

# Nahum

<sup>1</sup> Burden of Nineveh. The Scroll of the Vision of Nahum the Elkoshite. <sup>2</sup> A God zealous and avenging [is] YHWH, || An avenger [is] YHWH, and possessing fury. An avenger [is] YHWH on His adversaries, || And He is watching for His enemies. <sup>3</sup> YHWH [is] slow to anger, and great in power, || And YHWH does not entirely acquit, || In a windstorm and in a storm [is] His way, || And a cloud [is] the dust of His feet. <sup>4</sup> He is pushing against a sea, and dries it up, || Indeed, He has made all the floods dry, || Bashan and Carmel [are] languishing, || Indeed, the flower of Lebanon [is] languishing. <sup>5</sup> Mountains have shaken because of Him, || And the hills have been melted; And the earth [is] lifted up at His presence, || And the world and all dwelling in it. <sup>6</sup> Who stands before His indignation? And who rises up in the heat of His anger? His fury has been poured out like fire, || And the rocks have been broken by Him. <sup>7</sup> Good [is] YHWH for a strong place in a day of distress. And He knows those trusting in Him. <sup>8</sup> And with a flood passing over, || An end He makes of its place, || And darkness pursues His enemies. <sup>9</sup> What do we devise against YHWH? He is making an end, distress does not arise twice. <sup>10</sup> For while princes [are] perplexed, || And with their drink are drunken, || They have been consumed as stubble fully dried. <sup>11</sup> From

you has come forth a deviser of evil || Against YHWH—a worthless counselor. <sup>12</sup> Thus said YHWH: “Though complete, and thus many, || Yet thus they have been cut off, || And he has passed away. Though I afflicted you, I afflict you no longer. <sup>13</sup> And now I break his rod from off you, || And your bands I draw away.” <sup>14</sup> And YHWH has commanded concerning you, || “No more of your name spreads abroad, || I cut off carved and molten image from the house of your gods, || I appoint your grave, for you have been vile.” <sup>15</sup> Behold, on the mountains the feet of one proclaiming tidings, sounding peace! Celebrate, O Judah, your festivals, complete your vows, || For the worthless no longer pass over into you, || He has been completely cut off!

## 2

<sup>1</sup> A scatterer has come up to your face, || Keep the bulwark, watch the way, || Strengthen the loins, strengthen power mightily. <sup>2</sup> For YHWH has turned back to the excellence of Jacob, || As [to] the excellence of Israel, || For emptiers have emptied them out, || And they have marred their branches. <sup>3</sup> The shield of his mighty ones has become red, || Men of might [are in] scarlet, || With fiery torches [is] the chariot in a day of his preparation, || And the firs have been caused to tremble. <sup>4</sup> In out-places the chariots shine, || They go to and fro in broad places, || Their appearances [are] like torches, || As lightnings they run. <sup>5</sup> He remembers his majestic ones, || They stumble in their goings, || They hurry

[to] its wall, || And the covering is prepared.  
<sup>6</sup> Gates of the rivers have been opened, || And the palace is dissolved. <sup>7</sup> And it is established—she has removed, || She has been brought up, || And her handmaids are leading as the voice of doves, || Tabering on their hearts. <sup>8</sup> And Nineveh [is] as a pool of waters, || From of old it [is]—and they are fleeing! “Stand, stand”; and none is turning! <sup>9</sup> Seize silver, seize gold, || And there is no end to the prepared things, || [To] the abundance of all desirable vessels. <sup>10</sup> She is empty, indeed, emptiness and waste, || And the heart has melted, || And the knees have struck together, || And great pain [is] in all loins, || And the faces of all of them have gathered paleness. <sup>11</sup> Where [is] the habitation of lionesses? And a feeding-place it [is] for young lions || Where a lion has walked, an old lion, || A lion’s whelp, and there is none troubling. <sup>12</sup> The lion is tearing parts [for] his whelps, || And is strangling for his lionesses, || And he fills his holes [with] prey, || And his habitations [with] torn flesh. <sup>13</sup> “Behold, I [am] against you,” || A declaration of YHWH of Hosts, || “And I have burned its chariot in smoke, || And a sword consumes your young lions, || And I have cut off your prey from the land, || And the voice of your messengers is not heard anymore!”

### 3

<sup>1</sup> Woe [to] the city of blood, || She is all full with lies [and] burglary, || Prey does not depart.

<sup>2</sup> The sound of a whip, || And the sound of the

rattling of a wheel, || And of a prancing horse, and of a bounding chariot, || Of a horseman mounting. <sup>3</sup> And the flame of a sword, and the lightning of a spear, || And the abundance of the wounded, || And the weight of carcasses, || Indeed, there is no end to the bodies, || They stumble over their bodies. <sup>4</sup> Because of the abundance of the fornications of a harlot, || The goodness of the grace of the lady of witchcrafts, || Who is selling nations by her fornications, || And families by her witchcrafts. <sup>5</sup> "Behold, I [am] against you," || A declaration of YHWH of Hosts, || "And have removed your skirts before your face, || And have showed nations your nakedness, || And kingdoms your shame, <sup>6</sup> And I have cast on you abominations, || And dishonored you, and made you as a sight. <sup>7</sup> And it has come to pass, || Each of your beholders flees from you, || And has said: Nineveh is spoiled, || Who bemoans for her? From where do I seek comforters for you?" <sup>8</sup> Are you better than No-Ammon, || That is dwelling among brooks? Waters she has around her, || Whose bulwark [is] the sea, waters her wall. <sup>9</sup> Cush her might, and Egypt, and there is no end. Put and Lubim have been for your help. <sup>10</sup> Even she becomes an exile, || She has gone into captivity, || Even her sucklings are dashed to pieces || At the top of all out-places, || And for her honored ones they cast a lot, || And all her great ones have been bound in chains. <sup>11</sup> Even you are drunken, you are hidden, || Even you seek a strong place, because

of an enemy. <sup>12</sup> All your fortresses [are] fig trees with first-fruits, || If they are shaken, || They have fallen into the mouth of the eater. <sup>13</sup> Behold, your people [are] women in your midst, || To your enemies thoroughly opened || Have been the gates of your land, || Fire has consumed your bars. <sup>14</sup> Waters of a siege draw for yourself, || Strengthen your fortresses, || Enter into mire, and tread on clay, || Make strong a brick-kiln. <sup>15</sup> There a fire consumes you, || A sword cuts you off, || It consumes you as a cankerworm! Make yourself heavy as the cankerworm, || Make yourself heavy as the locust. <sup>16</sup> Multiply your merchants above the stars of the heavens, || The cankerworm has stripped off, and flees away. <sup>17</sup> Your crowned ones [are] as a locust, || And your princes as great grasshoppers, || That encamp in hedges in a day of cold, || The sun has risen, and it flees away, || And its place where they are is not known. <sup>18</sup> Your friends have slumbered, king of Asshur, || Your majestic ones rest, || Your people have been scattered on the mountains, || And there is none gathering. <sup>19</sup> There is no weakening of your destruction, || Your striking [is] grievous, || All hearing your fame have clapped the hand at you, || For over whom did your wickedness not pass continually?

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Dialect: American

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2024-02-21

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