

~NAHUM, BOOK OF (431)

.. Harmony With Other Bible Books

.. Historical Background

.. Highlights Of Nahum

- This book is a prophetic, pronouncement against Nineveh, the capital of the Assyrian Empire. This Bible book was written by Nahum the Elkoshite.
- The pronouncement against Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite. (Nahum 1:1)
- The historical fulfillment of that prophetic pronouncement testifies to the authenticity of the book. Sometime after the Egyptian city of No-amon, or Thebes, suffered humiliating defeat in the Seventh Century B.C.E.
- Are you better than No-amon, that was sitting by the Nile canals? Waters were all around her, whose wealth was the sea, whose wall was from the sea. (Nahum 3:8)
- Ethiopia was her full might, also Egypt, and that without limit. Put and the Libyans themselves proved to be of assistance to you. (Nahum 3:9)
- She, too, was meant for exile. She went into captivity. Her own children also came to be dashed to pieces at the head of all the streets, and over her glorified men they cast lots, and her great ones have all been bound with fetters. (Nahum 3:10)
- The book of Nahum was committed to writing, being completed before Nineveh's foretold destruction came in 632 B.C.E.

See Also ASSYRIA

See Also NINEVEH

.. Harmony With Other Bible Books

- The book of Nahum agrees fully with the rest of the Scriptures in describing Yehowah as, a God exacting exclusive devotion, slow to anger and great in power, but by no means withholding punishment.

- **Yehowah is a God exacting exclusive devotion and taking vengeance; Yehowah is taking vengeance and is disposed to rage. Yehowah is taking vengeance against his adversaries, and he is resentful toward his enemies. (Nahum 1:2)**
- **Yehowah is slow to anger and great in power, and by no means will Yehowah hold back from punishing. In destructive wind and in storm is his way, and the cloud mass is the powder of his feet. (Nahum 1:3)**
- **You must not bow down to them nor be induced to serve them, because I Yehowah your God am a God exacting exclusive devotion, bringing punishment for the error of fathers upon sons, upon the third generation and upon the fourth generation, in the case of those who hate me. (Exodus 20:5)**
- **And Yehowah went passing by before his face and declaring; Yehowah, Yehowah, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abundant in loving-kindness and truth. (Exodus 34:6)**
- **Preserving loving-kindness for thousands, pardoning error and transgression and sin, but by no means will he give exemption from punishment, bringing punishment for the error of fathers upon sons and upon grandsons, upon the third generation and upon the fourth generation. (Exodus 34:7)**
- **He is wise in heart and strong in power. Who can show stubbornness to him and come off uninjured? (Job 9:4)**
- **Once God has spoken, twice I have heard even this, that strength belongs to God. (Psalms 62:11)**
- **Yehowah is good, a stronghold in the day of distress. And he is cognizant of those seeking refuge in him.**
- **Yehowah is good, a stronghold in the day of distress. And he is cognizant of those seeking refuge in him. (Nahum 1:7)**
- **Good and upright is Yehowah. That is why he instructs sinners in the way. (Psalms 25:8)**
- **God is for us a refuge and strength, a help that is readily to be found during distresses. (Psalms 46:1)**

