

The Prophet of Consolation

Nahum

PROPOSITION: Nahum declares the doom of Nineveh.

INTRODUCTION:

1. Though the queen city of all the earth, it "will be cut down and pass away" (Nahum 1:12).
2. At the height of Nineveh's power, Nahum appeared with a prophecy that some call, "Nineveh's Death Song."
3. Nothing is known of the person called Nahum except what is found in Nahum 1:1.
4. The purpose of Nahum was to pronounce divine vengeance upon the city of Nineveh and to console Judah with promises of future deliverance.
5. The key verse is Nahum 2:13.
6. G. Campbell Morgan outlined the book of Nahum under the word, "Vengeance."
 - a. Verdict of Vengeance (chp. 1)
 - b. Vision of Vengeance (chp. 2)
 - c. Vindication of Vengeance (chp. 3)
 - 1) Vice declared (vv. 1-3)
 - 2) Vice described (vv. 4-7)
 - 3) Vice dissected (vv. 8-17)
 - 4) Vice destroyed (vv. 18, 19)

DISCUSSION: At the end of Nineveh,...

I. Inward provisions will waste away.

- A. A conquering nation must do the work of slaves (Nahum 3:14).
- B. Yet, the city would fall in spite of the provisions and works of fortification (Nahum 3:15).

II. Outward defenses will be destroyed.

- A. "There will the fire devour you" (Nahum 3:15).
- B. What was considered strong was destroyed with ease, like locusts' eating tender grass.

III. Immense numbers will fall away.

- A. Nineveh was a metropolis with a great population, but mere numbers did not matter.
- B. Wealthy merchants would not defend (Nahum 3:16)
- C. The captains and commanders of the army would melt away (Nahum 3:17).
- D. Ruling princes will not defend (Nahum 3:18).

IV. Hope will be lost.

- A. "There is no easing your hurt" (Nahum 3:19).
- B. For her cruelty, Nineveh would be repaid with cruelty.
- C. Nineveh's ruin would be a joy to others.
- D. Nineveh destroyed would never be restored.

CONCLUSION:

1. The fall of Nineveh occurred sometime around 612 or 607 B.C. Three hundred years later, people did not know a city had ever been there.
2. Let not the sad state of Nineveh become the sad state of our people.

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