

Nahum

Outline

Nineveh’s Judge (1).

- The Lord’s Kindness and Sternness.
- Nineveh’s Overthrow and Judah’s Joy.

Nineveh’s Judgement (2).

- Nineveh Besieged.
- Nineveh’s Desolation (contrasted with former glory).

Nineveh’s Total Destruction (3).

- Nineveh’s Sins.
- Nineveh’s Doom.

686-612BC

Rehoboam	922-915
Abijah	915-913
Asa	917-873
Jehoshaphat	873-849
Jehoram	849-843
Ahaziah	843-842
Athaliah	842-837
Joash	837-800
Amaziah	800-783
Uzziah	783-742
Jotham	750-735
Ahaz	735-715
Hezekiah	715-686
Manasseh	686-642
Amon	642-640
Josiah	640-609
Jehoahaz	609
Jehoiakim	609-598
Jehoiachin	598-597

The Assyrian Empire

2nd Chronicles & The Divided Monarchy



Background

- Assyria (Assur/Nineveh) rose to power from the demise of the Hittite empire (1400-1200bc).
- The Assyrians were brutal and used their infamy as a form of psychological warfare to conquer nations/citadels without military conquest (Jerusalem, Hezekiah).
 - Assyria relocated the nations they conquered to humiliate the god of that nation, and stop the nation communing with their god.
- Ashurbanipal conquered Thebes (Amon), upper Egypt in 663bc gaining total control of the Levant.
- In the 8th century Nineveh (Assyria) repented at the preaching of Jonah.
- Yahweh used Assyria to chastise and test Syria, Israel & Judah.
- Only 40yrs (612bc) after reaching the pinnacle of empire, Assyria/Nineveh were conquered by a Babylonian/Median confederacy.

Key Themes

Yahweh's Oracle of Judgement against Nineveh (Assyria).

The Universal Sovereignty of Yahweh.

- Yahweh will intervene (through human proxy) to end the rule of Assyria.
- This is not just the ebb and flow of history.

Yahweh is slow to anger.

- Yahweh's people must trust in His Righteousness, despite His apparent delay in punishing the wicked, and vindication of the righteous.

Yahweh will break the yoke of slavery upon His people.

Yahweh is justified in condemning the wicked, despite having used them (their wickedness) to fulfil His purposes.