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**VIDEO LECTURE MODULE:**

**BIBLE FOR  
6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

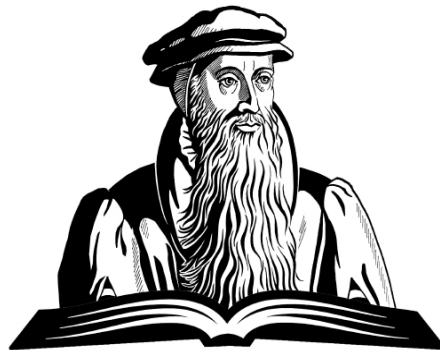
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**Old Testament**

**Lesson 107**

**Nahum, A Message for Nineveh**

Lecture Presenter: Dr. Daniel Sweetman



**The John Knox Institute**  
of Higher Education

*Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide*

**John Knox Institute of Higher Education**

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# Module

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## BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

### Old Testament

#### 113 LESSONS

*77 Lessons presented by Mr. Daniel Van Brugge*

*36 Lessons presented by Dr. Daniel Sweetman*

01. The Bible: The Word of God
02. Creation: The Work of an Almighty God
03. Man: A Special Place in God's Creation
04. A Gracious Promise
05. Cain and Abel
06. Only Noah Found Grace
07. The Coming Judgment –A Way of Escape
08. The Noahic Covenant
09. The Tower of Babel
10. Abram: Called by God
11. Abram Intercedes for Lot
12. Melchizadek
13. Righteous by Faith
14. Two Sons
15. Lessons from Lot's Life
16. Faithless Abraham – Faithful God
17. Abraham Tested – God's Provision
18. Isaac and Rebekah
19. Jacob: A Better Desire than Esau
20. Jacob the Deceiver
21. God Preserves Jacob
22. Jacob Returns to Beth-el
23. Joseph Loved – Joseph Hated
24. An Eye upon God
25. Joseph Raised Out of Prison
26. Joseph and His Brethren
27. Jacob Comes to Joseph
28. God Heard Their Cry
29. Moses and the Burning Bush
30. Let My People God
31. Deliverance
32. God's Patience with a Complaining People
33. Keeping the Law: Not to Merit /Thankfulness
34. The Lord Dwells Among His People
35. A Priest for the People
36. Moses Intercedes for a Rebellious People
37. Worshiping God Rightly
38. Walk Not According to the World
39. Hearts of Ingratitude
40. Aaron's Rod Blossoming
41. The Serpent of Brass Lifted Up
42. Phinehas Turning Away God's Wrath
43. Cities of Refuge
44. A New Generation
45. Moses' Last Days
46. Joshua—God's Promise Fulfilled
47. A Promise to Rahab
48. The Rise of Judges
49. Gideon—God with Him
50. Samson

51. Ruth the Moabitess
52. Samuel Judges Israel
53. Israel's First King
54. The Kingdom Established
55. David Anointed the Next King
56. David Hunted by Saul
57. The Last Days of Saul
58. David, the Next King
59. Fetching the Ark
60. Thou Art the Man
61. David's Return to Jerusalem
62. Seven Sons of Saul Killed
63. Genealogies of Israel
64. David Appointed King
65. David's Kingdom Established
66. David Prepares for the Temple
67. David's Departing Instructions
68. Solomon Becomes King
69. Solomon Builds the House of God
70. The Kingdom is Rent
71. A Wicked Divided Kingdom
72. Ahab's Reign and Death
73. Elisha Begins his Work
74. Elisha's Voice is Heard
75. A Succession of Kings
76. Ahaz and Hezekiah
77. The Captivity of Judah
78. Introduction to the Prophets
79. Isaiah's Vision & Song
80. Isaiah Prophecies about Christ
81. The Prophet Jeremiah Called and Sent
82. Jeremiah Opposed and Comforted
83. Ezekiel, the Captive Prophet
84. Ezekiel's Comforting Visions
85. Daniel and His Three Friends
86. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream
87. Three Friends in the Fiery Furnace
88. Nebuchadnezzar's Madness
89. The Writing on the Wall
90. Daniel in the Lions' Den
91. Daniel's Visions and Dreams
92. Ezra—Return from Captivity
93. Ezra—Rebuilding the Temple
94. Ezra—The Scribe
95. Nehemiah—Rebuilding the Walls
96. Nehemiah—The Task Completed
97. Esther the Queen
98. Esther—Haman's Plot
99. Esther—The Jews Saved
100. Hosea—The Minor Prophets
101. Joel and the Day of the LORD
102. Amos the Fearless Herdsman
103. Obadiah Prophecies Edom's Fall
104. Jonah's Flight
105. Jonah's Mission
106. Micah Preaches Judgment & Mercy
- 107. Nahum—A Message for Nineveh**
108. Habakkuk's Questions, God's Replies
109. Zephaniah—Threatenings & Promises
110. Haggai Urges Building the Temple
111. Zechariah—The Night Visions
112. Zechariah Prophecies of Christ
113. Malachi—Last Old Testament Prophet

## *Lesson 107*

# **Nahum, A Message for Nineveh**

## **Nahum, chapters 1 through 3**

### **Memory Verse**

*“The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble;  
and he knoweth them that trust in him.”*

—Nahum 1:7

### **The City of Nineveh**

Around the year 800 BC, Jonah entered one of the fifteen gates into the city of Nineveh. Assyria was at the height of its power. It had a huge well-trained army armed with iron weapons. The kings of Assyria conquered one nation after another. Their ruthlessness struck fear in all. This made their repentance at the preaching of Jonah all the more remarkable. About 150 years later, the Lord send another prophet with a message for Nineveh. This prophet was Nahum.

