

# Repentance and Redemption For America and the Church

## Nahum 1

Nahum 1:1–8 (NASB95)

<sup>1</sup>The oracle of Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

<sup>2</sup>A jealous and avenging God is the Lord; The Lord is avenging and wrathful. The Lord takes vengeance on His adversaries, And He reserves wrath for His enemies.

<sup>3</sup>The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, And the Lord will by no means leave the guilty unpunished. In whirlwind and storm is His way, And clouds are the dust beneath His feet.

<sup>4</sup>He rebukes the sea and makes it dry; He dries up all the rivers. Bashan and Carmel wither; The blossoms of Lebanon wither.

<sup>5</sup>Mountains quake because of Him And the hills dissolve; Indeed the earth is upheaved by His presence, The world and all the inhabitants in it.

<sup>6</sup>Who can stand before His indignation? Who can endure the burning of His anger? His wrath is poured out like fire And the rocks are broken up by Him.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble,  
And He knows those who take refuge in Him.

<sup>8</sup>But with an overflowing flood He will make a  
complete end of its site, And will pursue His enemies  
into darkness.

## **Introduction:**

Paul,  
on his second missionary journey planted the church  
at Ephesus in a time span of about three months as  
recorded in Acts 18:19–21. The work he began on  
this occasion was carried forward by Apollos and  
Aquila and Priscilla. Later Timothy would pastor the  
church, and Jesus would give warning to the church  
for leaving her first love in Revelation chapter 2  
Ephesus was in Asia Minor and was right in the  
middle of the pagan idolatry and immorality of the  
day.

It is in this context that Paul gives these important  
Admonition.

Ephesians 5:15–21 (NASB95)

<sup>15</sup>Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise  
men but as wise,

<sup>16</sup>making the most of your time, because the days  
are evil.

<sup>17</sup>So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

<sup>18</sup>And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,

<sup>19</sup>speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

<sup>20</sup>always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;

<sup>21</sup>and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

I don't believe I can say that I have ever had a concern or fear for the very life of the church and country in which I live, like I have today.

If you would have ask me 10 years ago where we would be and what we would be talking about at a country or church, I would have never come close to the things I am seeing and hearing today.

The immorality and rejection of God is on a scale unprecedented in the History of this Country. Yesterday was July 4th, the day we celebrate the Birth of our Country, the Declaration of our Independence from other kings.

But now there is a swift current flowing throughout our country of a declaration of independence from God.

It is intentional, Its is willful, it is purposeful on the part of many in our country to rid ourselves of every evident manifestation of God and his Word in our lives.

Movements are being formed, and political powers are jostling into position to extinguish God and Jesus Christ from our vocabulary and life.

History is being rewritten, freedom of speech, if it is righteous and God honoring is being banned.

Public platforms are categorizing Biblical morality as hate speech. Churches and para-church organizations are rapidly becoming targets of Political Leftist groups.

The Post Christians era we now live in is rapidly removing every hint of its Christian Heritage.

Public schools and College and Universities have become places to indoctrinate your children with leftist ideology and immorality in hopes of separating them from what biblical worldview they may have. Their goal is to make them as Anti God and as Anti Christ and marxist and Socialist as possible.

90% of all Christian parents who attend evangelical churches place their children in these godless institutions that are run by the god of this age, in hopes that they will get an education and make a good income, so they can live a middle

class life and have a home and a car and a flat screen TV,  
while their minds and hearts are systematically dismantled and reprogrammed away from God. Also, sadly, more professing Christian families are seeing the church as optional or needed only if it is convenient. Many young families see no problem with missing multiple Sunday worship times. Birthday, Holidays, vacations, the business of schedules and just being tired are all seen as legitimate reasons to miss worship. Simply put... it's just not that important. The God of the Bible is no longer a need in the church or the country. We have our pragmatism and entertainment to grow our churches into mega-churches. We have our wealth, and super power status in America, and have no need of help. All we need to do is print more money. Steven Furtick of Elevation Church said, "You are enough" CNN's reporter Chris Cuomo says, "You don't need help from above" Who needs God when you are the Americanized Church. And who needs God when you have a Socialist in charge of your country.

