
Nahum

I. God's Character: Yahweh is both an avenging and a gracious God (1:1-8).

Introduction: Nahum received a revelation about Nineveh, the capitol of the Assyrian Empire (1:1).

- A. Yahweh is a jealous and avenging God (1:2-6).
- B. Yahweh is a good and caring God (1:7-8).

II. Judah's Relief: Yahweh was preparing to rescue Judah (1:9-15).

- A. Yahweh frustrates the plans of His enemies (1:9-11).
- B. Yahweh relieves the affliction of His people (1:12-13).
- C. Yahweh destroys the life of the vile (1:14).
- D. Yahweh brings good news to Judah (1:15).

III. Nineveh's Destruction: Yahweh was raising up an army to utterly destroy Nineveh (2:1-13).

- A. Nahum describes the army that would defeat Nineveh (2:1-4).
- B. Nahum describes the battle that would destroy Nineveh (2:5-10).
- C. Nahum describes the political weakness that would characterize Nineveh (2:11-13)

IV. Nineveh's Crimes: Yahweh enumerates the moral failures of Nineveh (3:1-19).

- A. Violence—Nineveh had committed countless acts of plunder and murder (3:1-4).
- B. Wickedness—Nineveh had developed a reputation that was shameful and contemptible (3:5-7).
- C. Pride—Nineveh had depended on its own prestige and power (3:8-11).

D. Deception—Nineveh had presented a false impression of strength and stability (3:12-17).

1. In reality, Nineveh had weak fortresses (3:12).
2. In reality, Nineveh had weak troops (3:13).
3. In reality, Nineveh had weak defenses (3:14-15).
4. In reality, Nineveh had a weak economy (3:16).
5. In reality, Nineveh had weak leaders (3:17).

Conclusion: The Assyrian Empire had fallen beyond recovery, to the delight of the nations it had oppressed (3:18-19).