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Nahum

Nahum 1

Nahum 1:1

ULT

¹ The declaration about Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum, the Elkoshite.

UST

¹ I am Nahum, from the village of Elkosh. This is a message about the city of Nineveh, a message that Yahweh gave me in a vision.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 1:2

ULT

² Yahweh is a jealous God and avenges; Yahweh avenges and is full of wrath; Yahweh takes vengeance on his adversaries, and he continues his anger for his enemies.

UST

² Yahweh our God tolerates no rival gods to himself. He is very angry with those who worship other gods, and he continues to be angry with his enemies.

Of what is Yahweh full?

Yahweh is full of wrath.

On whom does Yahweh take vengeance?

Yahweh takes vengeance on his adversaries.

Nahum 1:3**ULT**

³ Yahweh is slow to anger and great in power; he will certainly not allow the wicked to go unpunished. Yahweh makes his way in the whirlwind and the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.

UST

³ Yahweh does not quickly become angry; but he is very powerful, and he will never say that his enemies are innocent. Wherever he walks, there are whirlwinds and storms, and clouds are like the dust stirred up by his feet.

Where does Yahweh make his way?

Yahweh makes his way in the whirlwind and the storm.

Nahum 1:4**ULT**

⁴ He rebukes the sea and makes it dry; he dries up all the rivers. Bashan withers, and Carmel also; the flowers of Lebanon wither.

UST

⁴ When he commands oceans and rivers to become dry, they dry up. He causes the grass to wither in the fields in the region of Bashan and on the slopes of Mount Carmel, and he causes the flowers in Lebanon to fade.

What is happening to the flowers of Lebanon?

The flowers of Lebanon are weak.

Nahum 1:5**ULT**

⁵ The mountains shake in his presence, and the hills melt; the earth heaves in his presence, indeed, the world and all people who live in it.

UST

⁵ When he appears, it is as though the mountains shake and the hills melt; the earth quakes, and the people on the earth tremble.

What happens to the earth in Yahweh's presence?

The earth collapses in Yahweh's presence.

Nahum 1:6**ULT**

⁶ Who can stand before his indignation? Who can resist the fierceness of his anger? His wrath is poured out like fire, and the rocks are broken apart by him.

UST

⁶ There is no one who can resist him when he becomes extremely angry; there is no one who can survive when his anger is very hot. When he is very angry, it is as though his anger is like a blazing fire, and it is as though mountains are shattered into pieces.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 1:7**ULT**

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

UST

⁷ But he is good; he protects us, his people, when we experience troubles. He takes care of those who trust in him.

To what can we compare Yahweh in the day of trouble?

Yahweh is a stronghold in the day of trouble.

Nahum 1:8**ULT**

⁸ But he will make a complete end to its place with an overwhelming flood; he will pursue his enemies into darkness.

UST

⁸ But he will get rid of his enemies; he will be to them like a flood that destroys everything. He will chase his enemies into the darkness of the place where the dead are.

Into what will Yahweh pursue his enemies?

Yahweh will pursue his enemies into darkness.

Nahum 1:9**ULT**

⁹ What are you people plotting against Yahweh? He will make a complete end to it; trouble will not rise up a second time.

UST

⁹ So it is useless for you people of Nineveh to plot against Yahweh. He will not need to strike you two times to destroy you; he will destroy you by striking you only once.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 1:10**ULT**

¹⁰ For they will become tangled up like thornbushes; and like those who are drunken with their drink; they will be devoured by fire like stubble fully dried.

UST

¹⁰ It will be as though his enemies are tangled in thorns and they will stagger like people who have drunk a lot of wine. It will be as though they will be burned up like dry stubble.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 1:11**ULT**

¹¹ Someone arose among you, Nineveh, who planned evil against Yahweh, someone who promoted wickedness.

UST

¹¹ In Nineveh there was a man who advised people to do very wicked things against Yahweh.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 1:12**ULT**

¹² This is what Yahweh says, "Even if they are at their full strength and full numbers, they will nevertheless be cut off; their people will be no more. But you, Judah: Though I have afflicted you, I will afflict you no more.

UST

¹² But this is what Yahweh says to you Israelites: "Although the people of Assyria have very many people and their army is very powerful, they will be destroyed and they will disappear. I say to my people in Judah, I have already punished you, but I will not punish you again.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 1:13**ULT**

¹³ Now will I break that people's yoke from off you; I will break your chains."

UST

¹³ Now I will cause the people of Assyria to no longer enslave you; it will be as though I will tear off the shackles on your hands and feet."

What will Yahweh do to the people's yoke?

