

Main point:

God's steadfast love is displayed in his severity against the wicked and in his kindness towards the repentant.

1 An oracle concerning Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum of Elkosh.
2 The Lord is a jealous and avenging God; the Lord is avenging and wrathful;
the Lord takes vengeance on his adversaries and keeps wrath for his
enemies. 3 The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, and the Lord will
by no means clear the guilty. His way is in whirlwind and storm, and the
clouds are the dust of his feet. 4 He rebukes the sea and makes it dry; he
dries up all the rivers; Bashan and Carmel wither; the bloom of Lebanon
withered. 5 The mountains quake before him; the hills melt; the earth heaves
before him, the world and all who dwell in it.

6 Who can stand before his indignation? Who can endure the heat of his anger? His wrath is poured out like fire, and the rocks are broken into pieces by him. 7 The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him. 8 But with an overflowing flood he will make a complete end of the adversaries, and will pursue his enemies into darkness.

— Nahum 1:1-8

Nahum

“consolation” of “comfort”.

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Nahum: 1:1-8

- Historical overview — placing Nahum in context
- Vss 1-6: God's wrath observed
- vss 7-8: God's kindness promised

Historical Overview:

- 790: Jonah —> Assyrians

That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster.

—Jonah 4:2

Historical Overview:

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- 790: Jonah —> Assyrians
- 796-711: Amos, Hosea and Micah —> Northern Kingdom (Israel)
- 640-620: Nahum, Zephaniah and Habakuk —> Southern Kingdom (Judah)

Thus says the Lord, “Though they are at full strength and many, they will be cut down and pass away. Though I have afflicted you, I will afflict you no more. 13 And now I will break his yoke from off you and will burst your bonds apart.”

- Nahum 1:12-13

8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief.

- 2 Peter 3:8-10

3 The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, and the Lord will by no means clear the guilty.

- Nahum 1:3

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Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices! 8 Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath! Fret not yourself; it tends only to evil. 9 For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land. 10 In just a little while, the wicked will be no more; though you look carefully at his place, he will not be there. 11 But the meek shall inherit the land and delight themselves in abundant peace.

- Psalm 37:7-11

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- Nahum 1:1-6

God's Sovereign Reign:

- Nature (1:4-6+8)
- Nations (1:15; 2:1+3-7)
- Nineveh + Assyria (1:11-12+14; 2:8-13; 3:5-7)
- Juda (1:12-13; 2:2)
- Thebes/Egypt (3:8-10)
- All People (1:3, 6-10)
- History (1:12; 2:13; 3:5-7)

Good aspects of Jealousy:

being vigilant in maintaining and guarding something” or “intolerance of unfaithfulness or rivalry” (Dictionary.com)

“fiercely protective of one’s rights or possessions” or “demanding faithfulness and exclusive worship” (Oxford Dictionary)

5 Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”?

- James 4:5

“it is his holiness reacting to evil in a way that is morally right and precious...; it is a praiseworthy zeal on his part to preserve something supremely precious”

-J. I. Packer, *Knowing God*, p. 189

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— Nahum 1:2-3

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- Nahum 1:3-6

Genesis 6:5,12,

5 The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.. . 12 And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.

Ecclesiastes 7:20

Indeed, there is not a righteous man on earth who continually does good and who never sins.

Psalms 14:3

They have all turned aside, together they have become corrupt; There is no one who does good, not even one.

Romans 3:23

...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

7 The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him. 8 But with an overflowing flood he will make a complete end of the adversaries, and will pursue his enemies into darkness.

— Nahum 1:7-8

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

- John 3:16

7 The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him.

- Nahum 1:7

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