



# Minor Prophets

## Lesson 8

### Nahum Chapters 1-3

*Very little is known about the prophet Nahum. He states that he is an Elkoshite, but the location of Elkosh is unknown. The major focus of his message was the fall of Nineveh, which took place in 612 B.C., therefore, his ministry must have been mostly prior to that date. But Assyria has risen to the height of its power. Its wickedness and cruelty were well known to the nations around it. They had conquered Israel in 722 B.C. and later invaded Judah. During Sennacherib's rule in Assyria, he sent his general Rabshakeh to attack Jerusalem. But,*

*in response to Hezekiah's humble prayer for the city, God spared Jerusalem. Sennacherib retreated to Nineveh and died there. During the time of Nahum, Assyria was flourishing militarily and economically. But God's message through him was that the nation was ripe for judgment. Neither their powerful military nor their impressive defenses could protect them from the Judge of all the earth. Divine judgment was coming, and for them there was no escape.*

### READ NAHUM 1-3

1. *What significant event had previously taken place in Nineveh? Jonah 3:3-10*
  
2. *God is now declaring judgment toward Nineveh. In Nahum 1:1-8, how does God's character play into His response to Nineveh?*
  
3. *Explain some ways you see both God's goodness and justice working together in your life.*

**Bible memory:**

Nahum 1:7 NKJ

"The \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_ in the day of \_\_\_\_\_, and He \_\_\_\_\_ those who \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_."

Psalm 1:6

"For the \_\_\_\_\_ knows the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, but the way of the \_\_\_\_\_ shall \_\_\_\_\_."



Nineveh's walls were 8 miles long with 15 gates. It was surrounded by a moat 150 feet wide that had to be filled in before the attackers could reach the walls with battering rams. ~Archeological Study Bible

4. When God speaks of Assyria, Cush, Put, Egypt etc., He is focusing on powerful, independent, and self-sufficient nations that feared no one. What statement does God make in Nahum 2:13 and 3:5 that will be their eventual downfall?
  
5. What were some of the things in their culture that were happening that moved God to make that statement? Nahum 3:1-4
  
6. The word harlotry/whoredoms is used three times and sorcery/witchcraft is used twice in verse 4. Define those terms using a Bible dictionary, concordance, [e-sword.net](http://e-sword.net) or [blueletterbible.org](http://blueletterbible.org), etc.

Harlotry-

Sorcery-

7. *From those definitions, describe what you think their culture would have been like. How do we see that mirrored in our culture today?*
8. *What seems to be the recurring cycle that brings the judgment of God upon nations?*
9. *From the following passages, how will those same attitudes be present in the last days?*

| <i>Revelation 18:3</i> | <i>Romans 1:18-32</i> |
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***Prayer requests:***

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***Group time notes:***

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