

God's Power Over Nineveh's Pride

Nahum 3:1-19

A. Nahum Chapter 3 – Who Will Cry for Nineveh?

Nahum 3:1-4 – Reason for Nineveh's woe

- An overview of the evil of the Assyrian people focuses on their violence and idolatry (v1,4)
- Terror and carnage are fitting for these evil people (v2-3)

Nahum 3:5-7 – A fitting retribution

- Humiliation is a fitting retribution for the proud (v5-6)
- Nobody will feel bad when Nineveh falls (v7)

Nahum 3:8-11 – As Thebes, so goes Nineveh

- Thebes (No Amon) appeared to be undefeatable (v8-9)
- That great city was humbled; so Nineveh will be (v10-11)

Nahum 3:12-17 – Ripe for judgment; resistance futile

- God's appraisal does not match Nineveh's pride (v12-13)
- Try as you might, God's power is irrefutable (v14-15)
- The appearance of strength in numbers will vanish (v16-17)

Nahum 3:18-19 – Assyria is ended; nobody is sad

- "He is utterly cut off" (1:15) by a good God (v18-19)

B. Why Nahum's Prophecy Matters

1) Fulfilled prophecies validate the claims of the Bible

- Notable fulfilled Bible prophecies:
 - Isaiah 44:28, 45:1, and 45:13 predicted that a leader named Cyrus would issue a command to rebuild Jerusalem and its temple, and that he would subdue the kings that had oppressed the Jewish people.
 - King Cyrus of the Medio-Persian empire (born about 150 years later), led the attack which overcame Babylon, conquered the entire Middle East, and granted permission and funding to rebuild Jerusalem's temple in 539 B.C.
 - Daniel 9:25-26 predicted that 483 years would transpire between a command to rebuild Jerusalem and the appearance of the Messiah, and that the Messiah would be "cut off."
 - At the appointed time, Jesus began a public ministry, and was "cut off" when He was crucified three years later.
 - Micah 5:2 predicted the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem.
 - Jesus was born in Bethlehem (Luke 2), about 700 years later.
 - Nahum predicted the fall of Nineveh, the strongest city in the world under the reign of the Assyrian king Ashurbanipal (663 B.C. – 654 B.C.).
 - Nineveh falls to the Medio-Babylonian alliance in 612 B.C.

2) God's character is worth studying