Nahum probably prophesied during the reign of wicked king Manasseh. Much had taken place since Jonah had walked through Nineveh. Sadly the repentance of Nineveh was short-lived, and most of the people of Nineveh soon returned to their former sins. In 2 Peter, 2:22, Peter speaks about how a washed sow will return to the mire. This is what happened in Nineveh. Soon they were on the warpath again. In 722 BC, the kingdom of Israel was conquered and deported to Assyria. In 701 BC, Judah was attacked. Many towns were captured, but Jerusalem was miraculously spared.

### **Nahum’s Message**

The people of Judah must have trembled. God had spared Jerusalem during the time of the God-fearing King Hezekiah. Would he still spare it during the reign of wicked king Manasseh? The prophet Nahum was sent to comfort God’s people and pronounce judgment upon Nineveh. In Jonah 4:1, we read that God is “slow to anger and of great kindness.” As if in reply, we read in Nahum 1:3, that God is “slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit the wicked.” God is indeed slow to anger, but not slack concerning his promises, as we read in 2 Peter 3:9. This includes his promises of judgment. In Nahum 1:2, we read: “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.” There is much of God’s anger in the prophecy of Nahum. God’s anger is not like human anger however. When people are angry, they lash out. Innocent people are hurt. Terrible mistakes are made. This is never true of God’s anger. He is never out of control. He never makes mistakes. This does not make God’s anger less dreadful. He is holy and righteous. He must punish sin with eternal death. We read fearful descriptions of this in the book of Nahum. “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” (Nahum 1:6).

### **Nineveh’s Sins**

Nineveh’s sins were pride and cruelty. The pride of Nineveh was so great that they challenged God himself. Remember how, during the siege of Jerusalem, Sennacherib boasted against the Lord? In Nahum 1:9, we read: “What do ye imagine against the LORD?” Their pride was directed at God. Their cruelty was directed at fellow men. For this reason, there would be none to pity them when they would perish. “There is no healing of thy bruise; thy wound is grievous: all that hear the bruit of thee shall clap their hands over thee” (Nahum 3:19). The judgment could no longer be averted. Nahum foretold: “The gates of the river shall be opened, and the palaces shall be dissolved” (Nahum 2:6). In 612 BC, several oppressed nations rebelled and joined to besiege Nineveh. Just then, heavy rains caused the river to flood, causing part of the huge wall to collapse. The invaders killed most of the people and sold the rest into slavery. The city was flattened, covered by sand dunes and forgotten, until it was recently discovered.

Have you ever stopped doing a certain sin? Do you sometimes wonder if your repentance will last? Only God is able to keep us from backsliding. God does not set traps for people however. Do you desire to turn from sin and to follow him, but feel yourself so weak? Beg him to keep you, and he will hear your prayer. “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9).

### **Review Questions**

1. Both Nahum and Jonah both spoke to Nineveh. What was their message?
  - a. God’s judgment
  - b. God’s mercy
  - c. God’s control over all creatures
  - d. The coming Messiah
2. What empire was Nineveh the capital of?
  - a. Babylon
  - b. Rome
  - c. Persia
  - d. Assyria
3. In Nahum 1:4, what was the same about Bashan, Carmel and Lebanon?
  - a. They were valleys
  - b. They were fruitful places
  - c. They worshipped idols
  - d. They were wicked cities

4. Which two colors do you read in Nahum 2:3? What do they point to?
- a. Blue & red—heaven and earth
  - b. Purple & crimson—the Lord Jesus is God and man
  - c. Red & scarlet—blood
  - d. Black & white—sin and holiness
5. In Jeremiah 50:17, Israel is compared to a \_\_\_\_\_ and Assyria to a \_\_\_\_\_ which \_\_\_\_\_ him. In Nahum 2:13, the \_\_\_\_\_ would devour the \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Which large city does Nahum compare to Nineveh in Nahum 3:8?
- a. No
  - b. Damascus
  - c. Babylon
  - d. Petra
7. This powerful city, also known as Thebes, was destroyed by the Assyrians in the year 663 BC, which was during the reign of King Manasseh. Which Prophet prophesied at this time?
- a. Amos
  - b. Nahum
  - c. Jonah
  - d. Haggai

**Discussion Questions**

1. In Nahum 1:2, and also in the second Commandment (Exodus 20:5) we read that God is a jealous God. What do you think this means?

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2. What characteristics or attributes of God are described in the following verses?

Jonah 4:11 \_\_\_\_\_

Nahum 1:2 \_\_\_\_\_

Nahum 1:3 \_\_\_\_\_

Nahum 1:4 \_\_\_\_\_

Nahum 1:6 \_\_\_\_\_

Nahum 1:7 \_\_\_\_\_

3. In Nahum 1:15 we read, “Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace!” This is quoted in Romans 10:15. What one word does Paul use for “good tidings”? \_\_\_\_\_

What kind of people does Paul say this refers to?

\_\_\_\_\_

In Ephesians 6:15, what part of the spiritual armour does Paul describe?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_