

Nahum

¹ Burden of Nineveh. The Scroll of the Vision of Nahum the Elkoshite. ² 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. ³ 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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ 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. ⁶ 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. ⁷ Good [is] YHWH for a strong place in a day of distress. And He knows those trusting in Him. ⁸ And with a flood passing over, || An end He makes of its place, || And darkness pursues His enemies. ⁹ What do we devise against YHWH? He is making an end, distress does not arise twice. ¹⁰ For while princes [are] perplexed, || And with their drink are drunken, || They have been consumed as stubble fully dried. ¹¹ From you has

come forth a deviser of evil || Against YHWH
 —a worthless counselor. ¹² 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. ¹³ And now I break his rod from off
 you, || And your bands I draw away.” ¹⁴ 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.” ¹⁵ 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

¹ A scatterer has come up to your face, || Keep
 the bulwark, watch the way, || Strengthen the
 loins, strengthen power mightily. ² 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. ³ 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. ⁴ In out-places the chariots shine,
 || They go to and fro in broad places, || Their
 appearances [are] like torches, || As lightnings
 they run. ⁵ He remembers his majestic ones,
 || They stumble in their goings, || They hurry

[to] its wall, || And the covering is prepared.
⁶ Gates of the rivers have been opened, || And the palace is dissolved. ⁷ 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. ⁸ And Nineveh [is] as a pool of waters, || From of old it [is]—and they are fleeing! “Stand, stand”; and none is turning! ⁹ Seize silver, seize gold, || And there is no end to the prepared things, || [To] the abundance of all desirable vessels. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ 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. ¹² 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. ¹³ “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

¹ Woe [to] the city of blood, || She is all full with lies [and] burglary, || Prey does not depart.
² 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. ³ 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. ⁴ 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. ⁵ “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,
⁶ And I have cast on you abominations, || And
dishonored you, and made you as a sight. ⁷ 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?” ⁸ Are you better than
No-Ammon, || That is dwelling among brooks?
Waters she has around her, || Whose bulwark
[is] the sea, waters her wall. ⁹ Cush her might,
and Egypt, and there is no end. Put and Lubim
have been for your help. ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ Even you are drunken, you are
hidden, || Even you seek a strong place, because

of an enemy. ¹² All your fortresses [are] fig trees with first-fruits, || If they are shaken, || They have fallen into the mouth of the eater. ¹³ 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. ¹⁴ Waters of a siege draw for yourself, || Strengthen your fortresses, || Enter into mire, and tread on clay, || Make strong a brick-kiln. ¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ Multiply your merchants above the stars of the heavens, || The cankerworm has stripped off, and flees away. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ Your friends have slumbered, king of Asshur, || Your majestic ones rest, || Your people have been scattered on the mountains, || And there is none gathering. ¹⁹ 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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