

NAHUM

¹ The burden of Nineveh; the book of vision of Nahum *the* Elkoshite.

² The Lord *is* a punisher, and the Lord *is* avenging; the Lord *is* avenging, and having strong vengeance; the Lord *is* avenging against his adversaries, and he *is* wrathing to his enemies.

³ The Lord *is* patient, and great in strength, and he cleansing shall not make *the wicked* innocent. The Lord *cometh* in tempest, and the ways of him *be* in whirlwind, and clouds *be* the dust of his feet;

⁴ he blameth the sea, and drieth it, and bringeth all floods into desert. Bashan is made sick, and Carmel, and the flowers of Lebanon languished.

⁵ Mountains be moved together of him, and little hills be desolate. And [*the*] earth trembled together from the face of him, and the roundness of earth, and all dwelling therein.

⁶ Who shall stand before the face of his indignation? and who shall against-stand in the wrath of his strong vengeance? His indignation is shed out as fire, and stones be dissolved, *either broken*, of him.

⁷ The Lord *is* good, and comforting in the day of tribulation, and knowing them that hope in him.

⁸ And in great flood passing forth, he shall make end of his place; and darkneses shall pursue his enemies.

⁹ What think ye against the Lord? He shall make end; double tribulation shall not rise together.

¹⁰ For as thorns embrace themselves together, so the feast of them drinking together shall be wasted, as stubble full of dryness.

¹¹ Of thee shall go out a man thinking malice against the Lord, and treat trespassing in soul.

¹² The Lord saith these things, If they shall be perfect, and so many, and thus they shall be clipped, and it shall pass by. I tormented thee, and I shall no more torment thee.

¹³ And now I shall all-break the rod of him from *off* thy back, and I shall break thy bonds.

¹⁴ And the Lord shall command on thee, it shall no more be sown of thy name. Of the house of thy god I shall slay; I shall set thy sepulchre a graven image, and an image welled together, *either molten*, for thou art unworshipped.

¹⁵ Lo! on hills the feet of the evangelizing and telling peace. Judah, hallow thou thy feast days, and yield thy vows, for why Belial shall no more put to, that he pass forth in thee; all he is perished.

CHAPTER 2

¹ He went up, that shall scatter before thee, that shall keep [*the*] besieging; behold thou the way, comfort thou loins, strengthen thou virtue greatly.

² For as the Lord yielded the pride of Jacob, so the pride of Israel; for destroyers scattered them, and destroyed the generations of them.

³ The shields of strong men of him *be* fiery, men of the host *be* in red clothes; reins of fire of [*the*] chariots, in the day of his making ready; and the leaders thereof be asleep.

⁴ In ways they be troubled together, carts of four horses be hurtled together in streets; the sight of them as lamps, as lightnings running about.

⁵ He shall bethink of his strong men, they shall fall in their ways; and swiftly they shall go up on the walls thereof, and shadowing place shall be made ready.

⁶ Gates of floods be opened, and the temple is broken down to [*the*] earth.

⁷ And a knight is led away captive, and the handmaids thereof shall be driven sorrowing as culvers, grutching in their hearts.

⁸ And Nineveh, as a cistern of waters the waters thereof; forsooth they fled; Stand ye, stand ye, and there is not that shall turn again.

⁹ Ravish ye silver, ravish ye gold; and there is none end of riches, of all desirable vessels.

¹⁰ It is destroyed, and cut, and rent, *or torn*, and heart failing, and unknitting of small knees, and failing in all reins; and the face of all *be* as blackness of a pot.

¹¹ Where is the dwelling of lions, and [*the*] pastures of whelps of lions? To which *city* the lion went, that the whelp of the lion should enter thither, and there is not that shall make afeared.

¹² The lion took enough to his whelps, and slew to his lionesses; and filled their dens with prey, and his couch with raven.

