

The Book of
Nahum

1:2 Goodness and Severity of Jehovah. 2:8 The Overthrow of Nineveh Decreed.

1 *The* ¹burden of Nineveh. *The* book of *the* vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

2 Jehovah *is* a jealous God and avengeth; Jehovah avengeth and *is* full of wrath; Jehovah taketh vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserveth *wrath* for his enemies. 3 Jehovah *is* slow to anger, and great in power, and will by no means clear *the guilty*: Jehovah *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 upheaved at his presence, yes, *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 wrath is poured out like fire, and the rocks are broken asunder by him. 7 Jehovah *is* good, a stronghold in *the* day of trouble; and he knoweth them that take refuge in him. 8 But with an overrunning flood he will make a full end of her place, and will pursue his enemies into darkness.

9 What do ye devise against Jehovah? he will make a full end; affliction shall not rise up a second time. 10 For entangled *like* thorns, and drunken *as* with their drink, they are consumed ²utterly as dry stubble. 11 There is *one* gone forth out of thee, that deviseth evil against Jehovah, ³that counselleth ⁴wickedness. 12 Thus saith Jehovah: Though *they be* in full strength, and likewise many, even so shall they be cut down, and he shall pass away. ⁵Though I have afflicted thee, I will afflict thee no more. 13 And now will I break his yoke from off thee, and will burst thy bonds in sunder.

14 And Jehovah hath given 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! Keep thy feasts, O Judah, perform thy vows; for ⁶*the* wicked one shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.

¹ *Or*, oracle concerning Nineveh.

² *Or*, as stubble fully dry.

³ *Or*, a wicked counsellor.

⁴ *Or*, worthlessness. *Hb.* Belial.

⁵ *Or*, So will I afflict thee, that I shall afflict thee no more.

⁶ *Or*, *the man* of worthlessness *Hb.* Belial

2 He that dasheth in pieces is come up against thee: fortify *the* fortress, watch *the* way, gird up *thy* loins, ⁷enliven *thy* power mightily. 2 For Jehovah restoreth the excellency of Jacob, as *the* excellency of Israel; for *the* emptiers have emptied them out, and destroyed their vine branches. 3 *The* shield of his mighty men is made red, *the* valiant men *are* in scarlet: the chariots ⁸flash with steel in *the* day of his preparation, and the ⁹cypress *spears* are brandished. 4 The chariots rage in the streets; they rush to and fro in the broad ways: *the* appearance of them is like torches; they run like the lightnings. 5 He remembereth his nobles: they stumble in their march; they make haste to the wall thereof, and the mantelet is prepared. 6 *The* gates of the rivers are opened, and the palace is dissolved. 7 ¹⁰And it is decreed: she is uncovered, she is carried away; and her handmaids ¹¹moan as with *the* voice of doves, beating upon their ¹²breasts.

8 But Nineveh *hath been* ¹³from of old like a pool of water: yet they flee away. Stand, stand, *they cry*; but none ¹⁴looketh back. 9 Take ye *the* spoil of silver, take *the* spoil of gold; for *there is* no end of the store, *the* ¹⁵glory of all goodly furniture. 10 *She is* empty, and void, and waste; and *the* heart melteth, and *the* knees smite together, and anguish *is* in all loins, and *the* faces of them all are waxed pale. 11 Where *is the* den of *the* lions, and *the* feeding-place of the young lions, where *the* lion and *the* lioness walked, *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 caves with prey, and his dens *with* ravin. 13 Behold, I *am* against thee, saith Jehovah 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.

3 Woe to *the* ¹⁶bloody city! *it is* all full of lies and rapine; *the* prey departeth not. 2 *The* noise of *the* whip, and *the* noise of *the* rattling of wheels, and prancing horses, and bounding chariots, 3 *the* horseman

⁷ *That is*, put *the* military on high alert.

⁸ *Hb.* are with fire of steel

⁹ *Hb.* cypress-trees

¹⁰ *Or*, Huzzab is uncovered,

¹¹ *Or*, lead *her* as with *the* voice of doves,

¹² *Hb.* hearts.

¹³ *Or*, from *the* days that she *hath been* like a pool

¹⁴ *Or*, causeth *them* to turn.

¹⁵ *Or*, wealth

¹⁶ *Or*, city of bloodsheds!

¹⁷mounting, and *the* flashing sword, and *the* glittering spear, and a multitude of slain, and a great heap of corpses, and *there is* no end of the bodies; they stumble upon their bodies; – 4 because of *the* multitude of *the* whoredoms of *the* well-favored harlot, *the* mistress of witchcrafts, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts. 5 Behold, I *am* against thee, saith Jehovah of hosts, and I will uncover thy skirts ¹⁸upon thy face; and I will show *the* nations thy nakedness, and *the* kingdoms thy shame. 6 And I will cast abominable filth upon thee, and make thee vile, and will set thee 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?

8 Art thou better than No-amon *that* was situate among the ¹⁹rivers, *that had the* waters round about her; whose rampart was ²⁰*the* sea, and her wall was of *the* sea? 9 Ethiopia and Egypt *were* her strength, and *it was* infinite; Put and Lubim were thy helpers. 10 Yet *was* she carried away, she went into captivity; her young children also were dashed in pieces at *the* head 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 ²¹a stronghold because of *the* enemy. 12 All thy fortresses *shall be like* fig-trees with *the* first-ripe figs: if they be shaken, they fall into *the* mouth of *the* eater. 13 Behold, thy people in *the* midst of thee *are* women; *the* gates of thy land are set wide open unto thine enemies: *the* fire hath devoured thy bars. 14 Draw thee water for *the* siege; gird up thy fortresses; go into the clay, and tread the mortar; ²²make strong *the* brick-work. 15 There shall *the* fire devour thee; *the* sword shall cut thee off; it shall devour thee like the canker-worm: make thyself many as the canker-worm; make thyself many as the locust. 16 Thou hast multiplied thy merchants above *the* stars of heaven: *the* canker-worm ²³ravageth, and fleeth away. 17 Thy princes *are* as the locusts, and thy ²⁴marshals as *the* swarms of grasshoppers, which encamp in the ²⁵hedges 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 are at rest; thy people are scattered upon the mountains, and *there is* none to gather *them*.

¹⁷ *Or*, charging,

¹⁸ *Or*, before

¹⁹ *Or*, canals, *Hb.* Yeorim *See* Ge 41:1; Ex 7:19.

²⁰ *That is*, *the* Nile, (*both times*)

²¹ *Or*, a defence against *the* enemy.

²² *Or*, lay hold of *the* brick-mould.

²³ *Or*, spreadeth himself,

²⁴ *Or*, scribes

²⁵ *Or*, walls

19 *There is* no assuaging of thy hurt; thy wound is grievous: all that hear *the* report of thee clap their hands over thee; for upon whom hath not thy wickedness passed continually?

End of the Book of Nahum