

{34} Nahum

King James 1769 Version

King James Paraphrase

Chapter 1

(1) The burden of Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

(2) God is jealous, and the LORD revengeth; the LORD revengeth, and is furious; the LORD will take vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserveth *wrath* for his enemies.

(3) The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit *the wicked*: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds *are* the dust of his feet.

(4) He rebuketh the sea, and maketh it dry, and drieth up all the rivers: Bashan languisheth, and Carmel, and the flower of Lebanon languisheth.

(5) The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein.

(6) Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him.

(7) The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.

Chapter 1

(1) The vision of Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum {comforter}^a the Elkoshite.

(2) God is jealous, and the LORD {Jehovah} avenges; the LORD {Jehovah} avenges, and is furious; the LORD {Jehovah} will take vengeance on His adversaries, and He reserves *wrath* {anger; judgment} for His enemies.

(3) The LORD {Jehovah} is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit *the wicked*: the LORD {Jehovah} has His way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds *are* the dust of His feet.

(4) He rebukes the sea, and makes it dry, and dries up all the rivers: Bashan wilts, and Carmel, and the flower of Lebanon withers away.

(5) The mountains quake at Him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at His presence, yes, the world, and all who live in it.

(6) Who can stand before His indignation? and who can live in the fierceness of His anger? His fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by Him.

(7) The LORD {Jehovah} is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knows those who trust in Him.

1:1a - Nahum {נְחֻם} – comforter – the prophecy is given concerning Nineveh primary city of Assyria – Probably written sometime between the Assyrian capture of No-Ammon {Nah. 3:8} and the fall of Nineveh sometime around the early part of Jeremiah's ministry. - see the book of Jonah – the city of Nineveh repented at Jonah's preaching {Jonah 3:10} {about 100 years earlier} but now was worse than ever. The Assyrians were proud of their conquests which included the conquering of the northern kingdom of Israel in 3406 A.H./C-636 B.C. - see Appendix G: World Time Line of Biblical History.

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(8) But with an overrunning flood he will make an utter end of the place thereof, and darkness shall pursue his enemies.

(9) What do ye imagine against the LORD? he will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time.

(10) For while *they be* folden together as thorns, and while they are drunken as drunkards, they shall be devoured as stubble fully dry.

(11) There is *one* come out of thee, that imagineth evil against the LORD, a wicked counsellor.

(12) Thus saith the LORD; Though *they be* quiet, and likewise many, yet thus shall they be cut down, when he shall pass through. Though I have afflicted thee, I will afflict thee no more.

(13) For now will I break his yoke from off thee, and will burst thy bonds in sunder.

(14) And the LORD hath given a commandment concerning thee, *that* no more of thy name be sown: out of the house of thy gods will I cut off the graven image and the molten image: I will make thy grave; for thou art vile.

(15) Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.

King James Paraphrase

(8) But with an overrunning flood He will make a complete end of its place {Nineveh}, and darkness will pursue His enemies.

(9) What do you imagine against the LORD {Jehovah}? He will make a complete end: affliction will not rise up the second time.

(10) Because while *they are* entangled together as thorns, and while they are drunken as drunkards, they will be devoured as stubble fully dry.

(11) There is *one* who comes out of you, who imagines evil against the LORD {Jehovah}, a wicked counselor.

(12) This is what the LORD {Jehovah} says; Though *they are* quiet, and likewise many, yet even so they will be cut down, when he passes through. Though I have afflicted you, I will afflict you no more.

(13) Because now I will break his yoke from off you, and will burst your bonds in pieces.

(14) And the LORD {Jehovah} has given a commandment concerning you, *that* no more of your name be sown: out of the house of your gods I will cut off the graven image and the molten image: I will make your grave; because you are vile.

(15) Look, upon the mountains the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace! O Judah, keep your solemn feasts, perform your vows: because the wicked will no more pass through you; he is completely cut off.

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Chapter 2

(1) He that dasheth in pieces is come up before thy face: keep the munition, watch the way, make *thy* loins strong, fortify *thy* power mightily.

(2) For the LORD hath turned away the excellency of Jacob, as the excellency of Israel: for the emptiers have emptied them out, and marred their vine branches.

(3) The shield of his mighty men is made red, the valiant men *are* in scarlet: the chariots *shall be* with flaming torches in the day of his preparation, and the fir trees shall be terribly shaken.

