

Gilgamesh, Beowulf, The Charge of the Light Brigade, Paul Revere’s Ride...

In poetic form, Nahum chapter one describes the God of justice...

...while chapters two and three describe the outpouring of God’s justice against the city of Nineveh

Chapter 2

- 2:1-2 The Announcement
- 2:3-5 The Approach
- 2:6-9 The Assault
- 2:10-13 The Aftermath

Notice the parallels...

- v. 1 “The scatterer has come up against **you**...”
- v. 13 “Behold, I am against **you**...” =

- v. 1 “The scatterer has come up **against** you...” =
- v. 13 “Behold, I am **against** you...” =

- v. 1 “Man the ramparts;
“watch the road;
“dress for battle (lit. gird your loins);
“collect all your strength”
- v. 10 “Hearts melt
“knees tremble;
“anguish is in all loins;
“all faces grow pale!”

- v. 2 “plunderers have plundered” (*baqaq*)
- v. 9 “Plunder the silver, plunder the gold” (*bazaz*)

No. 3 – God’s Justice Against Nineveh, pt. 1

2:1-13

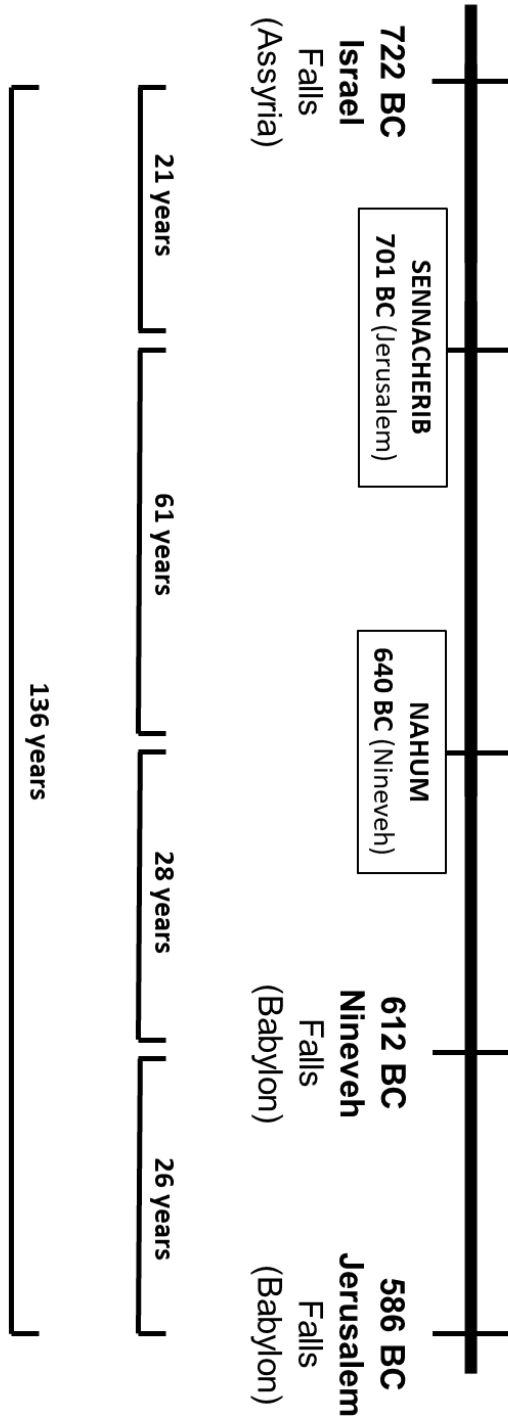
Now, Nahum describes in terse poetic verse, God’s justice against Nineveh...

Nineveh is warned to get ready for an attack (vv. 1-2)

Who’s coming?

“The scatterer has come up against you...”

scatterer =



Nineveh / Assyria =

What should they do?

“Man...watch...dress...collect...”

Why is the scatterer coming?

“For the LORD is restoring...”

The One behind the scatterer =

Nineveh / Assyria =

Nineveh is overrun and overthrown by their attackers (vv. 3-9)

Who is “he”? (Compare v. 3 with v. 5...)

Nineveh’s attackers advance... (v. 3)

“The shield...his soldiers...the chariots...the spears...”

Nineveh and its army respond... (vv. 4-5)

“The chariots...he remembers his officers (or nobles)...”

Nineveh’s walls are breeched and its resources are taken... (vv. 6-9)

“The gates...the palace...(the city, Nineveh)...the wealth...”

NASB (New American Standard Bible)

⁶ The gates of the rivers are opened
and the palace is dissolved.

⁷ It is fixed: She is stripped
she is carried away
and her handmaids are moaning like the sound of doves...

⁸ Though Nineveh was like a pool of water throughout her days
now they are fleeing

“Stop, stop” but no one turns back

Nineveh is no longer what it once was (vv. 10-13)

A reversal for the city and its people... (v. 10)

“Desolate (*buqah*)! Desolation (*embuqah*) and ruin (*embalaqah*)!”

“Hearts...knees...loins...faces...”

A taunt towards the city and its people... (vv. 11-12)

“Where is the lions’ den...?”

“The lion...”

A declaration of God against the city and its people... (v. 13)

“Behold, I am against you, declares the LORD of hosts...”

“I will burn your chariots in smoke...
...and the sword shall devour your young lions”

“I will cut off your prey from the earth...
...and the voice of your messengers shall no longer be
heard”

The God of Justice

God, the One who’s against...

God, the One who restores...

God, the One who overturns...