We are on a precipice overlooking a deep canyon with certain death at the bottom , with the wind behind our back pushing us over.

God has been merciful to us to give us time. We need to repent now. History is full of examples of countries that have gone out of existence that where at one time undefeatable and that had all the resources and wealth the world could offer. I fear that if we do not repent we will perish. So I want to take a few minutes and talk to you today about the need of Repentance and Redemption For America and the Church

## Lesson

### I. The Historical Warning

### II. The American Wickedness

### III. The Call for Repentance and Redemption

#### **1. The Historical Warning – Nineveh**

Its History

Its Redemption

Its Fall

#### **2. The American Wickedness**

Pride and Arrogance

Idolatry and Independence

Murder and Morality

**2. The Call for Repentance and Redemption**

For the Church

1. Repent of her denial of Scriptures Sufficiency
2. Repent of her Entertainment of the Saints
3. Repent of her Ecumenical Evangelism

For the Family

1. Restore the Biblical Family
2. Remove the Cultural influences of the World on the Family
3. Regain the Central Role of Christ in the Home.

For the Country

1. Repent of the Sin of this Nation
2. Restore God to the Government of this Nation
3. Return to the Foundation of this Country

## **1.TheHistorical Warning – Nineveh**

### **Its History**

Nineveh was an ancient Assyrian city of Upper Mesopotamia, located on the outskirts of Mosul in modern-day northern Iraq. It is located on the eastern bank of the Tigris River and was the capital of the Neo-Assyrian Empire. Today it is a common name for the half of Mosul that lies on the eastern bank of the Tigris and the Nineveh Governorate takes its name from it.

It was the largest city in the world for approximately fifty years<sup>[2]</sup> until the year 612 BC when, after a bitter period of civil war in Assyria, it was sacked by a coalition of its former subject peoples, the

Babylonians, Medes, Chaldeans, Persians, Scythians and Cimmerians.

The two principal tasks of an Assyrian king were to engage in military exploits and to erect public buildings. Both of these tasks were regarded as religious duties. They were, in effect, acts of obedience toward the principal gods of Assyria.

The [Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant \(ISIL\)](#) occupied the site from 2014 to 2017, during which time they [bulldozed](#) several of the monuments there, caused considerable damage to the others and dug 11 deep trenches. Iraqi forces recaptured the area in January 2017.

The Assyrian monarch may have been checked by God in 701 b.c., but these were still great days for Nineveh. Sennacherib more than doubled the city's size, making it the world's largest city for that time. The inner city was surrounded by a wall eight miles in circumference. It was one hundred feet high and so wide that three chariots could race around it abreast. It had twelve hundred towers and fourteen gates. Beyond this was a much longer, outer wall. There was an inner city, an outer city, and what we would call extensive suburbs beyond that. In Jonah



this wide expanse was termed a “three days’ ”  
journey (Jonah 3:3).

Boice, J. M. (2002). [\*The Minor Prophets: an expositional commentary\*](#) (p. 371). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books.

Sennacherib’s palace was called “the Palace with No Rival.” It was of cedar, cypress, and alabaster. Lions of bronze and bulls of white marble guarded it. Its great hall measured forty by one hundred and fifty feet. Sennacherib’s armory, where he kept his chariots, armor, horses, weapons, and other equipment, covered forty-six acres and took six years to build

Boice, J. M. (2002). [\*The Minor Prophets: an expositional commentary\*](#) (pp. 371–372). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books.

Ninevah acted as the capital and central library of Assyria

created in the honor of the goddess ishtar  
hanging gardens were there.

