

LIVING GODS WILL

Prophet of God

NAHUM



The Prophet Nahum, Amiens Cathedral

Born: Elkosh, Israel

Died:

Nahum was a **prophet** of **God** from **663 – 612 BC**.

Nahum authored the **Book of Nahum** in the Old Testament .

Nahum prophesied the **destruction of Nineveh** by **Babylon**.

Nahum was sent to Nineveh by **God 150 years after Jonah** went.

Nahum was a minor prophet whose prophecy is recorded in the Old Testament.

His book comes in chronological order between **Micah** and **Habakkuk** in the Bible.

He wrote about the end of the **Assyrian Empire**, and its capital city, **Nineveh**, in a vivid poetic style.

Little is known about **Nahum's** personal history. His name means "**comforter**," and he was from the town of **Alqosh** (**Nahum 1:1**).

He was a very nationalistic Hebrew, however, and lived amongst the Elkoshites in peace. **Nahum**, called "**the Elkoshite**", is the seventh in order of the minor prophets.

The Book Of Nahum

Author: The author of the **Book of Nahum** identifies himself as **Nahum** (in the Hebrew "**Consoler**" or "**Comforter**") the **Elkoshite** (**1:1**). There are many theories as to where that city was though there is no conclusive evidence. One such theory is that it refers to the city later called **Capernaum** (which literally means "**the village of Nahum**") at the Sea of Galilee.

Date of Writing: Given the limited amount of information that we know about **Nahum**, the best we can do is narrow the timeframe in which the **Book of Nahum** was written to between **663 and 612 B.C.**

Two events are mentioned that help us to determine these dates. First, **Nahum** mentions Thebes (No Amon) in Egypt falling to the Assyrians (**663 B.C.**) in the past tense, so it had already happened. Second, the remainder of **Nahum's** prophecies came true in **612 B.C.**

Purpose of Writing: **Nahum** did not write this book as a warning or "**call to repentance**" for the people of Nineveh. **God** had already sent them the prophet **Jonah** 150 years earlier with His promise of what would happen if they continued in their evil ways. The people at that time had repented but now lived just as bad if not worse than they did before.

The Assyrians had become absolutely brutal in their conquests (**hanging the bodies of their victims on poles and putting their skin on the walls of their tents among other atrocities**).

Now **Nahum** was telling the people of **Judah** to not despair because **God** had pronounced judgment and the Assyrians would soon be getting just what they deserved.

Brief Summary: Nineveh once had responded to the preaching of **Jonah** and turned from their evil ways to serve the **Lord God**. But **150 years later**, Nineveh returned to idolatry, violence, and arrogance (**Nahum 3:1-4**).

Once again **God** sends one of His prophets to Nineveh warning of judgment in the form of the destruction of their city and exhorting them to repentance. Sadly, the Ninevites did not heed's **Nahum's** warning, and the city was brought under the dominion of Babylon.

Foreshadowings: **Paul** uses shades of the imagery of **Nahum 1:15** in **Romans 10:15** in regard to the ministry of the **Messiah** and the apostles. It may also be understood of any minister of the Gospel whose business it is to "**preach the Gospel of peace.**"

God has made peace with sinners by the blood of **Christ**, and has given to His people the peace that "**transcends all understanding**" (**Philippians 4:7**).

The preacher's work is also to "**bring glad tidings of good things**" (**KJV**), such as reconciliation, righteousness, pardon, life, and eternal salvation by a crucified **Christ**.

The preaching of such a Gospel, and bringing such news, make their feet beautiful. The imagery here is of one who runs to others, eager and joyful to proclaim the **Good News**.

Practical Application: **God** is patient and slow to anger. He gives every country time to proclaim Him as their **Lord**. But He is not mocked. Any time a country turns away from Him to serve its own motives, He steps in with judgment.

