

Nahum: A Surprising Message of Comfort

Introduction & Historical Background:

3 Sources of Comfort = that Strengthen our Faith in the God's Faithfulness to Keep His Word

1. Comfort is Found in the Perfection of God's Character

"In the study of Nahum we come face to face with what I'm afraid is a strange God to many professing Christians...The God of Nahum is not just a God of love; He is a God of wrath. He is a jealous God, an avenging God, a thoroughly just God, and a God who never forgets when it comes to the matter of justice. He is a God who judges and disciplines His people by their enemies, and then judges their enemies in due time....The God of Nahum is the God of the Bible, but is the God of Nahum your God?"¹

2. Comfort is Found in the Precision of God's Verdicts

¹ Richard Caldwell, Nahum, p. 2.

3. Comfort is Found in the Potency of God's Vengeance

Conclusion:

“The Medes, in an alliance with the Babylonians and the Scythians, laid siege to the city in 612 BC and then found themselves aided by rain and rising rivers. These rivers that had aided in the city’s protection flooded up against the city’s walls until great sections of the walls fell away, just as Nahum had predicted (2:6). The attackers then poured into the city and sacked it. Before the invaders could grab him, Assyria’s king gathered himself and his household together in an immense funeral pyre and burned himself, his wives, and his concubines to ashes. The invaders, running rampant in the city, plundered Nineveh dry. When the site of ancient Nineveh was finally discovered and excavated in the nineteenth century, archeologists found no stores of silver and gold objects as they were hoping they would. It was absolutely empty. Everything was taken — ‘stripped’ bare (2:10). After pillaging the city, the invaders then burned and razed it to the ground. Indeed, these first archeologists found unusually deep strata of ashes. When Nineveh fell, it fell hard.”²

² Mark Dever, *The Message of the Old Testament*, pp. 824-825.