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They focused on military dominance, conquering vast regions, stealing there resource, wealth and libraries As a result, they created a long list of enemies, including Babylon

It was Sennacherib who made Nineveh a truly magnificent city (c. 700 BC). He laid out new streets and squares and built within it the South West Palace, or "palace without a rival", the plan of which has been mostly recovered and has overall dimensions of about 503 by 242 metres (1,650 ft × 794 ft). It comprised at least 80 rooms, many of which were lined with sculpture. A large number of cuneiform tablets were found in the palace. The solid foundation was made out of limestone blocks and mud bricks; it was 22 metres (72 ft) tall. In total, the foundation is made of roughly 2,680,000 cubic metres (3,505,308 cu yd) of brick (approximately 160 million bricks). The walls on top, made out of mud brick, were an additional 20 metres (66 ft) tall. Some of the principal doorways were flanked by colossal stone *lamassu* door figures weighing up to 30,000 kilograms (30 t); these were winged Mesopotamian lions<sup>[15]</sup> or bulls, with human heads. These were transported 50 kilometres (31 mi) from quarries at Balatai, and they had to be lifted up 20 metres (66 ft) once they arrived at the site, presumably by a ramp. There are also 3,000 metres (9,843 ft) of stone Assyrian palace reliefs, that include pictorial records documenting every construction step including carving the statues and

transporting them on a barge. One picture shows 44 men towing a colossal statue. The carving shows three men directing the operation while standing on the Colossus. Once the statues arrived at their destination, the final carving was done. Most of the statues weigh between 9,000 and 27,000 kilograms (19,842 and 59,525 lb).<sup>[16]</sup>

The stone carvings in the walls include many battle scenes, impalings and scenes showing Sennacherib's men parading the spoils of war before him. The inscriptions boasted of his conquests: he wrote of Babylon: "Its inhabitants, young and old, I did not spare, and with their corpses I filled the streets of the city.

At this time, the total area of Nineveh comprised about 7 square kilometres (1,730 acres), and fifteen great gates penetrated its walls. An elaborate system of eighteen canals brought water from the hills to Nineveh, and several sections of a magnificently constructed aqueduct erected by Sennacherib were discovered at Jerwan, about 65 kilometres (40 mi) distant.<sup>[19]</sup> The enclosed area had more than 100,000 inhabitants (maybe closer to 150,000), about twice as many as Babylon at the time, placing it among the largest settlements worldwide.

Some scholars believe that the garden which Sennacherib built next to his palace, with its associated irrigation works, comprised the original Hanging Gardens of Babylon.<sup>[20]</sup>

What a magnificent city this was! Yes, but what a wicked city! And with what cruelty and violence was it constructed! Nineveh grew rich at the expense of the nations she had plundered. In his exhaustive study of Nahum, Walter A. Maier writes, “To Nineveh came the distant chieftains who kissed the royal feet, rebel leaders paraded in fetters, distant and deceitful kings tied with dog chains and made to live in kennels. To Nineveh were sent gifts of far-off tribute, heads of vanquished enemies, crown princes as hostages, beautiful princesses as concubines. In Nineveh rulers who experienced rare mercy carried brick and mortar for building operations. There recalcitrant captives were flayed, obstinate opponents crushed to death by their own sons. The Nineveh against which the prophet thunders divine denunciation had become the concentrated center of evil, the capital of crushing tyranny, the epitome of cruelest torture. Before the beginning of the seventh century and Sennacherib’s reign, other cities had been royal residences: Calah, Ashur, Dur Sharrukin;

but Sennacherib made Nineveh his capital, the world metropolis, the source of unmeasured woe for Judah, as for other, far greater nations.”

Boice, J. M. (2002). [\*The Minor Prophets: an expositional commentary\*](#) (p. 372). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books.

## The violence and savagery of Nineveh

Nahum 3:1 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup>Woe to the bloody city! It is all full of lies and robbery. Its victim never departs.

Habakkuk 2:12 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup>“Woe to him who builds a town with bloodshed,  
Who establishes a city by iniquity!

Jonah 1:2 (NKJV)

<sup>2</sup>“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me.”

Isaiah 10:12–13 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup>Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Lord has performed all His work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, that He will say, “I will punish the fruit

of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his haughty looks.”

<sup>13</sup>For he says: “By the strength of my hand I have done it, And by my wisdom, for I am prudent; Also I have removed the boundaries of the people, And have robbed their treasuries; So I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man.

Zephaniah 2:15 <sup>15</sup>This is the rejoicing city That dwelt securely, That said in her heart, “I am it, and there is none besides me.”

