

# NAHUM

## AN OVERVIEW

### Purpose

To pronounce the judgment of Yahweh on Assyria and to comfort Judah with this truth.

### Author

Nahum of Elkosh.

### Date

Sometime during Nahum's prophetic ministry c.663-612 BC.

### Audience

The people of Nineveh and Judah.

### Setting

Nahum was God's messenger who announced the fall of Nineveh and the complete overthrow of Assyria. This coming judgment from the Lord was certain and irrevocable and took place after the fall of Thebes in 663 BC.

### Special Features

Nahum consists entirely of predictions of judgment, with no promises of redemption or blessing, though a future restoration of Judah is indicated in passing. Since the imagery and motifs are consistently military in reference (with God pictured as a divine warrior), the book can be considered war poetry.



### Key Verses

"The LORD will not leave the guilty unpunished." (1:3b NIV)

"The LORD is good, a strong refuge when trouble comes. He is close to those who trust in him. But he will sweep away his enemies in an overwhelming flood. He will pursue his foes into the darkness of night. Why are you scheming against the LORD? He will destroy you with one blow; he won't need to strike twice!" (1:7-9 NLT)

"Behold, on the mountains the feet of him who brings good news, who announces peace! Celebrate your feasts, O Judah; pay your vows. For never again will the wicked one pass through you; he is cut off completely." (1:15 NASB)

### Key People

Nahum, Ninevites, the people of Judah.

### Key Place

Nineveh.