(4) The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the broad ways: they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings.

(5) He shall recount his worthies: they shall stumble in their walk; they shall make haste to the wall thereof, and the defence shall be prepared.

(6) The gates of the rivers shall be opened, and the palace shall be dissolved.

(7) And Huzzab shall be led away captive, she shall be brought up, and her maids shall lead *her* as with the voice of doves, tabering upon their breasts.

(8) But Nineveh *is* of old like a pool of water: yet they shall flee away. Stand, stand, *shall they cry*; but none shall look back.

Chapter 2

(1) He who dashes in pieces has come up before your face: guard the fortress, watch the highway, make *your* thighs strong, fortify *your* power mightily.

(2) Because the LORD {Jehovah} has turned away the excellency of Jacob, as the excellency of Israel: because the plunderers have plundered them, and marred their vine branches.

(3) The shield of his mighty men is made red, the valiant men *are* in scarlet: the chariots *will be* with flaming torches in the day of his preparation, and the fir trees will be terribly shaken.

(4) The chariots will rage in the streets, they will jostle one against another in the broad ways: they will appear like torches, they will run like the lightnings.

(5) He shall number his nobles: they will stumble in their walk; they will go quickly to its wall, and the defense will be prepared.

(6) The gates of the rivers will be opened, and the palace will be dissolved.

(7) And she who stood firm will be led away captive, she will be brought up, and her maids will lead *her* as with the voice of doves, beating upon their breasts.

(8) But Nineveh *is* of old like a pool of water: yet they will flee away. Stand, stand, *they will cry*; but no one will look back.

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(9) Take ye the spoil of silver, take the spoil of gold: for *there is* none end of the store *and* glory out of all the pleasant furniture.

(10) She is empty, and void, and waste: and the heart melteth, and the knees smite together, and much pain *is* in all loins, and the faces of them all gather blackness.

(11) Where *is* the dwelling of the lions, and the feedingplace of the young lions, where the lion, *even* the old lion, walked, *and* the lion's whelp, and none made *them* afraid?

(12) The lion did tear in pieces enough for his whelps, and strangled for his lionesses, and filled his holes with prey, and his dens with ravin.

(13) Behold, I *am* against thee, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will burn her chariots in the smoke, and the sword shall devour thy young lions: and I will cut off thy prey from the earth, and the voice of thy messengers shall no more be heard.

Chapter 3

(1) Woe to the bloody city! it *is* all full of lies *and* robbery; the prey departeth not;

(2) The noise of a whip, and the noise of the rattling of the wheels, and of the pransing horses, and of the jumping chariots.

(3) The horseman lifteth up both the bright sword and the glittering spear: and *there is* a multitude of slain, and a great number of carcasses; and *there is* none end of *their* corpses; they stumble upon their corpses:

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(9) Take for yourselves the spoil of silver, take the spoil of gold: because of all the pleasant furniture.

(10) She is empty, and void, and waste: and the heart melts, and the knees knock together, and much pain *is* in all waists, and the faces of them all gather blackness.

(11) Where *is* the home of the lions, and the feeding place of the young lions, where the lion, *even* the old lion, walked, *and* the lion's cub, and no one made *them* afraid?

(12) The lion tore in pieces enough for his cubs, and killed for his lionesses, and filled his holes with prey, and his dens with torn prey.

(13) Indeed, I *am* against you, says the LORD {Jehovah} of hosts {armies; multitudes}, and I will burn her chariots in the smoke, and the sword shall devour your young lions: and I will cut off your prey from the earth, and the voice of your messengers will no more be heard.

Chapter 3

(1) Woe to the bloody city! it *is* all full of lies *and* robbery; the prey does not depart;

(2) The noise of a whip, and the noise of the rattling of the wheels, and of the galloping horses, and of the jumping chariots.

(3) The horseman lifts up both the bright sword and the glittering spear: and *there is* a multitude of those killed, and a great number of dead bodies; and *there is* no end of *their* dead bodies; they stumble upon their dead bodies:

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(4) Because of the multitude of the whoredoms of the wellfavoured harlot, the mistress of witchcrafts, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts.

(4) Because of the multitude of the prostitutions of the well favored prostitute, the mistress of witchcrafts, who sells nations through her prostitutions, and families through her witchcrafts.

