

The Lord Is Good!

Nahum is one of the books of the Bible that we read and pass by. We rarely sit down and think about Nahum and his prophecy. Perhaps that's because of the content of the book. Nahum is not exactly your prototype of an upbeat prophecy. There is little in it, so it seems to leave us unencouraged.

The prophet speaks to his hearers and to us of the fierce wrath of God. Truthfully, sometimes I wonder if we really believe in the wrath of God. Do we really believe that God will someday judge the world. Do we really believe sinners will have their part in the lake of fire?

I know that intellectually we believe it in our heads. The question is do we believe it in our hearts? We like to emphasize God's love, mercy, grace and forgiveness. God is all of these things. In fact, that was in part what Micah revealed about Him. "Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He retaineth not his anger forever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea." (Micah 7:18-19)

However, Nahum is the flipside of Micah. He shows us the other side of God. He speaks to us not of God pardoning sin, but of God punishing sin.

Nahum came preaching in the capital city of Assyria, Nineveh. He came along 100 years after Jonah had preached a message of repentance there and the city had repented and was spared. Yet, when Nahum came along 100 years later, the city had reverted to its old ways. Nineveh's day of grace has passed and Nahum declares its doom.

Jonah had preached to Nineveh when Assyria was experiencing difficult days. His message produced repentance and salvation. In Nahum's day, the empire and its capital city were at the height of their glory. The wealth and pride of Nineveh left no place for penitence. According to the prophecy of Nahum, Nineveh fell. In Nahum chapter 1 and verse 7, the prophet of God brings a message of tranquility in a time of trouble. He brings a message of comfort in a time of chaos. He brings a message of peace in a time of peril. He writes, "*The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust him.*"

The prophet reveals the personality of the Lord. The Lord is good. That is good news. God is not a divine dictator bent on punishment. He is not a tyrant waiting to pounce upon us. Creation declares the goodness of God and the cross demonstrates the goodness of God. The cross is the greatest demonstration of God's mercy and love.

He also declares that God is a stronghold in the day of trouble, telling us of the protective God. God is a place of protection in times of peril. God does not promise that we will be exempt from trouble, trouble comes to every life, but the Lord meets us there.

Then, Nahum also tells us the Lord, "knoweth them that trust in him." That speaks of a personal walk with God. This is the privilege of being known by God. Not a king, nor a president, but the Lord. I know my Lord and He knows me and trust is the basis of this close relationship. The Lord is good. He protects us. He is therefore worthy of our faith.

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In Search Of The Lord's Way



Tune in to this Television Ministry KSLA 12 – Shreveport -7:30 a.m. Sunday DISH channel 239-6:00 a.m. Sunday DIRECT TV channel 307 -6:00 a.m. Sunday

Gathered Here and There



Today's Sermon

"I Don't Want To Go to Hell!"

Hell has fallen on hard times in recent years, we don't preach about it much. Yet, it is not a place where we want to go and we explore that this morning.

For The Pantry. . . July 30 – Oatmeal (Regular or Instant)

Ten Reasons For Bible Study

1. The Bible is such a book as to yield sweet fruits to him who studies. Its depths are unfathomable and its riches are unlimited.

2. A knowledge of gospel truth is necessary before we can be made free from sin. John 8:32.

3. We cannot make clear to unsaved people what is not clear to ourselves. The disciple is not above his teacher. The blind must not lead the blind.

4. The possession of a working knowledge of the Bible arms one for the warfare of life. "And take unto yourselves the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." (Ephesians 6:17)

5. A working knowledge of the Bible "furnishes the man of God to every good work." There is a Bible message to cover every condition and problem of every human being. It can be used in every emergency from the cradle to the grave.

6. The knowledge of the Bible enables one ot be a comfort and help to discouraged and distressed brethren. "Comfort one another with the3se words." (I Thessalonians 4:18)

7. Only by a knowledge of the word of God can you feed your soul. "Man shall not live by bread

alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God."

8. A lack of Bible knowledge will make you a workman that needeth to be ashamed because you do not know how to handle the word of truth aright.

9. A knowledge of the Bible is the only safeguard against fatal error. "Is it not for this cause that ye do err; ye know not the scriptures, neither the power of god?"

10. You cannot be the parent you ought to be without nurturing your children "in the chastening and admonition of the Lord." (Ephesians 6:4) You must know the Bible to do this.

-Just A Moment



On The Lighter Side. . .



"Thank you for not mentioning me by name."

