

Micah & Nahum

Breakdown

- Both Micah and Nahum were named for the prophets who wrote the books. Micah prophesied to both Israel and Judah, while Nahum prophesied to the nation of Assyria.
- Micah prophesied during the reigns of the three kings mentioned at the beginning of the book, so we know that he worked around the same time as Isaiah, 735 to 700 B.C.
- We know Nahum must have written his book sometime between 663 B.C. & 612 B.C. since he refers to the Assyrians conquering Thebes in Egypt which happened in 663 B.C.

Main Points

- Micah spoke about the corrupt rulers, priests and prophets who were leading the people astray, but the people were also at fault for following the leaders in turning away from God. The current leaders of both Israel and Judah were leading the people toward destruction, but the ideal leader was coming. Jesus would lead with both justice and mercy, and He would rule forever in His perfect kingdom.
- About 100 years after Nineveh repented during Jonah's ministry, the people were just as bad if not worse than they had been. Nahum told the people of Judah not to despair because God was going to make sure the Assyrians soon got just what they deserved. Even in all the judgment and destruction, God's love and goodness shine through for anyone who trusts in Him.

Did you know?

- God's message spoken through the prophet Micah was to both the Northern and Southern Kingdoms, but specifically to the capitals of the kingdoms. What were the capitals of Israel and Judah?
- Micah prophesied judgment on the priests, prophets, and rulers of God's people. What did God say these leaders were doing wrong?
- Micah prophesied that God would not be angry with His people but would once again pardon them. What did Micah say is the reason God will forgive His people?
- Nahum prophesied to the Southern Kingdom of Judah, but he talked about the upcoming destruction of one of their most formidable enemies. What nation was he talking about?
- During Nineveh's destruction, there would be heaps of bodies – so many that people would stumble over them. What did God say was the reason for Nineveh's destruction?
- Assyria's destruction would be fatal with no hope for restoration. What did God say everyone who heard of their destruction would do and why?

Further Thought

- Micah prophesied about Jesus who be born in Bethlehem, would lead His flock with God's strength, and would be the source of peace. How does that apply to us today?
- Micah said God doesn't require our offerings to pay for our sins, instead, He wants us *"to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God."* How can we do that?
- Nahum reminds us that even in middle of judgment and destruction, God is good and protects anyone who trusts in Him. What does that mean for us?