Almost 220 years ago, the United States was formed as a nation guided by principles found in the Bible. In the last 50 years that has changed, and we are turning daily in the opposite direction. As Christians it is our duty to stand up for biblical principles and scriptural truth, for Truth is our country's only hope.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE

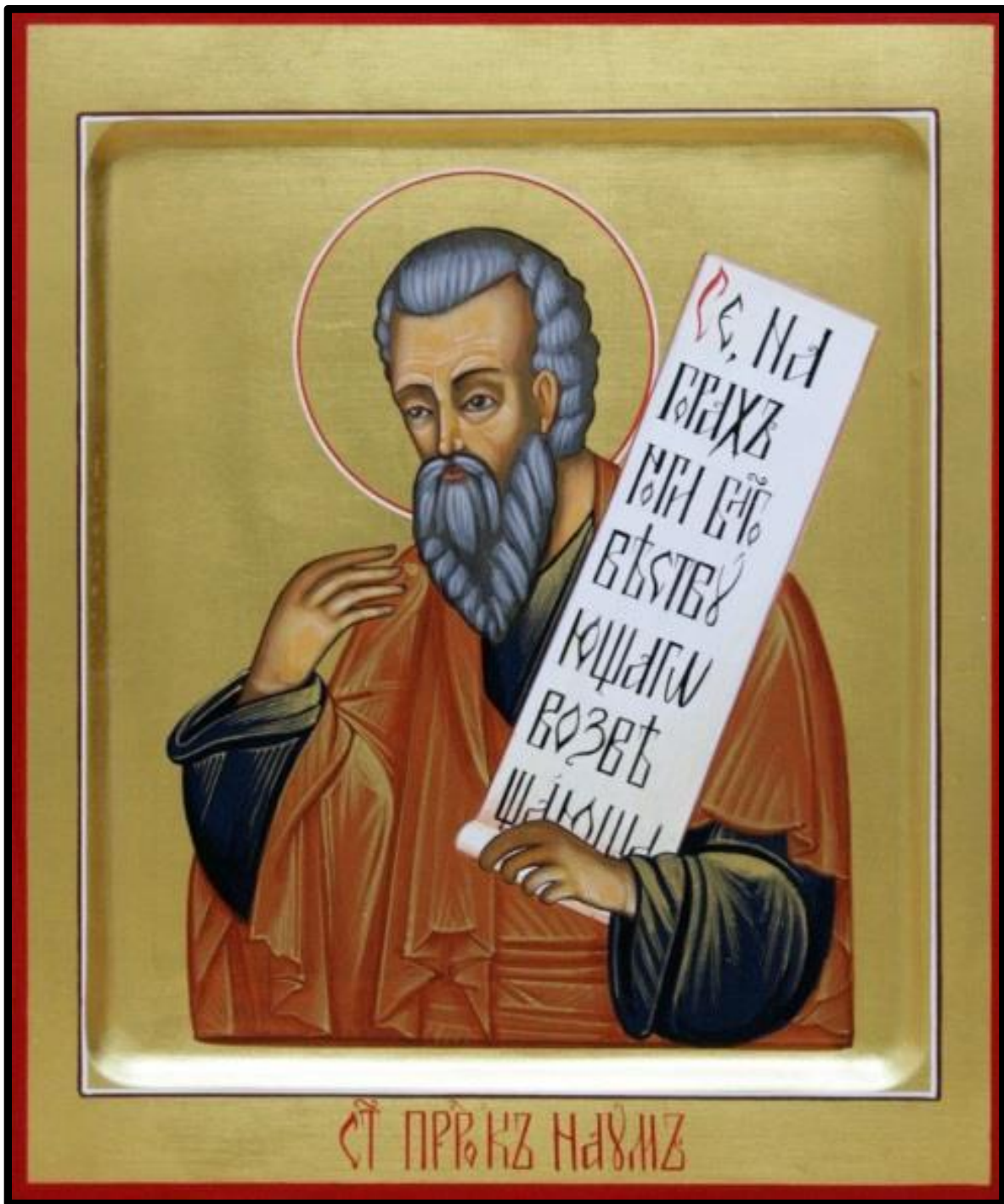
Nahum 1:7 "The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him."

Nahum 1:14a "The LORD has given a command concerning you, Nineveh: 'You will have no descendants to bear your name.'"

Nahum 1:15a "Look, there on the mountains, the feet of one who brings good news, who proclaims peace!" See also Isaiah 52:7 and Romans 10:15.

Nahum 2:13a "Behold I am against you," says the Lord of hosts."

Nahum 3:19 "Nothing can heal your wound; your injury is fatal. Everyone who hears the news about you claps his hands at your fall, for who has not felt your endless cruelty?"



The Prophet Nahum, [Kizhi Monastery](#), Karelia, Russia