Some recorded and pictured savagery

1. impaling people on stick, naked after they are dead

Assyrian headhunters gather their trophies. In a relief from Sennacherib’s palace at Nineveh, two scribes, standing side by side at right, record the number of the enemy slain in a campaign in southern Mesopotamia. Heads lie in a heap at their feet

According to the narrative representations on these reliefs, the Assyrians never lost a battle. Indeed, no Assyrian soldier is ever shown wounded or killed. The benevolence of the gods is always bestowed on the Assyrian king and his troops.

“I flayed as many nobles as had rebelled against me [and] draped their skins over the pile [of corpses]; some I spread out within the pile, some I erected on stakes upon the pile ... I flayed many right through my land [and] draped their skins over the walls.” †

I captured many troops alive: I cut off of some their arms [and] hands; I cut off of others their noses, ears, [and] extremities. I gouged out the eyes of many troops. I made one pile of the living [and] one of heads. I hung their heads on trees around the city.” †

Severed enemy heads hang from the conquered city's walls. Another captive is impaled on a stake, his hands and feet already having been cut off. In another detail, we see three stakes, each driven through eight severed heads, set up outside the conquered city. A third detail shows a row of

impaled captives lined up on stakes set up on a hill outside the captured city.

“I filled the wide plain with the corpses of his warriors.... These [rebels] I impaled on stakes. † ...A pyramid (pillar) of heads I erected in front of the city.” †

“I cut their throats like lambs. I cut off their precious lives (as one cuts) a string. Like the many waters of a storm, I made (the contents of) their gullets and entrails run down upon the wide earth. My prancing steeds harnessed for my riding, plunged into the streams of their blood as (into) a river.

“Their dismembered bodies I fed to the dogs, swine, wolves, and eagles, to the birds of heaven and the fish in the deep.... What was left of the feast of the dogs and swine, of their members which blocked the streets and filled the squares, I ordered them to remove from Babylon, Kutha and Sippar, and to cast them upon heaps.” †

Editor, H. S. (2002;2002). BAR 17:01 (Jan/Feb 1991). Biblical Archaeology Society.

Grisly Assyrian Record of Torture and Death

By Erika Belibtreu



Women could be punished not only for their individual transgressions, but also for crimes committed by their relatives under the principle of *ius talionis* (an eye for an eye).

*'If a man forcibly seizes and rapes a maiden who is residing in her father's house... the father of the maiden shall take the wife of the rapist of the maiden and give her over to be raped; he shall not return her to her husband, he shall take her (for himself).'* **[3]**

Punishments prescribed for various other offences a woman might commit included cutting off her ear and/or nose, and possibly by, though damage to the text means we cannot be sure, gouging out her eyes or tearing off her nipples.[4] In the absence of better information, we cannot determine whether men would be subject to similar punishments and for what crimes. However, the code itself makes it clear that a wife's physical wellbeing depended on the whim of her husband. It stipulates: 'In addition to the punishments for a man's wife [outlined above] ... a man may whip his wife, pluck out her hair, mutilate her ears, or strike her; it bears no penalty.'

The texts attest to the existence of many prophetesses, who proclaimed the words of the gods at various important cultic centres throughout the empire. Women also worked as priestesses. Despite popular belief, there is little actual evidence for the existence of temple prostitutes in ancient Mesopotamia.

Ancient Assyrians gloried in their own brutality.

This was not wanton brutality; it was psychological warfare, calculated to inspire terror. This terror had real military and political value. Fear of the consequences of opposing the military might of Assyria made it less likely that might would have to be used.

The Assyrians themselves justified this violence with what can be described as a political theology. Mesopotamian religion was polytheistic; they believed there existed many gods, with various attributes and abilities, all far beyond the human. Many cities or kingdoms had special associations with particular gods, hosting important cult centres dedicated to the service of the god in question. For example, although many

gods were worshipped in Babylon, this city's patron deity was Marduk, and Babylon was seen to serve him above all other gods.

Assur (pronounced and occasionally written 'Ashur') was Assyria's patron deity. Assur was also the name of Assyria's first capital, and forms the root of the modern names for Assyria and Syria via ancient Greek.<sup>[14]</sup> The Assyrians came to assert that their god Assur was chief of all the gods. Therefore, as all other gods were subject to him, so too should all other people who served these other gods be subject to the chief servant of the god Assur on earth: the king of Assyria: on earth as it is in heaven.