He will break the people's yoke from them.

Nahum 1:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Yahweh has given a command about you, Nineveh: "There will be no more descendants bearing your name. I will cut off the carved figures and the cast metal figures from the houses of your gods. I will dig your graves, for you are contemptible."

UST

¹⁴ And this is what Yahweh also declares about you people of Nineveh: "You will not have any descendants who will continue to have your family names. And I will destroy all the statues of your gods that were carved or formed in molds. I will cause you to be killed and sent to your graves, because you are vile!"

Why will Yahweh dig graves for the people of Nineveh?

He will dig their graves, for they are wicked.

Nahum 1:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Look, on the mountains there are the feet of him who is bringing good news, who is announcing peace! Celebrate your festivals, O Judah, and keep your vows, for the wicked one will invade you no more; he is completely cut off.

UST

¹⁵ You people of Judah. Look! A messenger will come across the mountains, and he will bring good news to you. He will declare that you will now have peace. So celebrate your festivals, and do what you solemnly promised to do when your enemies were threatening to attack you, because your wicked enemies will not invade your country again, because they will be completely destroyed.

Where are the feet of him who brings good news?

On the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news.

Why should Judah celebrate the festivals and keep its vows?

Judah should celebrate its festivals and keep its vows, for the wicked one will invade them no more.

Nahum 2

Nahum 2:1

ULT

¹ The one who will scatter you is coming up against you. Guard the city walls, watch the roads, gird your loins, marshal all your strength.

UST

¹ You people of Nineveh, your enemies are coming to attack you. So place guards on the tops of the walls around the city! Guard the roads into the city! Get ready to fight! Gather your troops together!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 2:2

ULT

² For Yahweh is restoring the majesty of Jacob, like the majesty of Israel, although the plunderers devastated them and destroyed their vine branches.

UST

² Even though your soldiers have destroyed the descendants of Jacob, Yahweh will cause other nations to honor them again. Invaders from your country have ruined Israel as enemies would uproot a vineyard, but Israel will prosper again.

What is Yahweh restoring?

Yahweh is restoring the majesty of Jacob.

Nahum 2:3

ULT

³ The shields of his mighty men are red, and the soldiers are clothed in scarlet; the chariots flash with their metal on the day that they are made ready, and the cypress spears are brandished.

UST

³ The shields of the enemy soldiers who are coming to attack you will shine red as the sun shines on them, and they will wear bright red uniforms. The metal of their chariot wheels will flash when they line up before the battle, and their soldiers will lift up their cypress spear and wave them.

What color are the shields of his mighty men?

The shields of his mighty men are red.

Nahum 2:4**ULT**

⁴ The chariots race madly through the streets; they rush back and forth in the squares. They look like torches, and they run like lightning.

UST

⁴ Their chariots dash through the streets of Nineveh and rush furiously through the plazas. Going as quickly as lightning, they look like flaming torches.

What speeds through the streets?

The chariots speed through the streets.

Nahum 2:5**ULT**

⁵ The invader calls his officers; they stumble in their marching; they hurry to attack the city wall. The large shield used in a siege is made ready to protect these attackers.

UST

⁵ An officer gives a command to his officials, and they come to him so quickly that they stumble. They run up the city wall to attack it, and they set up a large wooden shield above the soldiers to protect them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 2:6**ULT**

⁶ The gates at the rivers are forced open, and the palace melts away.

UST

⁶ The enemy soldiers will force open the city gates on the rivers; the palace will collapse.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 2:7**ULT**

⁷ It is decreed: she is stripped of her clothes and is taken away; her female servants moan like doves, beating on their breasts.

UST

⁷ The queen will have her clothes stripped off her by enemy soldiers, and her slave girls will moan like doves and beat their breasts to show that they are very sad.

What has been decreed?

It has been decreed: the queen is stripped and taken away; her female servants moan like doves, beating on their breasts.

Nahum 2:8**ULT**

⁸ Though Nineveh was like a pool of water throughout her days, now its people are fleeing away like rushing water. Others shout, "Stop, stop," but no one turns back.

UST

⁸ The people will rush from Nineveh like water rushes from a broken dam. The officials will shout, "Stop! Stop!" but the people will not even look back as they run away.

What will the people of Nineveh do?

They will flee away like rushing water.

Nahum 2:9**ULT**

⁹ Take the silver plunder, take the gold plunder, for there is no end to the supply, wealth from all Nineveh's desirable things.

UST

⁹ The enemy attackers say to each other, "Seize the silver! Grab the gold! There is a huge amount of very valuable things in the city, more valuable things than anyone can count!"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 2:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Nineveh is empty, desolate and ruined. Everyone's heart melts, everyone's knees strike together, and anguish is in all loins; all their faces grow pale.