¹³ Lo! I to thee, saith the Lord God of hosts; and I shall burn thy carts of four horses till to the highest, and sword shall eat thy small lions; and I shall destroy thy prey from the land, and the voice of thy messengers shall no more be heard.

CHAPTER 3

¹ Woe to the city of bloods, all of leasing, full of rending; raven shall not go away from thee.

² Voice of scourge, and voice of rush of wheel, and of horse making noise, and of [a] four-horsed cart burning,

³ and of knight going up, and of shining sword, and glistening spear, and of [the] slain multitude, and of grievous falling, neither there is end of carrions. And they shall fall together in their bodies,

⁴ for the multitude of [the] fornications of the whore fair and pleasant, and having witchcrafts; which sold folks in her fornications, and meines in her enchantments, *either sorceries*.

⁵ Lo! I to thee, saith the Lord God of hosts; and I shall show thy shameful things in thy face; and I shall show to folks thy nakedness, and to realms thine evil fame, *either shame*.

⁶ And I shall cast out on thee thine abominations, and I shall punish thee with despites, and I shall put thee into ensample.

⁷ And it shall be, each man that shall see thee, shall leap away from thee, and shall say, Nineveh is destroyed. Who shall move head on thee? whereof shall I seek to thee a comforter?

⁸ Whether thou art better than Alexandria of peoples, that dwelleth in *or by the* floods? Waters

be in compass thereof, whose riches is the sea, waters *be[the]* walls thereof.

⁹ Ethiopia *is[the]* strength thereof, and Egypt, and there is none end; Africa and Libya were in help thereof.

¹⁰ But and it in transmigration, *or passing over*, is led into captivity; the little children thereof be hurtled down in the head of all ways. And on the noble men thereof they cast lot, and all great men thereof be set together in gyves, *either fetters*.

¹¹ And thou therefore shalt be drunken, and shalt be despised, and thou shalt seek help *because* of the enemy.

¹² All thy strengths *or strongholds* be as a fig tree, with his figs unripe; if they shall be shaken, they shall fall into the mouth of the eater.

¹³ Lo! thy people *be* women in the middle of thee; the gates of thy land shall be showed to opening to thine enemies; fire shall devour thine hinges.

¹⁴ Draw up to thee water for asieging, build thy strongholds; enter in *in[to]* fen, and tread, thou undergoing hold a tilestone.

¹⁵ There fire shall eat thee, thou shalt perish by sword, it shall devour thee, as bruchus *doeth*; be thou gathered together as a bruchus, be thou multiplied as a locust.

¹⁶ Thou madest thy merchants more than be stars of heaven; a bruchus is spread abroad, and fly away.

¹⁷ Thy keepers *be* as locusts, and thy little children *be* as locusts of locusts, which sit together in hedges in the day of cold; the sun is risen,

and they fled away, and the place of them is not known, where they were.

¹⁸ Thy shepherds nap, thou king *of* Assur, thy princes shall be buried; thy people oft was hid in hills, and there is not that shall gather.

¹⁹ Thy sorrow is not privy, thy wound is worst; all men that heard thine hearing pressed together hand on thee, for on whom passed not thy malice evermore?

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Language: English

Dialect: Archaic

Translation by: Terry Noble

Wycliffe's Bible with Modern Spelling, was made in response to requests from readers who wanted my Wycliffe's Old and New Testaments and Apocrypha in one volume. Printing limitations dictated the number of pages available to me and the letter size. In my previous books, Wycliffe's Bible, Wycliffe's Old Testament, Vols. 1 amp 2, Wycliffe's New Testament, and Wycliffe's Apocrypha, I have tens of thousands of rewritten verses, presented in parentheses "()", to provide help in comprehending the 14th century Middle English vocabulary and grammar. In this present volume, with space at a premium, those "helps" had to be eliminated, to make room for the text of the Apocrypha.

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2019-09-26

PDF generated using Haiola and XeLaTeX on 18 Apr 2025 from source files dated 10 Feb 2022

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