Nineveh and Enviorns, Seventh Century BC (according to Alfred Jeremias)
Plan of the site of ancient Nineveh; a modern mapmaker's reconstruction based on available evidence. (HBD p. 707)
NAHUM
Theme / Application Chart

SCRIPTURE: Nahum 1:1–3:19

THEME: God’s judgment upon Nineveh

APPLICATION: Nineveh was cruel and proud but at the height of her power, God judged her and freed those under her oppression. Judah, on the other hand, was told to quietly take refuge in the Lord and he would deliver them.

SPECIFIC APPLICATION: To which side do you belong? Are you a Ninevite – with cruel, ungodly behavior toward others, proud, self reliant, strong, macho? Not turning to God but rejoicing in your private idols of money and material things, education, social standing, job, etc…?

We can be oppressive and cruel with our words and attitudes toward others in much the same way Nineveh oppressed nations. If we are, then we can be sure that God’s patience will run out, he will bring us down in shame, and no one will comfort us.

Romans 12:3 (NASB95)
3 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

Romans 12:16 (NASB95)
16 Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation.

James 4:6 (NASB95)
6 But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, “GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.”

Or are you like Judah in the midst of a cruel oppressive situation – at home, at work, at school, wherever you may be? What is your response? Are you turning to God as your refuge – trusting that He is good and that He will eventually deliver you?

Write down the situation that applies to you. Are you a Ninevite aware now of some bad attitudes or are you a Judean in the midst of trouble?

PLAN OF ACTION: Write down something you could practically do to respond to God – memorize scripture, ask forgiveness, seek God in prayer.