**906-Nahum**

**Introduction**

   Nahum was a prophet that prophesied against Assyria one hundred years after Jonah prophesied against that nation and the city of Nineveh. The prophecy of Nahum also has a double fulfillment in the time of Jacob's Trouble. Nahum was a descendant of Elkosh, from the city of Nahum, pronounced Capernaum.

**Chapter One**

**The Jealousy of God**

**1 The burden of Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite. 2 God is jealous, and the LORD revengeth; the LORD revengeth, and is furious; the LORD will take vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserveth wrath for his enemies.**

   God is jealous for Israel, it is not that God cares less for other nations such as yours and mine, for God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

   Israel had a special role on the earth given to her by God to be the channel whereby all nations could be blessed with salvation.

   Salvation was of the Jew prior to the cross, and those who had cursed Israel or aided in her corruption the LORD would take vengeance upon. Today, Israel is in unbelief and salvation must come to the world through the body of Christ being faithful to preach the gospel of the grace of God. Acts 20:28 & 1 Cor 15:1-4

   The time is coming when Israel will endure her final affliction at God's hands in the Tribulation Period and she returns to the LORD after he destroys Israel's enemies that have come against her over the years, and those she has gone a whoring after as well.

   This short book is a prophecy of what happened a long time ago to Israel's enemies and if also foreshadows the destruction that is yet to come in the Tribulation Period when the LORD indeed gets revenge on his enemies.

**3 The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet. 4 He rebuketh the sea, and maketh it dry, and drieth up all the rivers: Bashan languisheth, and Carmel, and the flower of Lebanon languisheth. 5 The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein. 6 Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him.**

   Assyria would fall, Babylon, the Persians, the Medes, the Romans, the Turks, and even the Russians and the British, all who would come against Israel would be toppled but that is because of who God is, and what he has said he would do.

   All of those nations, and the confederacy that is to come against Israel will fall because God said he would separate Israel and use them to bring glad tidings to the world in the future Kingdom of peace ruled by the Messiah.

**7 The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.**

   Now the LORD switches from Nineveh and sets his sites on Babylon. The LORD used Nineveh to punish Israel, and Babylon to punish Judah, but he will punish them both for their role in helping Israel and Judah to turn from following the LORD.

   They were the rods in the LORD's hand to chasten his own people, but they will suffer because they caused Israel to sin and because they hated Israel. The Anti-Christ is called the rod of his indignation in Isaiah 5:1-7.

   There is still a day of trouble that is to come and only those who trust in him at that time will be allowed to enter into their rest in the coming Kingdom.

**8 But with an overrunning flood he will make an utter end of the place thereof, and darkness shall pursue his enemies. 9 What do ye imagine against the LORD? he will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time. 10 For while they be folden together as thorns, and while they are drunken as drunkards, they shall be devoured as stubble fully dry. 11 There is one come out of thee, that imagineth evil against the LORD, a wicked counsellor.**

    God will deliver the Remnant of Israel that trust in him in the day of trouble. The wicked counsellor will be cast into the lake of fire one day with all those that have forgotten God.

   This is a prophecy of two people, one was the Assyrian commander, the wicked counsellor, and the other is the Anti-Christ. The wicked counsellor was dealt with in a single night when of the angel of the LORD passed through the camp of Assyrians and 185,000 Assyrians died in their sleep.

   Much the same will happen when the Anti-Christ gathers his forces together against Israel and his forces will be destroyed there at Armageddon.

**12 Thus saith the LORD; Though they be quiet, and likewise many, yet thus shall they be cut down, when he shall pass through. Though I have afflicted thee, I will afflict thee no more.**

   The LORD used Assyria to afflict his people because he is a jealous God, and Israel had turned their back on him in favour of the gods of the people around them.

   God afflicted them as a means of chastising his children to get them to return unto him. That is the only thing unfortunately that will be able to get them over there now to turn back to God, as almost 75% of Israeli's profess to be Atheists today.

  Israel was God's chosen people to preserve the Oracles (words) of God. they were also the nation that would bring in the Messiah to save the world. They will be the nation that God uses in the future to be priests to all the nations of the world during the Kingdom and so Israel cannot be lost to the devil completely.

     God must from time to time send prophets and yes, send their enemies against them to get them to turn back to the one true God so that the earth and its inhabitants can still have the hope of salvation in the kingdom through them.

**13 For now will I break his yoke from off thee, and will burst thy bonds in sunder. 14 And the LORD hath given a commandment concerning thee, that no more of thy name be sown: out of the house of thy gods will I cut off the graven image and the molten image: I will make thy grave; for thou art vile. 15 Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.**

   In Isaiah 52:7 we read practically the exact same thing said as Nahum says here in verse fifteen. Good news (glad tidings) are being prophesied to Israel after of course a terrible time at the hands of her enemies.

   Nineveh who survived during Jonah's day was destroyed in Nahum's day, somewhere around 713 BC. It was such an utter destruction that historians laughed at the story in the Bible as being made up in the minds of the writers of the Bible until only recently when the ancient cities remains have finally been uncovered and the Bible was validated once again.

