



SERIES: MAY- JULY: THE MAIN THING

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Thursday, 6/9/22

Scripture: Nahum

TITLE: Nahum - God Punishes Evil, Protects the Faithful

One of the most interesting quotes I've ever heard is that God has no grandchildren. What does this mean? I could take it to me that either you are personally placing your faith in Jesus, or you are not. But you can't be saved based on the faithfulness of someone else. For example, just because your parents are Christians doesn't make you a Christian. Why do I bring this up? Because as I explore the book of Nahum, I see that the faithfulness of one generation won't save the next.

The main theme of the book of Nahum is this, through the prophet Nahum God pronounces his judgment on the Assyrians and specifically the Ninevites.

In this book, we are reminded that God is a God of justice and will bring punishment for evil. At the same time, we are reminded that God is faithful too, and the protector of His people.

This book takes place between 663 and 654 B.C. The author is the prophet Nahum himself and he is speaking directly to the Ninevites.

The connection that I hope you see is remembering that a generation before this, in the book of Jonah, the prophet Jonah goes to the Ninevites and tells them to repent and turn back to God and they do! But in this generation the prophet Nahum goes to the Ninevites and when he tells them to turn back to God they refuse. Therefore, God says that He will bring their nation down because of their violence, evil, and oppression. Again, one generation won't be saved by the faith in this of another.

The key verse that I want to highlight in this book is found in the first chapter, in Nahum 1:7 (ESV) we read:

“The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him.”

This verse is important because even though God is going to bring judgment against this nation, we are reminded that still the Lord is good and for those who trust in Him He is a place of protection and refuge.

So I'll be honest, this book is difficult to read. All of the ways God is going to bring judgment on the Assyrians are difficult to understand, but we must remember that it is good that God is a God of justice. We can remember that in every generation God will bring down the nations that are built on evil and violence. Ultimately, even as we read the book of Nahum we need to look

forward to Jesus on the cross and remember that He came to die to forever defeat every evil nation and establish an eternal stronghold for those who take refuge in Him.