

Message Meditation

February 15, 2015

Text: **Nahum**

Message Meditation:

1. One hundred and fifty years after Jonah, Nineveh repents of their repentance and returns to their idolatry and evil. Nineveh and God are no longer walking in agreement and are on a collision course with one another. God's judgment on Nineveh will be their total decimation.
2. We learn from Nahum that you can be the most powerful nation in the world, with lots of allies, a powerful army, a prosperous people, a long history of dominance and security, with recent memories of national revival, and be destroyed in a moment because God is against you because of your wickedness and evil.
On the other hand, if you have put your trust in God and are building your life on him – the most powerful nations in the world can be taken down and completely dismantled, and you will be safe in Him.
3. If we love anything, then by default, we must hate that which would misuse, abuse, disregard or come against that which we love. Love makes anger and wrath a reality. Love without these corresponding attributes is meaningless and irrelevant.
4. Throughout the Scripture we find the full nature of all of God's necessary attributes: love-anger; mercy-wrath; grace-judgment; patience-fury; kindness-indignation; gentleness-stereness, etc...
5. In Nahum we read that God is against Nineveh for they are against Him. God is against Nineveh because: (1) they disregard Him and worship idols of their own making; (2) they plot evil against God by plotting against the people whom God loves; (3) they are cruel toward the objects of God's affection.
6. In the New Testament we find that God is for us in Jesus. His wrath remains on those who are outside of Jesus. (John 3:16-17; 3:35-36) Treating God's greatest gift as if it were meaningless, irrelevant or of little worth is highly offensive and earns God's wrath.

Message Application:

1. How is the book of Nahum, which promised Judah that God would judge their powerful enemies, relevant for today?
2. God and God's people have enemies. These enemies plot and scheme against God and His people. Are you expecting hardship, challenge and difficulty for being a follower of Jesus? If you can expect this in the upcoming days, weeks, months, years of your life – then how are you preparing for it?
3. Which will last the longest: (a) your nation, (b) your place of employment, (c) the Christians in your church? How does that reality influence your present life?