

Nahum
The Fall Of Nineveh
Nahum 1:14
By Russ Earl

Thesis: I want to show what awaits those who do not follow God or heed His warnings.

Intro:

1. The prophet was Nahum, whose name means "Consolation"
 - a. Elkoshite ="God the ensnarer" (strong's)
2. The theme of his message is simple: "The Fall Of Nineveh"
 - a) This makes his work a complement to that of Jonah
 - b) Though by this time no mercy would be shown, judgment would be final

I. Ninevah's doom is declared (Nahum chapter 1)

A. The power of God and His character (v.1-8)

1. God's vengeance, even though He is slow to anger - Nah 1:1-3a
2. The fierceness of His anger described - Nah 1:3b-6
3. The goodness of the Lord, as a stronghold to the faithful - Nah 1:7
4. The pursuer of His enemies - Nah 1:8

B. The overthrow of Ninevah (v.9-15)

1. She will not afflict again, despite her plotting against the Lord - Nah 1:9-11
2. Judah will be delivered from Nineveh's affliction - Nah 1:12-13
3. Nineveh's destruction has been commanded by the Lord - Nah 1:14
4. There shall be good tidings in Judah, she can keep her feasts - Nah 1:15

II. Description of Ninevah's doom (Nahum chapter 2)

A. The capture of the city (v.1-7)

1. Preparation for the battle is described - Nah 2:1-4
2. Resistance is futile, captivity has been decreed - Nah 2:5-7
 - a. Note verse 6: "The gates of the rivers are opened, and the palace is dissolved"
 - b. "One commentator says Nineveh fell because the flooding rivers made breaches in the city's defenses."

B. The city is taken (v.8-13)

1. Her inhabitants flee, the city is plundered - Nah 2:8-10
2. Her destruction will be complete, Nineveh as a dwelling of devouring lions will be no more - Nah 2:11-13

III. The reason behind Ninevah's doom (Nahum chapter 3)

A. Because of her sins (v.1-7)

1. Her woe will be due to her sins - Nah 3:1-4
2. The Lord will uncover her shame and make her a spectacle - Nah 3:5-7

B. She is no better than No-Amon (v.8-11)

1. Nineveh is no better than No-Amon (Ancient capital in Egypt) - Nah 3:8
2. Who despite her strength, was carried away into captivity - Nah 3:9-10
3. So it will be with Nineveh - Nah 3:11

C. Her strength & wealth cannot save her (v.12-17)

1. Her strongholds will fail - Nah 3:12-13
2. All her efforts, her wealth, her army, will be futile - Nah 3:14-17

D. Her time has come (v.18-19)

1. Her leaders are dead, her people scattered - Nah 3:18-19a
2. Those who hear of her fall will rejoice - Nah 3:19b

Conc:

1. The message of Nahum for the people of God is one of consolation...
 - a. That those who afflict God's people will be judged - Nah 1:2-3;
 - b. That God is a stronghold in time of trouble - Nah 1:7
2. The message of Nahum for those who do evil is one of warning...
 - a. Don't rely on what mercy was shown to your ancestors (e.g., as in the days of Jonah)
 - b. The Lord may be merciful and slow to anger, but the day of judgment does finally come!