The Assyrians cast their dominion in explicitly religious terms. Unlike the empires of the last few centuries, the Assyrians did not view themselves, their subjects and their enemies in racial terms. Their enemies were not as lesser human beings, they were simply ungodly.

**Women, Fundamentalism and Terror: Echoes of Ancient Assyria**  
9 February 2017 by Robert Bain

Outside of the Bible, Nineveh was known for having been a great, lawless, and ruined city. Greek **literary** giants like Herodotus and **Aristotle** catalog its sinfulness, describing Sardanapalus, its legendary last king, in unflattering (and problematic) terms. Diodorus of Sicily (first century B.C.E) describes Sardanapalus' violations of the rigid gender boundaries of **Greco-**

**Roman antiquity.** According to legend, his subjects rebelled against his taboo behaviors, whereupon the king piled his wealth into a mountain, climbed atop it with his eunuchs and concubines, and torched it all with a fire that burned his palace to the ground.

## **The Redemption**

Jonah 2:10–3:10 (NKJV)

<sup>10</sup>So the Lord spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

<sup>1</sup>Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, saying,

<sup>2</sup>“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I tell you.”

<sup>3</sup>So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, a three-day journey in extent.

<sup>4</sup>And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day’s walk. Then he cried out and said, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”

<sup>5</sup>So the people of Nineveh believed God, proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least of them.

<sup>6</sup>Then word came to the king of Nineveh; and he arose from his throne and laid aside his robe, covered himself with sackcloth and sat in ashes.

<sup>7</sup>And he caused it to be proclaimed and published throughout Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything; do not let them eat, or drink water.

<sup>8</sup>But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily to God; yes, let every one turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands.

<sup>9</sup>Who can tell if God will turn and relent, and turn away from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish?

<sup>10</sup>Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.

Jonah 4:1–2 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup>But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry.

<sup>2</sup>So he prayed to the Lord, and said, “Ah, Lord, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know

that You are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm.

## The Fall

This great city had existed almost from the beginning of time. Under Sennacherib it rose to unparalleled strength and splendor. But it was to end. Within ninety years of Sennacherib's encampment before Jerusalem's walls, Nineveh, the largest city in the world, was overthrown—never to be inhabited again.

Boice, J. M. (2002). [\*The Minor Prophets: an expositional commentary\*](#) (p. 372). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books.

### Zephaniah 2:13–3:1 (NKJV)

<sup>13</sup>And He will stretch out His hand against the north, Destroy Assyria, And make Nineveh a desolation, As dry as the wilderness.

<sup>14</sup>The herds shall lie down in her midst, Every beast of the nation. Both the pelican and the bittern Shall lodge on the capitals of her pillars; Their voice shall sing in the windows; Desolation shall be at the threshold; For He will lay bare the cedar work.

<sup>15</sup>This is the rejoicing city That dwelt securely, That said in her heart, “I am it, and there is none besides me.” How has she become a desolation, A place for beasts to lie down! Everyone who passes by her Shall hiss and shake his fist.

Zephaniah 3:1–2 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup>Woe to her who is rebellious and polluted, To the oppressing city!

<sup>2</sup>She has not obeyed His voice, She has not received correction; She has not trusted in the Lord, She has not drawn near to her God.

Historians give varied reasons for Nineveh’s fall—internal corruption, the rise of Babylon, external and otherwise unpredictable factors. But however these may have contributed, the true answer is given by Nahum at the start of his prophecy. The avenging wrath of God destroyed it.

Nahum 1:1–8 (NASB95)

<sup>1</sup>The oracle of Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

<sup>2</sup>A jealous and avenging God is the Lord; The Lord is avenging and wrathful. The Lord takes vengeance

on His adversaries, And He reserves wrath for His enemies.

<sup>3</sup>The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, And the Lord will by no means leave the guilty unpunished. In whirlwind and storm is His way, And clouds are the dust beneath His feet.

<sup>4</sup>He rebukes the sea and makes it dry; He dries up all the rivers. Bashan and Carmel wither; The blossoms of Lebanon wither.