UST

¹⁰ Soon everything valuable in the city will be seized or ruined. People will be trembling, with the result that they will not be able to fight. Their faces will all become pale with fear.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 2:11**ULT**

¹¹ Where now is the lions' den, the place where the young lion cubs were fed, the place where the lion and lioness walked, where the cubs of the lion were, where they were afraid of nothing?

UST

¹¹ After that happens, people will say, "What happened to that great city of Nineveh? It was like a den full of young lions, where the male and female lions lived and fed the young ones, where they were afraid of nothing.

Of what were the lions afraid?

They were afraid of nothing.

Nahum 2:12**ULT**

¹² The lion tore enough for his cubs; he strangled victims for his lionesses, and filled his cave with prey, his dens with torn carcasses.

UST

¹² The soldiers in Nineveh were like lions that killed or strangled other animals and brought the meat to their dens."

With what did the lion fill his cave and his dens?

The lion filled his cave with victims and his dens with his prey.

Nahum 2:13**ULT**

¹³ “See, I am against you—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts. I will burn your chariots in the smoke, and the sword will devour your young lions. I will cut off your prey from your land, and the voices of your messengers will be heard no more.”

UST

¹³ Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, says to the people of Nineveh, “I am your enemy; I will cause your chariots to burn in fire and go up in smoke. Your young men will be killed with swords. I will make all the valuable things you stole from other nations disappear. Your messengers will never again take messages to other nations, demanding that their armies surrender to them.”

What will Yahweh do to Nineveh?

Yahweh will burn their chariots in the smoke, devour their young lions, and cut off their prey from the land.

Nahum 3

Nahum 3:1

ULT

¹ Woe to the city full of blood! It is all full of lies and stolen property; Her prey never departs.

UST

¹ Terrible things will happen to Nineveh, that city that is full of people who murder, steal and lie. The city is full of people who the soldiers carried away from other countries.

Of what is the city full?

The city is full of blood, lies and stolen property.

Nahum 3:2

ULT

² But now there is the noise of whips and the sound of rattling wheels, galloping horses, and bounding chariots.

UST

² But now listen to the enemy soldiers coming to attack Nineveh; listen to them cracking their whips, and listen to the rattle of their chariot wheels! Listen to their galloping horses and their chariots as they bounce along!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 3:3

ULT

³ There are charging horsemen, flashing swords, glittering spears, many slain, heaps of corpses. There is no end to the dead bodies; their attackers stumble over the dead bodies.

UST

³ Look at their flashing swords and glittering spears as the horsemen race forward! Many people of Nineveh will be killed; there will be piles of corpses, so many that the attackers will stumble over them.

How many people will be killed by the attacking horsemen?

There will be heaps of corpses, a great pile of bodies, and no end of the bodies.

Nahum 3:4**ULT**

⁴ This is happening because of the many harlotries of the beautiful prostitute, the mistress of witchcraft, who sells nations through her prostitution, and peoples through her acts of witchcraft.

UST

⁴ All that will happen because Nineveh is like a beautiful prostitute who lures men to where they will be ruined; Nineveh is a beautiful city that has attracted people of other nations to come there. The people of Nineveh taught those people of other nations rituals of magic, and caused them to become their slaves.

Why are these things happening?

This is happening because of the lustful actions of the beautiful prostitute.

Nahum 3:5**ULT**

⁵ “See, I am against you—this is the declaration of Yahweh of hosts—I will raise up your skirt over your face and show your nakedness to the nations, your shame to the kingdoms.

UST

⁵ So Yahweh, commander of the angel armies, says to the people of Nineveh: “I am your enemy, and I will cause the people in other nations to see you completely humiliated; like women who have committed adultery are humiliated by having their skirts lifted high, with the result that people can see their naked bodies.

What will Yahweh of hosts do against the prostitute because he is against her? (vv5-6)

Yahweh will raise up her skirt over her face and show her private parts to the nations, her shame to the kingdoms. He will throw disgusting filth on her and make her vile. He will make her someone that everyone will look at.

Nahum 3:6**ULT**

⁶ I will throw disgusting filth on you and make you vile; I will make you someone that everyone will look at with disgust.

UST

⁶ I will cause others to throw garbage at you; I will show others that I despise you very much, and I will cause everyone to ridicule you in public.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 3:7**ULT**

⁷ It will come about that everyone who looks at you will flee from you and say, 'Nineveh is destroyed; who will weep for her?' Where can I find anyone to comfort you?"

