. They knew what it felt like to be threatened, controlled, and worn down by something too strong for them. Then God spoke a promise: "I will break their yoke from your neck and tear your shackles away."

That is deliverance language. The burden would not remain forever. The pressure would not have the final word. The chains that seemed permanent were not stronger than God.

We may not live under Assyria, but we know yokes. Shame can be a yoke. Fear can be a yoke. Anxiety, bitterness, old wounds, secret habits, and long-believed lies can press on the soul until we start thinking, "This is just my life."

Nahum says otherwise. God is a bondage breaker.

Deliverance does not always come as quickly as we want. Judah had to trust God's Word before they saw Nineveh fall. Sometimes faith means worshiping while the yoke still feels heavy. But God's timing does not cancel God's power.

The greater good news is Jesus. Through His death and resurrection, He broke the power of sin and death. He still tears shackles away and teaches weary people to breathe again.

Reflect:

What yoke have I started to accept as permanent?

Prayer:

Lord Jesus, break what has been binding me. Restore my hope, my worship, and my freedom in You.

Day 4: When Pride Builds Walls

Scripture: *Nahum 2:13*

Nineveh looked untouchable. It had walls, armies, wealth, influence, and a reputation that made nations tremble. But Nahum announced that the city no one thought could fall would fall.

Pride always overestimates its strength. It says, “I can handle this. I do not need correction. I do not need repentance. I do not need God.” Pride builds walls, but those walls eventually become prisons.

We can build our own little Ninevehs. Walls of control, self-sufficiency, religious appearance, defensiveness, and even walls of “I’m fine.” Those walls may look strong for a while, but they cannot save us.

The most sobering words in Nahum are God’s words to Nineveh, “I am against you.” God did not say this because He enjoys destruction. Nineveh had positioned itself against mercy, justice, humility, and truth. God will not bless cruelty, ignore oppression, or allow pride to stand forever.

That warning is also mercy. God confronts pride before it destroys us. He invites us to come down from the walls and return to Him.

The humble heart is safer than the impressive wall. Pride collapses. Humility finds refuge.

Reflect:

Where am I building walls instead of walking in humility?

Prayer:

Lord, tear down pride in me. Give me a humble heart that depends fully on You.

Day 5: God Has the Final Word

Scripture: *Nahum 3:1*

Nahum ends with a sobering picture of Nineveh: blood, lies, plunder, and victims. The problem was not simply that Nineveh had power. The problem was how they used power. They used it to harm, intimidate, exploit, and crush others.

That phrase “never without victims” reminds us that God sees the people the world overlooks. The world may celebrate success, but God examines the path that success took. The world may applaud influence, but God notices who was wounded along the way.

Nahum brings comfort to the wounded; evil does not get the final word. Cruelty may last longer than we think it should, but it will not last forever. Injustice may look strong, but it is not eternal. God sees. God cares. God acts.

Nahum also brings correction to us. We are accountable for how we treat people. Do our words heal or wound? Do we use influence to bless or control? Do we tell the truth, or protect ourselves with lies?

Nahum points us to the cross, where justice and mercy meet. God did not ignore sin; He judged it. But He did not abandon sinners; Christ carried our sin.

The final word does not belong to evil. The final word belongs to God.

Reflect:

How does God’s final word bring both comfort and correction to me?

Prayer:

Father, help me trust Your justice, receive Your mercy, and treat others with humility, truth, and love.