   Notice the ending of the chapter where God instructs Judah to again do right by him, keep your feasts, perform your vows. Judah comes out of captivity in Babylon and has a short lived revival of sorts, but it didn't last.

   Instead of responding to the chastening of the LORD during Israel's sixty-nine weeks of punishment from the LORD, you would think they would just do the last seven years of punishment found in Daniel's prophecy, they instead called out for their King to be crucified.

   Israel is in partial blindness today as a nation and will remain so until the rapture of the body of Christ happens. Only until after the rapture occurs can Israel's judicial blindness be removed.

**Chapter Two**

**Turning away the Excellency of Jacob**

**1 He that dasheth in pieces is come up before thy face: keep the munition, watch the way, make thy loins strong, fortify thy power mightily. 2 For the LORD hath turned away the excellency of Jacob, as the excellency of Israel: for the emptiers have emptied them out, and marred their vine branches.**

   It is the LORD that will dash in pieces. The emptiers (Assyria and Babylon) have emptied Israel and Judah and one day these verses will see their prophetic fulfillment when LORD would empty them out as well at the last day.

   Israel is often referred to as a vine in scripture and here the emptiers (Assyria and Babylon) have marred the vine's branches. While the LORD often has used Israel's enemies to chastise her, he has never forgotten those who have marred her by enticing her to play the harlot.

**Isaiah 5:7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry. ﻿**

   Judah would meet the same fate as Israel, her excellency (a tribute to her former glory) would be removed as it was for Israel, as they would go into captivity about seventy years apart. There will be a short captivity for many under the hands of the Anti-Christ in the time of Jacob's Trouble which is yet to come, and it will be a time unlike any other the world has ever seen, or will see.

**3 The shield of his mighty men is made red, the valiant men are in scarlet: the chariots shall be with flaming torches in the day of his preparation, and the fir trees shall be terribly shaken.**

   The day of his preparation is a reference to his soon coming to set up his Kingdom.

**4 The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall justle one against another in the broad ways: they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings. 5 He shall recount his worthies: they shall stumble in their walk; they shall make haste to the wall thereof, and the defence shall be prepared. 6 The gates of the rivers shall be opened, and the palace shall be dissolved. 7 And Huzzab shall be led away captive, she shall be brought up, and her maids shall lead her as with the voice of doves, tabering upon their breasts. 8 But Nineveh is of old like a pool of water: yet they shall flee away. Stand, stand, shall they cry; but none shall look back. 9 Take ye the spoil of silver, take the spoil of gold: for there is none end of the store and glory out of all the pleasant furniture. 10 She is empty, and void, and waste: and the heart melteth, and the knees smite together, and much pain is in all loins, and the faces of them all gather blackness. 11 Where is the dwelling of the lions, and the feedingplace of the young lions, where the lion, even the old lion, walked, and the lion's whelp, and none made them afraid? 12 The lion did tear in pieces enough for his whelps, and strangled for his lionesses, and filled his holes with prey, and his dens with ravin.**

   When the LORD pours out his wrath on those that have persecuted and corrupted Israel there will be no one to deliver them, not Assyria, and not Babylon. They shall hide themselves in the caves and in the rocks in the day of his visitation/

**13 Behold, I am against thee, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will burn her chariots in the smoke, and the sword shall devour thy young lions: and I will cut off thy prey from the earth, and the voice of thy messengers shall no more be heard.**

   The young lions are mentioned in Isaiah 5:29 and Ezekiel 38:13 as those that would eventually lead the pride but who would be destroyed instead because of their hatred for Israel.

   Just because the LORD would use Israel's enemies against her to chastise her in no way excused her enemies (the young lions) from punishment because the LORD swore that whoever blessed Israel would be blessed, and whoever cursed Israel would be cursed.

**Ezekiel 38:1 And the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 2 Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, 3 And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: 4 And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: 5 Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet: 6 Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee. 7 Be thou prepared, and prepare for thyself, thou, and all thy company that are assembled unto thee, and be thou a guard unto them. 8 After many days thou shalt be visited: in the latter years thou shalt come into the land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many people, against the mountains of Israel, which have been always waste: but it is brought forth out of the nations, and they shall dwell safely all of them. 9 Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands, and many people with thee. 10 Thus saith the Lord GOD; It shall also come to pass, that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought: 11 And thou shalt say, I will go up to the land of unwalled villages; I will go to them that are at rest, that dwell safely, all of them dwelling without walls, and having neither bars nor gates, 12 To take a spoil, and to take a prey; to turn thine hand upon the desolate places that are now inhabited, and upon the people that are gathered out of the nations, which have gotten cattle and goods, that dwell in the midst of the land. 13 Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil? 14 Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say unto Gog, Thus saith the Lord GOD; In that day when my people of Israel dwelleth safely, shalt thou not know it? 15 And thou shalt come from thy place out of the north parts, thou, and many people with thee, all of them riding upon horses, a great company, and a mighty army: 16 And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land; it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against my land, that the heathen may know me, when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes. 17 Thus saith the Lord GOD; Art thou he of whom I have spoken in old time by my servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days many years that I would bring thee against them? 18 And it shall come to pass at the same time when Gog shall come against the land of Israel, saith the Lord GOD, that my fury shall come up in my face. 19 For in my jealousy and in the fire of my wrath have I spoken, Surely in that day there shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel; 20 So that the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the heaven, and the beasts of the field, and all creeping things that creep upon the earth, and all the men that are upon the face of the earth, shall shake at my presence, and the mountains shall be thrown down, and the steep places shall fall, and every wall shall fall to the ground. 21 And I will call for a sword against him throughout all my mountains, saith the Lord GOD: every man's sword shall be against his brother. 22 And I will plead against him with pestilence and with blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone. 23 Thus will I magnify myself, and sanctify myself; and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am the LORD.**

