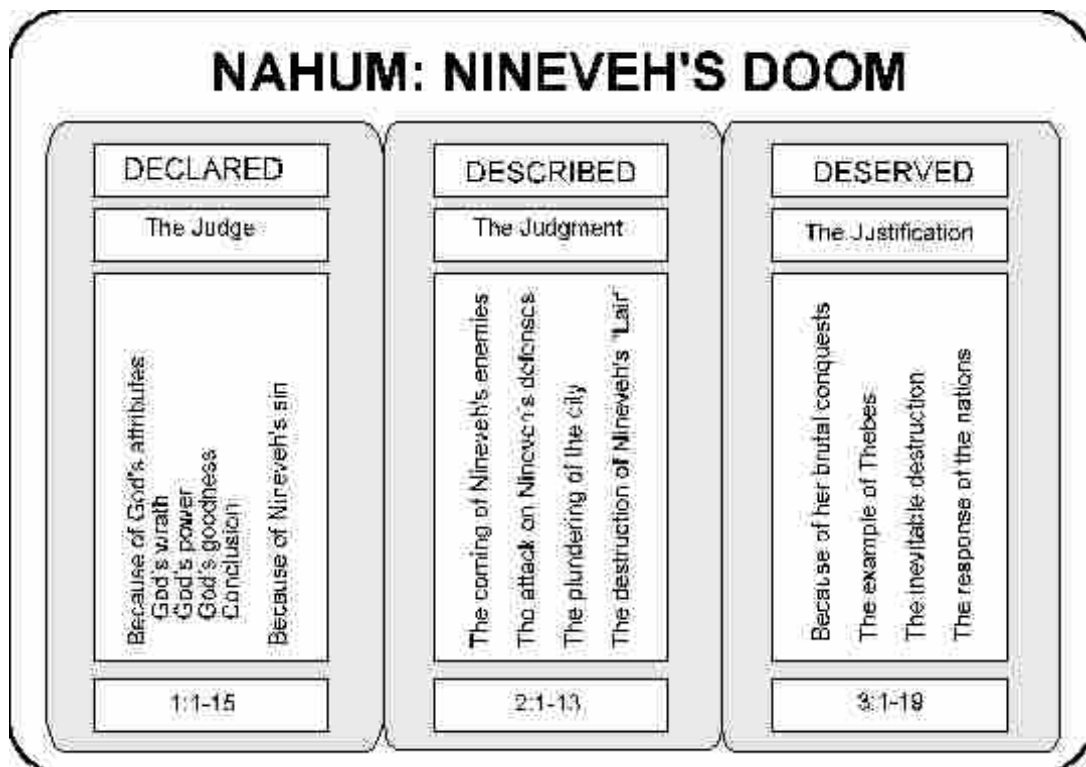


NAHUM: “Consolation” or “Comfort” [written to comfort God’s people, etc]
 Nineveh Must Fall

- I. THE JUDGE (1:2-7)
- II. THE VERDICT (1:8-15)
- III. THE EXECUTION (chps 2-3)



http://www.bible.org/page.asp?page_id=974

Assyrian Background

Tiglath-Pileser III (745 - 727 B.C.) On a course of world conquest, invaded the West and deported many from northern Israel to an area north of Nineveh.

Shalmaneser V (727 - 722 B.C.) Began the siege of Samaria, but died before the city fell (722/721 B.C.)

Sargon II (722 - 705 B.C.) Completed the siege and conquest of Samaria; murdered in 705 B.C.

Sennacherib (705 - 681 B.C.) Boasted on his monuments how he had shut up Hezekiah, King of Judah, as a bird in a cage. He was murdered by his own two sons; another son, **Esarhaddon, drove them out and became king (681 - 668 B.C.)**

Assurbanipal (668 - 625 B.C.) Captured Thebes in 663 B.C. (Nah. 3:8). He carried tremendous spoil back to Assyria; noted for his great cruelty.

Esarhaddon II (620 - 612 B.C.) The Babylonians & Medes besieged Nineveh. He took his wives, children, and wealth into the palace and set it on fire, dying in the process.

Questions from Nahum

1. How does Nahum describe God in 1:2-8? In what is His power revealed? (1:3b-5) Despite the certainty of God's wrath upon the disobedient, what else does the prophet emphasize? (1:7). Compare all this to Rom. 11:22.
2. What do you think is meant by "the place thereof" [KJV], "its place" [NKJV], or "its site" [NASV] in 1:8? (cp. 1:1) What will be the results of God's wrath? (cp. Zeph. 2:13)
3. 1:9-15 is admittedly difficult because of the apparent changes in who is being addressed. Write below whom you think Jehovah is addressing and what you think His message is to each group. [For background information, read 2 Kings 18-19 and Isa. 10:5-21]
4. How is Assyria described? (1:12a) Despite this, what awaits her? (1:12b, 14) What is Judah exhorted to do? (1:15)
5. What do you think is being described in 2:1-7? Why do you think they are so instructed? Though "the one who scatters" is not named, to whom does history tell us this refers? What is it that God wants vindicated? (2:2)
6. How is the approaching "scatterer" described? (2:3-5) What do you think 2:6 is saying? (cp. Isa. 28:2; 30:28; 45:1-2) What will be the result in Nineveh when all this occurs? (2:7)
vv. 9-11 _____
vv. 12-13 _____
vv. 14-15 _____
7. Prior to this judgment, how had Nineveh been described? (2:8a) Now, what is her reality? (2:8b) What are Jehovah's instructions to Assyria's invaders? (2:9)
8. Describe Nineveh's (Assyria's) condition. (2:10-13) What was she formerly? What is she going to become? Why is all this going to happen? (2:13) Thought question: What is the Biblical principle taught here? (cp. Mt. 7:2)
9. Who is being described in 3:1? What description follows in 3:2-3? What does Nahum say is the cause for all this carnage? (3:4) In what way(s) was Assyria (Nineveh) a harlot? How does Jehovah show His disfavor upon this wicked nation? (3:5-6) What will be the worldwide response to her fall? (3:7)
10. Who is mentioned in 3:8? What does this reference mean? What does this have to do with the judgment upon Assyria (Nineveh)? (3:9-11)
11. How are Nineveh's resources to defend herself pitifully described? (3:12-13) In irony, what does the prophet encourage the Assyrians to do to no avail? (3:14-15)
12. What else about Nineveh's position will not be able to save her? (3:16) What will happen to the military strength? (3:17)
13. Who does Nahum address as he brings his prophecy to a close? (3:18-19) What is he told? What is Nineveh's (Assyria's) future? (3:19) What will be the world response? (3:19)