- For you have become a stronghold to the lowly one, a stronghold to the poor one in the distress that he has, a refuge from the rainstorm, a shade from the heat, when the blast of the tyrannical ones is like a rainstorm against a wall. ([Isaiah 25:4](#))
- He said to him; Why do you ask me about what is good? One there is that is good. If, though, you want to enter into life, observe the commandments continually. ([Matthew 19:17](#))
- These qualities are clearly manifest in his delivering the Israelites from Assyrian oppression and executing vengeance against bloodguilty Nineveh after a considerable period of forbearance.
- Noteworthy, too, are the similarities between ([Nahum Chapter 1](#)) and ([Psalms Chapter 97](#)). Also with the words of Isaiah;
- Therefore this is what the Sovereign Lord, Yehowah of armies, has said; Do not be afraid, O my people who are dwelling in Zion, because of the Assyrian, who with the rod used to strike you and who used to lift up his own staff against you in the way that Egypt did. ([Isaiah 10:24](#))
- For yet a very little while, and the denunciation will have come to an end, and my anger, in their wearing away. ([Isaiah 10:25](#))
- And Yehowah of armies will certainly brandish against him a whip as at the defeat of Midian by the rock Oreb, and his staff will be upon the sea, and he will certainly lift it up in the way that he did with Egypt. ([Isaiah 10:26](#))
- And it must occur in that day that his load will depart from upon your shoulder, and his yoke from upon your neck, and the yoke will certainly be wrecked because of the oil. ([Isaiah 10:27](#))
- And with. ([Psalms Chapter 97](#)).
- Look! The name of Yehowah is coming from far away, burning with his anger and with heavy clouds. As for his lips, they have become full of denunciation, and his tongue is like a devouring fire. ([Isaiah 30:27](#))
- And his spirit is like a flooding torrent that reaches clear to the neck, to swing the nations to and fro with a sieve of worthlessness, and a bridle that causes one to wander about will

be in the jaws of the peoples. (**Isaiah 30:28**)

- You people will come to have a song like that in the night that one sanctifies oneself for a festival, and rejoicing of heart like that of one walking with a flute to enter into the mountain of Yehowah, to the Rock of Israel. (**Isaiah 30:29**)
- And Yehowah will certainly make the dignity of his voice to be heard and will make the descending of his arm to be seen, in the raging of anger and the flame of a devouring fire and cloudburst and rainstorm and hailstones. (**Isaiah 30:30**)
- For because of the voice of Yehowah Assyria will be struck with terror, he will strike it even with a staff. (**Isaiah 30:31**)
- And every swing of his rod of chastisement that Yehowah will cause to settle down upon Assyria will certainly prove to be with tambourines and with harps, and with battles of brandishing he will actually fight against them. (**Isaiah 30:32**)
- For his Topheth is set in order from recent times, it is also prepared for the king himself. He has made its pile deep. Fire and wood are in abundance. The breath of Yehowah, like a torrent of sulphur, is burning against it. (**Isaiah 30:33**)
- The word of Yehowah's judgment against Assyria parallel, to an extent. (**Nahum Chapters 2,3**)
- How comely upon the mountains are the feet of the one bringing Good News, the one publishing peace, the one bringing Good News of something better, the one publishing salvation, the one saying to Zion; Your God has become king! (**Isaiah 52:7**)
- Look! Upon the mountains the feet of one bringing Good News, one publishing peace. O Judah, celebrate your festivals. Pay your vows, because no more will any good-for-nothing person pass again through you. In his entirety he will certainly be cut off. (**Nahum 1:15**)
- How, in turn, will they preach unless they have been sent forth? Just as it is written: How comely are the feet of those who declare Good News of good things!
- Brothers, the goodwill of my heart and my supplication to God for

them are, indeed, for their salvation. (**Romans 10:1**)

.. Historical Background

- **Although assured that the conspiracy of Syrian King Rezin and Israelite King Pekah would fail in the attempt to depose him as king**
- **And Yehowah proceeded to say to Isaiah; Go out, please, to meet Ahaz, you and Shear-jashub your son, to the end of the conduit of the upper pool by the highway of the laundryman's field. (**Isaiah 7:3**)**
- **And you must say to him; Watch yourself and keep undisturbed. Do not be afraid, and do not let your heart itself be timid because of the two tail ends of these smoking logs, because of the hot anger of Rezin and Syria and the son of Remaliah. (**Isaiah 7:4**)**
- **For the reason that Syria with Ephraim and the son of Remaliah has advised what is bad against you, saying; (**Isaiah 7:5**)**
- **Let us go up against Judah and tear it apart and by breakthroughs take it for ourselves, and let us make another king reign inside it, the son of Tabeel. (**Isaiah 7:6**)**
- **This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; It will not stand, neither will it take place. (**Isaiah 7:7**)**
- **Faithless Ahaz of Judah unwisely appealed to Assyrian King Tiglath-pileser III or Tilgath-pilneser for aid. Eventually this move caused him distress, and did not strengthen him, for Judah came under the heavy yoke of Assyria.**
- **Eventually Tilgath-pilneser the king of Assyria came against him and caused him distress, and did not strengthen him. (**2 Chronicles 28:20**)**
- **For Ahaz stripped the house of Yehowah and the house of the king and of the princes and thus made a gift to the king of Assyria, but it was of no assistance to him. (**2 Chronicles 28:21**)**
- **Later, Ahaz son and successor to the throne, Hezekiah, rebelled against Assyrian dominance.**
- **And Yehowah proved to be with him. Wherever he would go out,**