**Chapter Three**

**The Bloody City**

**1 Woe to the bloody city! it is all full of lies and robbery; the prey departeth not; 2 The noise of a whip, and the noise of the rattling of the wheels, and of the pransing horses, and of the jumping chariots. 3 The horseman lifteth up both the bright sword and the glittering spear: and there is a multitude of slain, and a great number of carcases; and there is none end of their corpses; they stumble upon their corpses:**

   We first learn about the "bloody city" in the book of Ezekiel. The only other book in the Bible that mentions that city in such a way, and it does so four times. Ezekiel 7:23, 22:2, 24:6, and 24:9.

**4 Because of the multitude of the whoredoms of the wellfavoured harlot, the mistress of witchcrafts, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts. 5 Behold, I am against thee, saith the LORD of hosts; and I will discover thy skirts upon thy face, and I will shew the nations thy nakedness, and the kingdoms thy shame. 6 And I will cast abominable filth upon thee, and make thee vile, and will set thee as a gazingstock. 7 And it shall come to pass, that all they that look upon thee shall flee from thee, and say, Nineveh is laid waste: who will bemoan her? whence shall I seek comforters for thee?**

   Notice all the similarities with Mystery Babylon the Great, the Mother of harlots found in the book of the Revelation because they are one and the same. Israel is in an adulterous relationship currently because she does not follow the God of her youth, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

   Notice the references to witchcraft, harlotry etc. That is exactly what the devil will use against Israel and the world to get them to come and to follow after him in the last days. He will cause them to believe the lie because they received not the knowledge the truth.

**2nd Thessalonians 2:1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, 2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. 3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; 4 Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. 5 Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? 6 And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. 7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. 8 And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: 9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: 12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.**

   Nahum was speaking of Nineveh back in his day, but this prophecy also pictures the time when "the Assyrian" (the Anti-Christ) bewitches those nations to come against Israel to try to destroy her in the last days. God will not allow that to happen.

**8 Art thou better than populous No, that was situate among the rivers, that had the waters round about it, whose rampart was the sea, and her wall was from the sea? 9 Ethiopia and Egypt were her strength, and it was infinite; Put and Lubim were thy helpers. 10 Yet was she carried away, she went into captivity: her young children also were dashed in pieces at the top of all the streets: and they cast lots for her honourable men, and all her great men were bound in chains.**

  No was actually a large city, not the answer to a question. No was destroyed and Nineveh was much worse than the city of No. Nineveh would have its day as well.

**11 Thou also shalt be drunken: thou shalt be hid, thou also shalt seek strength because of the enemy. 12 All thy strong holds shall be like fig trees with the firstripe figs: if they be shaken, they shall even fall into the mouth of the eater. 13 Behold, thy people in the midst of thee are women: the gates of thy land shall be set wide open unto thine enemies: the fire shall devour thy bars. 14 Draw thee waters for the siege, fortify thy strong holds: go into clay, and tread the morter, make strong the brickkiln. 15 There shall the fire devour thee; the sword shall cut thee off, it shall eat thee up like the cankerworm: make thyself many as the cankerworm, make thyself many as the locusts. 16 Thou hast multiplied thy merchants above the stars of heaven: the cankerworm spoileth, and flieth away. 17 Thy crowned are as the locusts, and thy captains as the great grasshoppers, which camp in the hedges in the cold day, but when the sun ariseth they flee away, and their place is not known where they are.**

   A locust army will attack in the later days led by Abaddon, and will bring about death and destruction, but the LORD shall bring beauty from ashes.

**18 Thy shepherds slumber, O king of Assyria: thy nobles shall dwell in the dust: thy people is scattered upon the mountains, and no man gathereth them. 19 There is no healing of thy bruise; thy wound is grievous: all that hear the bruit of thee shall clap the hands over thee: for upon whom hath not thy wickedness passed continually?**

    Wow! Upon whom hath not thy wickedness passed continually? What a thing to have said about a city. The same could be said today about Nineveh.

   While there is no modern day Nineveh, its descendants who are steeped in Islam are wicked continually and are deceiving people in the billions to be drunk with the wine of her fornication (spiritual fornication that is).

**The End**