(5) Behold, I *am* against thee, saith the LORD of hosts; and I will discover thy skirts upon thy face, and I will shew the nations thy nakedness, and the kingdoms thy shame.

(5) Indeed, I *am* against you, says the LORD {Jehovah} of hosts {armies; multitudes}; and I will lift your skirts upon your face, and I will show the nations your nakedness, and the kingdoms your shame.

(6) And I will cast abominable filth upon thee, and make thee vile, and will set thee as a gazingstock.

(6) And I will cast abominable filth upon you, and make you vile, and will set you as a gazing stock.

(7) And it shall come to pass, *that* all they that look upon thee shall flee from thee, and say, Nineveh is laid waste: who will bemoan her? whence shall I seek comforters for thee?

(7) And it will come to pass, *that* all those who look upon you will flee from you, and say, Nineveh is laid waste: who will mourn her? where shall I seek comforters for you?

(8) Art thou better than populous No, that was situate among the rivers, *that had* the waters round about it, whose rampart *was* the sea, *and* her wall *was* from the sea?

(8) Are you better than populous No {an Egyptian city},^a that was situated among the rivers, *that had* the waters all around it, whose protection *was* the sea, *and* her wall *was* from the sea?

(9) Ethiopia and Egypt *were* her strength, and *it was* infinite; Put and Lubim were thy helpers.

(9) Ethiopia and Egypt *were* her strength, and *it was* infinite; Libya and north Africa were your helpers.

(10) Yet *was* she carried away, she went into captivity: her young children also were dashed in pieces at the top of all the streets: and they cast lots for her honourable men, and all her great men were bound in chains.

(10) Yet she *was* carried away, she went into captivity: her young children also were dashed in pieces at the top of all the streets: and they cast lots for her honorable men, and all her great men were bound in chains.

(11) Thou also shalt be drunken: thou shalt be hid, thou also shalt seek strength because of the enemy.

(11) You also will be drunken: you will be hidden, you also will seek strength because of the enemy.

3:8a - No Amon {גֹּזַא אֲמוֹן} - an Egyptian city {Thebes, Egypt} - Jer. 46:26; Ezek. 30:15-16

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(12) All thy strong holds *shall be like* fig trees with the firstripe figs: if they be shaken, they shall even fall into the mouth of the eater.

(13) Behold, thy people in the midst of thee *are* women: the gates of thy land shall be set wide open unto thine enemies: the fire shall devour thy bars.

(14) Draw thee waters for the siege, fortify thy strong holds: go into clay, and tread the mortar, make strong the brickkiln.

(15) There shall the fire devour thee; the sword shall cut thee off, it shall eat thee up like the cankerworm: make thyself many as the cankerworm, make thyself many as the locusts.

(16) Thou hast multiplied thy merchants above the stars of heaven: the cankerworm spoileth, and flieth away.

(17) Thy crowned *are* as the locusts, and thy captains as the great grasshoppers, which camp in the hedges in the cold day, *but* when the sun ariseth they flee away, and their place is not known where they *are*.

(18) Thy shepherds slumber, O king of Assyria: thy nobles shall dwell *in the dust*: thy people is scattered upon the mountains, and no man gathereth *them*.

(19) *There is* no healing of thy bruise; thy wound is grievous: all that hear the bruit of thee shall clap the hands over thee: for upon whom hath not thy wickedness passed continually?

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(12) All your strongholds *will be like* fig trees with the first ripe figs: if they are shaken, they will even fall into the mouth of the eater.

(13) Indeed, your people in the midst of you *are* women: the gates of your land will be set wide open to your enemies: the fire will devour your bars.

(14) Draw your waters for the siege, fortify your strongholds: go into clay, and tread the mortar, make strong the brick kiln.

(15) There the fire will devour you; the sword will cut you off, it will eat you up like the canker worm: make yourself many as the canker worm, make yourself many as the locusts.

(16) You have multiplied your merchants above the stars of heaven: the canker worm spoils, and flies away.

(17) Your crowned *are* as the locusts, and your captains as the great grasshoppers, which camp in the hedges in the cold day, *but* when the sun arises they flee away, and their place is not known where they *are*.

(18) Your shepherds sleep, O king of Assyria: your nobles will live *in the dust*: your people are scattered upon the mountains, and no man gathers *them*.

(19) *There is* no healing of your bruise; your wound is grievous: all who hear the news of you will clap the hands over you: because upon whom has your wickedness not passed continually?