he would act prudently, and he proceeded to rebel against the king of Assyria and did not serve him. ([2 Kings 18:7](#))

- Thereafter the Assyrian monarch Sennacherib invaded Judah and seized one fortified city after another, this resulting in extensive desolation of the land.
- In that day, by means of a hired razor in the region of the River, even by means of the king of Assyria, Yehowah will shave the head and the hair of the feet, and it will sweep away even the beard itself. ([Isaiah 7:20](#))
- And it must occur in that day that every place where there used to be a thousand vines, worth a thousand pieces of silver, will come to be, for the thornbushes and for the weeds it will come to be. ([Isaiah 7:23](#))
- With arrows and the bow he will come there, because all the land will become mere thornbushes and weeds. ([Isaiah 7:24](#))
- And all the mountains that used to be cleared of troublesome plants with a hoe, you will not come there for fear of thornbushes and weeds, and it will certainly become a place for letting bulls loose and a trampling ground of sheep. ([Isaiah 7:25](#))
- For the reason that this people has rejected the waters of the Shiloah that are going gently, and there is exultation over Rezin and the son of Remaliah. ([Isaiah 8:6](#))
- Even therefore, look! Yehowah is bringing up against them the mighty and the many waters of the River, the king of Assyria and all his glory. And he will certainly come up over all his streambeds and go over all his banks ([Isaiah 8:7](#))
- And move on through Judah. He will actually flood and pass over. Up to the neck he will reach. And the outspreading of his wings must occur to fill the breadth of your land, O Immanuel! ([Isaiah 8:8](#))
- Now it came about in the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah that Sennacherib the king of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and proceeded to seize them. ([Isaiah 36:1](#))
- And the king of Assyria finally sent Rabshakeh from Lachish to

Jerusalem, to King Hezekiah, with a heavy military force, and he proceeded to stand still by the conduit of the upper pool at the highway of the laundryman's field. ([Isaiah 36:2](#))

- The next Judean king, Manasseh, was captured by Assyrian army chiefs and taken to Babylon, then under Assyrian control.
- Finally Yehowah brought against them the chiefs of the army that belonged to the king of Assyria, and so they captured Manasseh in the hollows and bound him with two fetters of copper and took him to Babylon. ([2 Chronicles 33:11](#))
- Since Judah had thus suffered long under the heavy hand of Assyria, **Nahum's** prophecy regarding Nineveh's imminent destruction was Good News.
- As if Assyria had already experienced its downfall, Nahum wrote;
- Look! Upon the mountains the feet of one bringing Good News, one publishing peace. O Judah, celebrate your festivals. Pay your vows, because no more will any good-for-nothing person pass again through you. In his entirety he will certainly be cut off. ([Nahum 1:15](#))
- No longer would there be any interference from the Assyrians, nothing would hinder the Judeans from attending or celebrating the festivals. The deliverance from the Assyrian oppressor would be complete.
- What will you men think up against Yehowah? He is causing an outright extermination. Distress will not rise up a second time. ([Nahum 1:9](#))
- Also, all other peoples hearing about Nineveh's destruction would clap their hands, or rejoice, over her calamity, for the city's badness had brought much suffering to them.
- There is no relief for your catastrophe. Your stroke has become unhealable. All those hearing the report about you will certainly clap their hands at you, because upon whom was it that your badness did not pass over constantly? ([Nahum 3:19](#))
- The military aggressiveness of the Assyrians made Nineveh a city of bloodshed.