UST

⁷ All those who see you will turn their backs to you and say, 'Nineveh is ruined, but absolutely no one will mourn for it.' Nineveh, no one will want to comfort you."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 3:8**ULT**

⁸ Nineveh, are you better than Thebes, that was built on the Nile River, that had water around her, whose defense was the ocean, whose wall was the sea itself?

UST

⁸ Your city is certainly no safer than the city of Thebes was. Thebes was an important city beside the Nile River; the river was like a wall around her.

Whose wall was the sea?

Thebe's wall was the sea.

Nahum 3:9**ULT**

⁹ Cush and Egypt were her strength, and there was no end to its strength; Put and Libya were allies to her.

UST

⁹ The rulers of Ethiopia and Egypt helped Thebes; there was no limit to their power. The governments of the nearby countries of Put and Libya were also allies of Thebes.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 3:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Yet Thebes was carried away; she went into captivity; her young children were dashed in pieces at the head of every street; her enemies threw lots for her honorable men, and all her great men were bound in chains.

UST

¹⁰ Nevertheless, Thebes was captured, and its people were exiled. Their babies were dashed to pieces in the streets of the city. Enemy soldiers cast lots to decide who would get each official in Thebes to become his slave. All the leaders of Thebes were fastened by chains.

Who threw lots for Thebes' honorable men?

Thebes' enemies threw lots for her honorable men.

Nahum 3:11**ULT**

¹¹ You also will become drunk; you will try to hide, and you will also look for a refuge from your enemy.

UST

¹¹ You people of Nineveh will similarly become dazed and drunk, and you will search for places to hide to escape from your enemies.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 3:12**ULT**

¹² All your fortresses will be like fig trees with the earliest ripe figs: if they are shaken, they fall into the mouth of the eater.

UST

¹² Your enemies will cause the walls around your city to fall down like the first figs that fall right into your mouths when you shake the tree. This is how easily your city will be captured.

If Nineveh's fortresses are shaken, what happens?

If Nineveh's fortresses are shaken, they fall into the mouth of the eater.

Nahum 3:13**ULT**

¹³ See, the people among you are women; the gates of your land have been opened wide to your enemies; fire has devoured their bars.

UST

¹³ Look at your soldiers! They will be like weak women! The gates of your city will be opened wide to allow your enemies to enter them, and then the bars of those gates will be burned.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 3:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Go draw water for the siege; strengthen your fortresses; go into the clay and tread the mortar; pick up the molds for the bricks.

UST

¹⁴ Store up water now to use when your enemies surround the city! Repair the forts! Dig up clay and trample it to make it soft, and put it into molds to make bricks to repair the walls!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 3:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Fire will devour you there, and the sword will cut you off. It will devour you as creeping locusts devour everything. Make yourselves as many as the creeping locusts, as many as the swarming locusts.

UST

¹⁵ Nevertheless, your enemies will burn your city; they will kill you with their swords; they will kill you as locusts destroy crops. Go ahead and increase your population like swarms of locusts and grasshoppers.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 3:16**ULT**

¹⁶ You have multiplied your merchants more than the stars in the heavens; but they are like locusts: they spread their wings and then fly away.

UST

¹⁶ In your city there are now very many merchants; more than stars. But when your city is being destroyed, those merchants will take the valuable things and disappear like locusts that strip the leaves from plants and then fly away.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 3:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Your princes are like locusts, and your generals are like swarms of locusts that settle on the walls on a cold day. But when the sun rises they fly away and no one knows where they are.

UST

¹⁷ Your leaders are also like a swarm of locusts that crowd together on the fences on a cold day, and then fly away when the sun comes up, and no one knows where they have gone.

How many princes are there?

The princes are as many as the locusts.

Nahum 3:18**ULT**

¹⁸ King of Assyria, your shepherds are asleep; your nobles are lying down resting. Your people are scattered on the mountains, and there is no one to gather them.

UST

¹⁸ King of Assyria, your officials will all die; your important people will lie down and rest forever. Your people will be scattered over the mountains, and there will be no one to gather them together.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Nahum 3:19**ULT**

19 No healing is possible for your wounds. Your wounds are severe. Everyone who hears the news about you will clap their hands in joy over you. For upon whom has not come your endless evil?

UST

19 You are like someone who has a wound that cannot be healed; it will be a wound that causes him to die. And all those who hear about what has happened to you will clap their hands joyfully. They will say, "Everyone has suffered because he continually acted very cruelly toward us."

What will everyone who hears the news about you do?

Everyone who hears the news about you will clap their hands in joy over you.

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