

A Tour Through the Divine Library
(Nahum)

I. General Introduction to Nahum

-Title/Author: named after Nahum the Elkoshite, the prophet whose words it records (1:1)

-Date: between the fall of Thebes in 663 BC (3:8) and the fall of Nineveh in 612 BC. Some: 630-620 BC (during the reign of Josiah); Others: 660-650 BC (during the reign of Manasseh)

-Theme/Purpose: warn the Ninevites of coming judgment; comfort the people of Judah

-Structure:

- I. Destruction of Nineveh Declared (ch. 1)
- II. Destruction of Nineveh Described (ch. 2)
- III. Destruction of Nineveh Defended (ch. 3)

II. General Overview of Nahum (see outline above)

III. Prominent Themes in Nahum

-God's Character: holiness (1:3); justice (1:3); wrath (1:2, 6); patience (1:3); omnipresence (1:3); omniscience (1:7); power (1:3-6); goodness (1:7)

-God's Judgment (1:3)

-God's Kindness Toward Those Who Fear Him (1:7; 2:2)

IV. Christ in Nahum

-1:15-2:2 → Is. 52:7f

-The prophecy of 1:15-2:2 is fulfilled provisionally in the return from exile, and at the first coming of Christ. It's fulfilled finally and consummately when Christ returns and destroys His enemies and ours.

V. Practical Lessons in Nahum

- 1) Take seriously God's warnings of coming judgment.
- 2) Make haste to repent while you have the opportunity.
- 3) Believe God's promises of forgiveness and salvation.