<sup>5</sup>Mountains quake because of Him And the hills dissolve; Indeed the earth is upheaved by His presence, The world and all the inhabitants in it.

<sup>6</sup>Who can stand before His indignation? Who can endure the burning of His anger? His wrath is poured out like fire And the rocks are broken up by Him.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble, And He knows those who take refuge in Him.

<sup>8</sup>But with an overflowing flood He will make a complete end of its site, And will pursue His enemies into darkness.

Ancient sources give a remarkably consistent picture of the destruction of Nineveh. There had been rebellions in the Assyrian empire for some time. Many of them were repulsed by the armies of Nineveh supported by her allies. But in the year 612



b.c. the doom of the city arrived. Combined armies of Babylonians and Scythians marched up the left bank of the Tigris River and surrounded the city. It happened in early spring at the time of the annual rainfalls. Since the rains were especially hard that year, the Tigris and other rivers flooded and apparently washed away a portion of the walls, leaving a breach for the armies to enter the city.

The Greek historian Diodorus Siculus (c. 20 b.c.) says that the river not only broke down the walls of the city, it also inundated part of it. At this point, the king, Sardanapalus, remembering an oracle to the effect that Nineveh would only fall when the river itself declared war against it, believed that the oracle was fulfilled and abandoned any hope of saving himself. He built a gigantic funeral pyre in the royal precincts, heaped up large quantities of gold and costly clothes, shut his concubines and eunuchs in a chamber he had made in the midst of the pyre, and then burned himself, his family, his concubines and eunuchs, and the palace.

Whatever had not been burned in this conflagration was destroyed by the entering armies. There was a terrible slaughter. Diodorus says, "So great was the multitude of the slain that the flowing stream, mingled with their blood, changed its color for a considerable distance."

There was unparalleled looting. For centuries the wealth of the ancient world had been pouring into Nineveh as a result of the Assyrian conquests. Now it poured out. Diodorus says, using a phrase which he does not employ in any other description of a city's fall, "They plundered the spoil of the city, *a quantity beyond counting.*" This seems literally to have been the case. The royal reports of Nineveh speak again and again of its unmeasurable wealth. On the Black Obelisk of Shalmaneser II are listed:

Tribute of Sua, the Gilzanite: silver, gold, lead, copper vessels, staves for the hand of the king, horses, camels....

Tribute of Iaua (Jehu), son of Omri: silver, gold, a golden bowl, a golden beaker, golden goblets, pitchers of gold, lead....

Tribute of Karparunda of Hattina: silver, gold, lead, copper, copper vessels, ivory, cypress....

The Nimrud slab of Adad-nirari (805–782 b.c.) lists:

2,000 talents of silver, 20 talents of gold, 3,000 talents of copper, 5,000 talents of iron, colored woolen and linen garments, an ivory bed, an ivory couch....

Sargon lists this booty:

His [Aramaens'] royal tent, his golden palanquin, his royal throne, golden scepter, golden couch, golden footstool, his weapons, his implements of war.... The great hosts of Assur plundered for three days and nights and carried off countless spoil: 90,580 people, 2,500 horses, 610 mules, 854 camels.

What would the plunder of a city like this be like? Nahum tells us: "Nineveh is like a pool, and its water is draining away. 'Stop! Stop!' they cry, but no one turns back. Plunder the silver! Plunder the gold! The supply is endless, the wealth from all its treasures! She is pillaged, plundered, stripped! Hearts melt, knees give way, bodies tremble, every face grows pale" (Nahum 2:8–10). It is an impressive confirmation of this prophecy that nothing of all this gold and silver has been discovered in the ruins of Nineveh by archaeologists. Nineveh was indeed stripped bare.

Boice, J. M. (2002). [\*The Minor Prophets: an expositional commentary\*](#) (pp. 376–377). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books

## 1. The Historical Warning—Nineveh

## 2. The American Wickedness

Pride and Arrogance

Idolatry and Independence

Murder and Morality

Pride and Arrogance

The first President of the United States affirmed that covenant. In his inaugural address to both Houses of Congress, April 30, 1789, he declared no people could affirm more than the people of the United States how the mighty hand of God had been involved in their welfare and advancement.

