

Bible Snapshots



Nahum – Jonah Reloaded **Author** – Nahum (1:1)

Facts

- Nahum, the writer, means “consoler” or “comforter” though he is certain a prophet of wrath in the sense that he describes as the vindicator of right, avenger of wrong and final judge of all
- He prophesied the doom of Nineveh about more than 10 years after Jonah visited. The book was written directly after the fall of the Egyptian city Thebes (ca.660 BC) and was used by Nahum to illustrate how Nineveh would fall (3:8-10).
- Nahum was contemporary with Zephaniah, Jeremiah, and Habakkuk. The message is primarily to Nineveh, but contains and promise of peace to Judah. The book has 3 chapters and 47 verses

Contents

- Under the preaching of Jonah there had been a great reform in Nineveh, but gradually they made their way back to an overwhelmingly sinful lifestyle. God had been patient with them (1:3), but they had become so hard-hearted and sin was so pervasive that God declared them incurable (3:19).
- Nineveh had become a lion’s den full of prey (2:11, 12) and thus God declared that not only Nineveh, but also all of Assyria would be destroyed. Part of what makes Nahum unusual is this declaration of utter desolation from which this nation would not return. (1:8). In most cases when an empire falls, some cities survive. Not so with Nineveh. Three hundred years after it is destroyed Alexander the Great took an expedition over the site without even realizing that he stood on top of one of the mightiest empires that ever existed.

Prophecy

- Nineveh’s doom (1:8) fulfilled in 612BC.
- Christ’s earthly message (1:15 with Luke 4:18, 19)

Proving Nahum

Nineveh’s fall has been confirmed in its specific detail. Nahum said the destruction would - be an overwhelming flood (1:8); leaders would be drunk (1:10); enemies against them will be like chariots with flaming torches (2:3, 4); leaders are drunk (2:5); gates of the river opened (2:6); the city flooded (2:8); will become empty or waste (2:10; 3:7); Fire will destroy (3:13) and no hope for survival will exist (1:8; 3:19). Nineveh was conquered in 612 BC by Cyaxares of the Medes and Nabopolassar of Babylon. The destruction fulfilled the specific details of Nahum in every way. Forces were sent to destroy the aqueduct and to divert the Tigris river simultaneously to flood the city. The waters dissolved the mud brick foundations and destroyed the buildings and walls. Later the city was burned.

Christ in Nahum

A stronghold (1:7); Bringer of good tidings and peace (1:15)

Key phrase / word / thought

- An utter end (1:8, 9) / Jealous (1:2) / The severity of God

Key chapters/verse

- 3, with Galatians 6:7 / 1:2, 3, 7

Outline of the book of Micah

- Overthrow declared (1)
- Overthrow descried (2)
- Overthrow defended (3)

Messages – One must continue in the light to be saved – It wasn’t enough to turn back to God at Jonah’s preaching. They must remain in Him. God is our stronghold in the day when trouble comes.