

The Floral Heights Informer

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**Floral Heights
Church of Christ
1814 Buchanan
Wichita Falls, Texas
76309
(940) 322 - 1650**

In This Issue:

The Book of Nahum 1-2
Local News 2
Sermon Outline 3
**The Book of Psalms – Back
Cover**

Elders:

**Mike Chancellor
(322 – 6374)**

**Tom Witherspoon
(766 – 5368)**

Deacons:

Joe Cronin

Jim Hall

David Witherspoon

Preacher:

John C. Robertson

Nahum

*“Jehovah is a jealous God and avenges; Jehovah avenges and is full of wrath;
Jehovah takes vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserves wrath for his
enemies”
(Nahum 1:2)*

Nahum the Prophet

Nahum is known as the Elkoshite (one from Elkosh of which nothing is known). Nahum received a divine vision that revealed a condemning judgment against Nineveh and Assyria (Nahum 3:7, 18).

Date

Two points of interest help us date the book of Nahum. First is the fall of Noamon. Noamon was the sacred name for the great city of Thebes in Egypt. Isaiah had prophesied that the Egyptians would be carried away as captives by the Assyrians (Isa. 20:3-4). Assurbanipal, king of Assyria, reigned from 669 to 627 BC. Assurbanipal gained control over Egypt during the year 667 BC (probably the date of Noamon’s (Thebes) fall). Nineveh fell in 612 BC to Nabopolassar of Babylon. Nahum’s prophecy describes the destruction and carrying away of the powerful Egyptian Thebes as a past event (Nahum 3:8ff) and the destruction of Nineveh as a future event (Nahum 1:1; 3:7). The date of the book is, therefore, between 667 and 612 BC.

Theme

Nineveh and the Assyrians will fall because of their wickedness. The spiritual whoredom of Assyria is defined by their devising evil against Jehovah (Nahum 1:11), giving wicked council (Nahum 1:11), worshipping graven images (Nahum 1:14), being vile (Nahum 1:14), being full of lies (Nahum 3:1), forcibly seizing and taking property that did not belong to them (Nahum 3:1), and practicing witchcraft (Nahum 3:4).

Local News:

Welcome to all our visitors. We pray that you will be edified by our service and that you will ask questions if things are not as you are accustomed to seeing. Please come back at your every opportunity.

Pam Husak is scheduled to have surgery this Wednesday, May 16th. Please remember her in your daily prayers.

Nina Grey is scheduled to have knee replacement surgery May 29th (pending the outcome of an upcoming stress test). Continue to pray for her as well.

Continue to keep **Hobie and Joni Miller** in your prayers.

Continue to pray for our shut-ins:

Stella Davidson
696-1030 (Home)

Calvin York
692-0489 (Home).

Bessie Murphy
4600 Taft Blvd, Apt. 538

Content

Assyria was once an oasis for merchants due to trade and commerce (Nahum 2:8). Those whom she conquered provided a rich storehouse of wealth (Nahum 2:9). There was not one nation that had not been touched by her cruelty (Nahum 3:19). God used the wicked nature of the Assyrians to accomplish His end of stroking Israel with the rod of correction (cf. Isa. 10:5). The time of Assyria's punishment, however, had now come (cf. Isa. 10:24-27). The once feared, wealthy, and strong nation was about to be reduced to trembling knees and pale faces for the fear they would now experience at the hands of Jehovah God (cf. Nahum 2:10).

The sovereignty of Jehovah God is depicted in said actions. The Lord God Almighty has authority and power over all creation. The sea, storms, lush vegetative areas, mountains, "*yea the world and all that dwell therein*" are subject to His will (cf. Nahum 1:3-5). Jehovah called upon Assyria to fortify herself and build up her military might for the day of her judgment (cf. Nahum 1:12; 3:14). Though Assyria did all within her power to resist, she was going to be reduced to ashes. The sovereignty of Jehovah would be directed at Assyria in the form of the Babylonians. Babylon would crush Assyria with the horrendous bloodshed that Assyria had used on her enemies. Nahum records, "*The noise of the whip, and the noise of the rattling of wheels, and prancing horses, and bounding chariots, the horseman mounting, and the flashing sword, and the glittering spear, and a multitude of slain, and a great heap of corpses, and there is no end of the bodies; they stumble upon their bodies*" (Nahum 3:2-3). Jehovah would use Babylon as His "*battle axe*" (Jer. 51:20) to "*dash in pieces*" (Nahum 2:1) Assyria. When the Lord was finished with Babylon, He would punish her for her wickedness as well (cf. Jer. 51:24).

Application

Those who do not bow their heads to the sovereign will of God shall be eternally punished. Jehovah God is the Lord of all flesh (Jer. 32:27). All will one day bow their stubborn knees before him (cf. Phil. 2:10). Jesus will judge each man and woman by his deeds he has done (Rev. 20:12-13). God's word will be the standard by which man is judged (Jn. 12:48). Let all of humanity recognize the sovereign rule of Jehovah God and submit to His precepts before it is everlasting too late.

John C. Robertson

