

Nahum Part 1 - A Cautionary Tale

6 When Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. 10 When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened. Jonah 3:6,10

We should never make wrongful assumptions about the state of someone's soul or their receptiveness to God's message.

"Isn't this what I said, Lord, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. Jonah 3:2

Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers. 1 Timothy 4:16

You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. Hebrews 10:36

4 Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. 5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. John 15:4-5

When the things of God become unimportant, the things of the world become too important.

Slides only- *"let the owner neglect for a while his prized and valued acres and they will revert again to the wild and be swallowed up by the jungle or the wasteland."* A.W. Tozer

Idolatry is about worship and worship is about what we build our lives around.

16 By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. Matthew 7:16-17

19 The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you,

***as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.
Galatians 5:19-21***

Slides only-“The moral bent of the fallen world is not toward godliness, but definitely away from it.” A. W. Tozer

***22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.
Galatians 5:22-25***

Life in the Spirit is vibrant and increasing in godliness while a life of the flesh is dying and increasing in worldliness.

7 You were running a good race. Who cut in on you to keep you from obeying the truth? Galatians 5:7

Nahum is a cautionary tale of what happens when we fail to pursue the things of God and revert to pursuing the things for the world.

2 The Lord is a jealous and avenging God; the Lord takes vengeance and is filled with wrath. The Lord takes vengeance on his foes and vents his wrath against his enemies. 3 The Lord is slow to anger but great in power; the Lord will not leave the guilty unpunished. 7 The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him, 8 but with an overwhelming flood he will make an end of Nineveh; he will pursue his foes into the realm of darkness. Nahum 1:1-3, 7-8

God's Grace is only good news when it stands in opposition to His wrath.