- **Woe to the city of bloodshed. She is all full of deception and of robbery. Prey does not depart! (Nahum 3:1)**
- **Cruel and inhuman was the treatment meted out to captives of her wars. Some were burned or skinned alive. Others were blinded or had their noses, ears, or fingers cut off. Frequently, captives were led by cords attached to hooks that pierced the nose or lips. Truly Nineveh deserved to be destroyed for her bloodguiltiness.**

•• Highlights Of Nahum

- **A pronouncement against Nineveh, the capital of Assyria
Written sometime before Nineveh was destroyed in 632 B.C.E.
Yehowah executes vengeance upon his adversaries**
- **The pronouncement against Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.**
- **Yehowah is a God exacting exclusive devotion and taking vengeance. Yehowah is taking vengeance and is disposed to rage. Yehowah is taking vengeance against his adversaries, and he is resentful toward his enemies.(Nahum 1:1)**
- **Yehowah is a God exacting exclusive devotion and taking vengeance, Yehowah is taking vengeance and is disposed to rage. Yehowah is taking vengeance against his adversaries, and he is resentful toward his enemies. (Nahum 1:2)**
- **Yehowah is slow to anger and great in power, and by no means will Yehowah hold back from punishing. In destructive wind and in storm is his way, and the cloud mass is the powder of his feet.**
- **Yehowah is slow to anger and great in power, and by no means will Yehowah hold back from punishing. In destructive wind and in storm is his way, and the cloud mass is the powder of his feet. (Nahum 1:3)**
- **He is rebuking the sea, and he dries it up, and all the rivers he actually makes run dry. Bashan and Carmel have withered, and the very blossom of Lebanon has withered.**
- **He is rebuking the sea, and he dries it up, and all the rivers he actually makes run dry. Bashan and Carmel have withered, and**

the very blossom of Lebanon has withered. (Nahum 1:4)

- **Mountains themselves have rocked because of him, and the very hills found themselves melting. And the earth will be upheaved because of his face, the productive land also, and all those dwelling in it.**
- **Mountains themselves have rocked because of him, and the very hills found themselves melting. And the earth will be upheaved because of his face, the productive land also, and all those dwelling in it. (Nahum 1:5)**
- **In the face of his denunciation who can stand? And who can rise up against the heat of his anger? His own rage will certainly be poured out like fire, and the very rocks will actually be pulled down because of him.**
- **In the face of his denunciation who can stand? And who can rise up against the heat of his anger? His own rage will certainly be poured out like fire, and the very rocks will actually be pulled down because of him. (Nahum 1:6)**
- **Yehowah requires exclusive devotion, though he is slow to anger, he does not hold back punishment when deserved.**
- **No one can stand against the heat of his anger, before him the seas dry up, mountains rock, the hills melt, the earth heaves.**
- **Execution of the wicked affords relief for those hoping in Yehowah.**
- **Yehowah is good, a stronghold in the day of distress. And he is cognizant of those seeking refuge in him.**
- **Yehowah is good, a stronghold in the day of distress. And he is cognizant of those seeking refuge in him. (Nahum 1:7)**
- **There is no relief for your catastrophe. Your stroke has become unhealable. All those hearing the report about you will certainly clap their hands at you, because upon whom was it that your badness did not pass over constantly?**
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clap their hands at you, because upon whom was it that your badness did not pass over constantly? (Nahum 3:19)

- **Yehowah is a protective stronghold for those relying on him, but he will exterminate the enemy.**
- **Good news will be announced to Judah, the good-for-nothing person will be cut off, and true worship will be carried on without hindrance.**
- **Yehowah will regather his own, but Nineveh will be laid waste, and her war chariots burned.**
- **The bloodguilty city is to be plundered as a punishment for her sins, nothing can save her, her warriors have become as women.**
- **The stroke inflicted on the king of Assyria has become unhealable.**