



Old Testament Outlines: Nahum by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

Nahum = "Consolation"

[God Is Potent] Blueprint for Redemption

I. The Choices Given To Ninevah **Nahum 1:2-15**

- A. God is good to the good 1:2-7** **1 John 2:15-17**
1. God will act to protect His people **1:2**
 - a. "jealous"- will brook no other god **Exodus 20:3**
 - b. "avenges"- proves His superiority **Deuteronomy 32:35**
 - c. "vengeance"- only on adversaries **Cf 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9**
 - d. "reserves *wrath*"-"for His enemies" **James 4:4**
 2. He may be "slow" but sure **1:3** **2 Peter 3:8-9; James 1:17-20**
 3. He is thorough and controls "nature" **1:3b-6**
 - a. whirlwind, storm and clouds [winds, rain & flooding]
 - b. seas and rivers dry up [drought ?]
 - c. mountains quake and melt [volcanoes ?]
 4. He shows "anger" when needed **1:6;** **Psalms 9:15-20**
 5. He shows "good" to "those who trust in Him" **1:7**
Psalms 9:9-10; 37:23-29; 46:1; 100:5; 136:1; Matthew 19:17
- B. God is over the bad 1:8-15** **Romans 11:22**
1. Ninevah's destruction will be **1:8-11:**
 - a. by flood **1:8**
 - b. for good **1:9** - existed since Nimrod **Genesis 10:11-12**
 - c. off guard **1:10**
 - d. going same direction in the future **1:11**
 2. God's judgment will cause **1:12-15:**
 - a. the end of the bully nation **1:12a**
 - b. freedom for the persecuted **1:12b-13**
 - c. a heritage "heap" **1:14**
 - d. Judah to remember who IS God **1:15** **Cf Romans 10:15**

II. The Conviction of Ninevah

Nahum 2:1-13

A. Face-to-face With God! **2:1-7**

1. "O'er the ramparts" you watch **2:1**
2. Restoration of the vanquished **2:2**
3. A call "to arms" **2:3-4**
4. Scared "officers" **2:5**
5. Who "pulled the plug?" **2:6**
6. "Tenderizing" hard hearts **2:7**

B. "Armless" Army **2:8-13**

1. Splashing the "puddle" **2:8**
2. Spreading the cash **2:9**
3. Sluicing the people **2:10**
 - a. **Hebrew** words sound like last glugs in a bottle:
"empty" (**bugah**), "desolate" (**mevugah**),
"waste" (**mevulagah**)
 - b. Total panic = heart, knees, sides, faces
4. Smugness shattered **2:11-12**

C. Dominators of Men Have Met "The Dominator" **2:13**

Colossians 1:15-20; 1 Timothy 6:14-16

III. The Crimes of Ninevah

Nahum 3:1-19

A. "Humanism" (the rule of men) produces **3:1-5a**:

1. A "bloody city" with a high crime rate **3:1**
2. Aggressive crush **3:2-3a**
3. A heap of corpses **3:3b**
4. Absolute corruption **3:4**
5. Antagonism's completion **3:5b**

B. Deity's Response **3:5b-19**

1. Totally "exposed" **3:5b**
2. Filthy to look at **3:6-7**
3. Victimized like their victims **3:8-11**
4. Shake them like ripe figs **3:12-13**
5. Forts of "flees" **3:14-17**
6. Weakest of the weak **3:18-19**

"News" From Nahum:

- **Nahum** and **Obadiah** say nothing of the sins of their own people. If "might makes right" then God is "mightiest" who can make a "bloody city" die! **Nahum 3:1-5**
- **Nahum** was written over 100 years after **Jonah**, during which time Assyria had arisen through extreme cruelty and violence to the level of "world empire" (Cf below). Assyria had been used by God to bring down His northern kingdom of Israel because of its complete corruption, and now **Nahum** was pronouncing the doom of Assyria by addressing its capital city of Ninevah. In **Jonah's** day, Ninevah had been tender-hearted toward God and repented, but it had long since become too hard-hearted to repent. Ninevah was known since Nimrod built it (**Genesis 10:11**) but it was so completely destroyed, no ruins were found until A.D. 1842.
- The date of the book is set between "the fall of No-amon, the Egyptian Thebes (**3:8** [verses **8-10**, **jtpII**]). The expedition alluded to was carried out by Ashurbanipal, king of Assyria, about the year 663 B.C. In the campaign Thebes was destroyed and a great store of booty carried into Assyria. Ninevah was destroyed by the combined forces of the Medes and Chaldeans, 612, B.C." --page. 249, *A Commentary on the Minor Prophets*, by Homer Hailey.
- Capernaum, a village on western shore of the sea of Galilee, may have been named for the prophet **Nahum**, but there is no Old Testament mention of it. It may have existed by another name and identified by this prophet's name after his work came to pass (Cf **John 7:52; Isaiah 9:1-2**). Jesus went to Capernaum after His first miracle (**John 2:1-12**) and following the Sermon on the Mount (**Matthew 6-7; 8:5**).
- Assyria's bloody rise to power was led by these kings:
 - Tiglath-pileser III, 745-727 B.C.* -deported some northern Israelites
(**1 Chronicles 5:26; 2 Kings 15:19-20, 29; 16:7-10,18; 2 Chronicles 28:16-21 Cf 28:20**);
 - Shalmaneser V, 727-722 B.C.* -began siege of Samaria, 722 B.C. He died before the siege was complete (**2 Kings 17:1-18:12**);
 - Sargon II, 722-705 B.C.* -completed siege of Samaria, 721 B.C. He was murdered 705 B.C.;
 - Sennacherib, 705-681 B.C.* -antagonist of Hezekiah in Jerusalem. Murdered by two of his sons in 681 B.C. who then were driven out by a younger son, Esarhaddon (**2 Kings 18:13-19:37a; Isaiah 36:1-39:8; Cf 37:36-38a; 2 Chronicles 32:1-22**);
 - Esarhaddon, 681-668 B.C.* (**2 Kings 19:37b; Isaiah 37:38b**);
 - Ashurbanipal, 668-625 B.C.* -Egyptian campaign brought the fall of No-amon (mentioned in **Nahum 3:8**). A very cruel person;
 - Assur-etil-ilani, 625-620 B.C.*;

Sin-shar-ishkeen (Esarhaddon II), 620-612 B.C. As the Medes/Chaldeans besieged Ninevah under Nabopolassar, he (Esarhaddon II) gathered his wives and children and wealth into the palace and set fire to it and died.

(modified from and added to information taken from page 250,
A Commentary on the Minor Prophets, by Homer Hailey)