Miscellaneous



Save The Date! September 10, 2023

Plan to be here and bring a guest (or 2)

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Hospitality Group 1 will be in charge of this luncheon. The Members of that group are: Marsha Bounds, LaResa Livingston, Betty Miller, Lisa Miller and Melonie Molloy.

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WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL – Our next Wednesday night meal will be August 30, 2023. Make your plans to come and join us at 6:00 p.m. for fellowship before our service.

Ignorance is so hard to conceal because people always try to hide it in a public place.

Make your plans to be in Bible Class9:45 Sunday Morning - 7:00 Wednesday

To avoid the risk of losing their religion, a lot of people don't take it to work with them.

"Sometimes your medicine bottle has on it, "Shake well before using." That is what God has to do with some of His people. He has to shake them well before they are ever usable." -Vance Havner



Those To Remember In Prayer

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Leon Aldridge, Roxie Bostick, Gene Bradshaw, Martha Bradshaw, Martha Jean Golden, Geneva Graves, Alice Hall, Thelma Hinton, Louise Johnson, Mike O'Brien, Debra Pate, Jerry Pate, Wayne Sims, Betty Willis

"EXTENDED FAMILY" AND FRIENDS

Cody Anthony (LaResa Livingston's nephew) Mitchell Anthony (LaResa Livingston's brother), Minion Bean-(Mike O'Brien's mother) recovering from a fall and hip surgery), Aleshia Bradshaw (Gene & Martha Bradshaw's granddaughter in law)Brenda Bradshaw (Gene Bradshaw's sister in law) recovering from knee surgery; Curtis Bradshaw (Gene Bradshaw's brother) recovering from pneumonia;. Ron Cone (Laura Miller's dad), Celina Danley (Sister of Joyce Danley) multiple health issues, Hugh and Pat Fletcher (Sarah Fletcher's brother and sister-in-law dealing with multiple health issues) Gail Foster (Cancer) Mark Foster (recovering from foot surgery) Sandra Fuller (friend of Betty Miller) Mary Ann Gillis (friend of Tim and Norma Perkins) Bobbie Gray (Jerry Pate's Aunt) Geneva Harrison (Mike Bostick's mother) John Henry Holloway (Martha Jean Golden's son) Suzanne Ihlo (Martha Jean Golden's sister recovering from a stroke) James Johnson (Betty Miller's Cousin) Debbie Lynn (Abbey Perkins' mother dealing with memory issues) Lamar McCormick (friend of Sarah Fletcher, multiple health issues) Reba Miley (friend of Debra Pate) Verven Pate (Jerry Pate's brother) is being treated for stomach cancer. Al Reick (Robbie Holt's brother-in-law) pancreatic cancer. Stephanie Richard (Friend of Norma Perkins) cancer: Calvin Smith (Debra Pate's uncle) heart and blood pressure issues; Michael Smith (Debra Pate's cousin) is being treated for lung cancer in Green Acres; J. C. and Pat Tate (Jana O'Brien's mother and father)

J. C. and Pat Tate (Jana O'Brien's mother and father) Wes Wiesemer (Gene Bradshaw's nephew) recovering from a stroke and also suffering with cancer: Clark Paul Williams (LaResa Livingston's cousin)

THOSE IN THE MILITARY AND FOREIGN SERVICE

Cole Barbee, Adam Bradshaw, Leland Bradshaw, Michele Bradshaw Rosie Tate and Lucas Tate

If you want someone added to the prayer list, please fill out a card and place it in the offering plate.

Take a tip from nature – man's ears aren't made to shut – his mouth is!

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Across The Preacher's Desk

At long last and after an extensive search, the perfect preacher has finally been found. His knowledge is deep, his delivery is eloquent and he preaches only 15 minutes. He condemns sin in unmistakable terms and does not offend anyone.

He works from 8:00 a.m. until midnight, including janitorial and maintenance work. He makes \$300.00 per week, wears good clothes, guys good books, drives a nice car and gives \$100.00 per week to the church.

He is 28 years old and has 30 years preaching experience. He has one brown eye and one blue eye and a great shock of hair on a distinguished bald head to that he is perfectly wonderfully handsome.

He relates well with teenagers and spends all his time ministering to older folk. He smiles with a straight face because his well developed sense of humor keeps him seriously dedicated to his work in a no nonsense manner.

He makes 15-20 calls per day on church family, shut-ins and sick folks while spending most of this time evangelizing the lost being always in his office when needed.

NOTE: Of all of God's creation, only men and women are able to laugh and to smile. Hopefully, this brought a smile to your face and a chuckle to your heart.

it's something to think about.....tbp

The Lord's Plan For Evangelism –

Each one Bring one! 53 in '23!