Commander-in-Chief of the Virginia militia and member of the Continental Congress, Patrick Henry declared, *“It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionist, but by Christians; not on religions but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ...”*

Our nation was founded consciously on Judeo-Christian biblical principles. They declared, "This government is created only for a moral and religious people. *It is wholly inadequate to the governance of*

*any other.*" They warned that when people increasingly ignore the Bible and its principles, our very structure will crumble, be corrupted and perverted, and will fall apart.

Last year, addressing a huge women's conference and promoting abortion, Hillary Clinton actually said, "These deep seated cultural codes, *religious beliefs, and cultural biases have to be changed.*"

1 Samuel 8:1–7 (NKJV)

<sup>1</sup>Now it came to pass when Samuel was old that he made his sons judges over Israel.

<sup>2</sup>The name of his firstborn was Joel, and the name of his second, Abijah; they were judges in Beersheba.

<sup>3</sup>But his sons did not walk in his ways; they turned aside after dishonest gain, took bribes, and perverted justice.

<sup>4</sup>Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah,

<sup>5</sup>and said to him, "Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations."

<sup>6</sup>But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to judge us." So Samuel prayed to the Lord.

<sup>7</sup>And the Lord said to Samuel, “Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them.

Anti-God philosophies and worldviews now clearly dominate most of Western society. God has been removed from public discourse; prayer has been virtually banned from the public arena; agnosticism and humanism dominate public policy. So it is remarkable that the slogan “God Bless America” is still in vogue. We have to wonder what most people have in mind when they repeat it.

Originally, “God bless America” was a prayer for divine blessing. In its current form, it sometimes seems nothing more than a patriotic battle cry—usually intoned without much serious reflection. Perhaps it is sometimes recited with the superstitious belief that merely invoking God’s name can garner His blessing. One thing is clear: while Americans universally want God’s favor, as a whole, they do not want God.

**Can God Bless America?**

- *Articles 2 Chronicles 7:14; Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 6:12; 1 Peter 2:9-12 A400*

See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, in that I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the Lord your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess. But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, I announce to you today that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong your days in the land which you cross over the Jordan to go in and possess.

—Moses to the Israelites in Deuteronomy 30:15-18—

Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.

—John Adams—

Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.

—Ronald Reagan—

<https://www.wordfoundations.com/2019/02/09/nine-reasons-god-will-judge-new-york-and-america-for-new-yorks-new-abortion-law-unless-we-repent-part-3/>

(2 Chronicles 7:14) – “If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and **turn from their wicked ways,**

then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” (NKJV; emphasis mine)  
(Psalm 81:13-16) – “Oh, that My people would listen to Me, That Israel would walk in My ways! I would soon subdue their enemies, And turn My hand against their adversaries. The haters of the Lord would pretend submission to Him, But their fate would endure forever. He would have fed them also with the finest of wheat; And with honey from the rock I would have satisfied you.” (NKJV)

Pride and Arrogance

Idolatry and Independence

If you were asked to identify idols, where would your mind take you? American Idol? Billy Idol? If you're like me, you may tend to think about carved wooden figures or giant metallic statues. Or maybe even the Tower of Babel as an enormous, in your face representation of idolatry.

Ed Stetzer said this in his article, *Idolatry is Alive Today* and he completely nailed the **danger of idolatry**:



“Is it that a 12-inch tall piece of wood or bronze can do something bad to us? Or is it that we do something awful to ourselves when we place adoration and attention that should go to God in other things?”

“When it comes to idolatry, the danger is not in an item... it is in us.”

how does the Bible define idolatry? In Old Testament scripture, idols were constructed of wood, stone, gold, or silver. Where people were created by God, lower case gods were created by people. Deuteronomy, calls them "a thing made by the hands of a craftsman." They are described in Isaiah as "the work of their hands ... what their own fingers have made." And Habakkuk asks "What profit is an idol when its maker has shaped it, a metal image?" In the letter to the Colossians, Paul gave a broader definition. "Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry."

Covetousness is idolatry.

Covetousness is a word of greed. It is a state of desire for wealth and possessions, frequently wealth and possessions belonging to someone else. Paul describes this as idolatry because we are placing a greater value on terrestrial things than we do on God; we love this thing or person more than it/he/she deserves.

In an interview, John Piper explained it like this: "It starts in the heart, craving, wanting, enjoying, being satisfied by anything that you treasure more than God. That is an idol. Paul calls this covetousness, a disordered love or desire, loving more than God what ought to be loved less than God and only for the sake of God. But covetousness is the condition that this disordered heart is into, an act of loving too much what ought to be loved less."

Piper's perspective is that idols are anything we love greater than we love God which brings us pleasure. Idols are seeking security, or satisfaction, or peace outside of God's design. An idol is any person or thing that is loved, wanted, or desired more than God. Idols are those activities or relationships we enjoy or value above God.

<http://nicholasccasey.blogspot.com/2016/11/american-idolatry.html>

## **2. The American Wickedness**

Pride and Arrogance

Idolatry and Independence

Murder and Morality

Some may say that we are not near as violent as Nineveh and the Assyrian Empire. Or we have not done evils of a Stalin or Hitler

Oh but wait

We have sterilized our murder and called it choice.

We call it a right

We call it freedom

We have nice brick building with waiting rooms and attendance. Nurses and Doctors in medical apparels that use words like Technician fetus, procedure Induction Partial-Birth Procurement D&E Calvarium

The Consequences of Roe v. Wade 61,628,584

Total abortions since 1973

Abortion is murder and America is guilty of the blood of 61 million children

Proverbs 6:16–17 (NKJV)

<sup>16</sup>These six things the Lord hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him:

<sup>17</sup>A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood,

The immorality of our country has reached an all time high do to the denial of God and the love of self.

- Women walking naked on the streets of New York City covered with body paint
- 70,000 people attending the Burning Man orgy that happens for eight days in Black Rock Desert, Nevada, every Labor Day
- The open display of homosexual, lesbian and transgender sexuality
- The pandemic addiction of men and women to pornography and watching sexual acts in movies and on television

<https://fdeanhackett.com/is-there-yet-a-servant-of-the-lord/>

The rapid escalation of the normalization of Sodomy and LGBT. Its ascent to places of power and prominent in our society. The Propagation of the sin in our schools and families is a sure sign of the judgment of God.

### Romans 1:21–27 (NKJV)

<sup>21</sup>because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

<sup>22</sup>Professing to be wise, they became fools,  
<sup>23</sup>and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

<sup>24</sup>Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves,  
<sup>25</sup>who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

<sup>26</sup>For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.

<sup>27</sup>Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and

receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

A Country without God and word to guide us is doomed for destruction at best, or totalitarianism at best. We are on that Road traveling at breakneck speed.

### **2 Timothy 3:1–5 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup>But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:

<sup>2</sup>For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

<sup>3</sup>unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,

<sup>4</sup>traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

<sup>5</sup>having a form of godliness but denying its power.

And from such people turn away!

### **Romans 1:28–32 (NKJV)**

<sup>28</sup>And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting;

<sup>29</sup>being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, <sup>30</sup>backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, <sup>31</sup>undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; <sup>32</sup>who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

## **1. The Historical Warning—Nineveh**

## **2. The American Wickedness**

## **3. The Call for Repentance and Redemption**

For the Church

1. Repent of her denial of Scriptures Sufficiency
2. Repent of her Entertainment of the Saints
3. Repent of her Ecumenical Evangelism

For the Family

1. Restore the Biblical Family

2. Remove the Cultural influences of the World on the Family
3. Regain the Central Role of Christ in the Home.

### For the Country

1. Repent of the Sin of this Nation Daniel 9
2. Restore God to the Government of this Nation
3. Return to the Foundation of this Country

Pray and Preach and Teach and Talk

My hope rest in the the character of God.

### 2 Peter 3:8–9 (NKJV)

<sup>8</sup>But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

<sup>9</sup>The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

### Jonah 3:9–4:2 (NKJV)

<sup>9</sup>Who can tell if God will turn and relent, and turn away from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish?



<sup>10</sup>Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.

<sup>1</sup>But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry.

<sup>2</sup>So he prayed to the Lord, and said, “Ah, Lord, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm.