Nahum

The Destruction of Nineveh (Nahum 2)

Read: The Destruction of Nineveh (Nahum 2)

Explain: The Destruction of Nineveh (Nahum 2)

Are there any literary/structural observations?
Nahum is ________. The focus shifts from the LORD to __________.

Are there any repeated words?
You/your (8), lion/lioness/lionesses (___), chariots (3), emptied/emptiers, empty (3), man/men (3), cub/cubs (2), excellence (2), face/faces (2), fort/fortify (2), halt (2), lead/led (2), LORD (___), mightily/mighty (2), preparation/prepared (2), prey (2), road/roads (2), spoil (2), torches (2), voice (2), walk/walked (2), young (2)

What do the words mean?

1 He who scatters [break (dash, shake) in (to) pieces, cast (abroad), disperse (selves), drive, scatter (abroad), spread abroad] has come up before your face. Man the fort!

Watch [piel; imperative] the road!

Strengthen [piel; imperative] your flanks [greyhound, loins, side]!

Fortify [piel; imperative; confirm, be courageous (of good courage, steadfastly minded, strong, stronger), establish, fortify, harden, increase, prevail, strengthen (self), make strong (obstinate, speed)] your power mightily.

2 For the LORD will restore the excellence of Jacob
Like the excellence of Israel,
For the emptiers have emptied them out
And ruined [piel; perfect; batter, cast off, corrupt(-er, thing), destroy(-er, -uction), lose, mar, perish, spill, spoiler, waste(-r)] their vine branches.

3 The shields of his mighty men [champion, chief, giant, man, mighty (man, one), strong (man), valiant man] are made red [pual],
The valiant men are in scarlet [pual].
The chariots come with flaming torches
In the day of his preparation,
And the spears [fir (tree)] are brandished [terribly shake].

4 The chariots rage [hithpoel; (make) boast (self), celebrate, commend, (deal,
They jostle one another [hithpalpel; have appetite, justle one against another, long, range, fun (to and fro)] in the broad roads; They seem like torches, They run [polel] like lightning.

5 He remembers his nobles; They stumble in their walk; They make haste [piel] to her walls, And the defense [cover, defense, defend, hedge in, join together, set, shut up] is prepared.

6 The gates of the rivers are opened, And the palace [palace, temple] is dissolved [consume, dissolve, (be) faint-hearted, melt (away), make soft; same word used in 1:5].

7 It is decreed: She shall be led away captive [pual; advertise, appear, bewray, bring, (carry, lead, go) captive (into captivity), depart, disclose, discover, exile, be gone, open, publish, remove, reveal, shew, tell, uncover], She shall be brought up; And her maidservants shall lead [piel] her as with the voice of doves, Beating [poel; taber, play with timbrels] their breasts.

8 Though Nineveh of old was like a pool of water, Now they flee away [away, be displayed, (make to) flee (away, -ing), put to flight, lift up a standard]. “Halt [imperative]! Halt [imperative]!” they cry; But no one turns back.

9 Take spoil [imperative] of silver! Take spoil [imperative] of gold [gold(-en), fair weather]! There is no end of treasure, Or wealth of every desirable prize. [cf Isaiah 2:7; Haggai 2:7]

10 She is empty, desolate, and waste [pual]! The heart melts [discourage, faint, be loosed, melt (away), refuse], and the knees shake [smite together]; Much pain is in every side [greyhound, loins, side], And all their faces are drained [piel] of color.

11 Where is the dwelling of the lions, And the feeding place of the young lions, Where the lion walked, the lioness and lion’s cub,
And no one made them afraid? [cf Isaiah 5:29]

12 The lion tore in pieces [catch, feed, ravin, rend in pieces, tear (in pieces)]

enough for his cubs,

Killed [piel; hang self, strangle] for his lionesses,

Filled [piel] his caves with prey,

And his dens with flesh.

13 “Behold, I am against you,” says the Lord of hosts [appointed time, army, battle, company, host, service, soldiers, waiting upon, war(-fare)], “I will burn [be brutish, bring (put, take) away, burn, (cause to) eat (up), feed, heat, kindle, set (on fire), waste] your chariots in smoke, and the sword shall devour [burn up, consume, devour(-er, up), dine, eat(-er, up), feed (with), food, (lay) meat] your young lions; I will cut off [be chewed, be confederate, covenant, cut (down, off), destroy, fail, feller, be freed, hew (down), make a league (covenant), perish] your prey from the earth, and the voice of your messengers [ambassador, angel, king, messenger] shall be heard no more [cf. 2 Kings 18:17ff].”

Apply (What is the point?)

1. God’s prophecies ______ come to pass
2. No enemy can ______ before God
3. God (at times) uses the ______ of His enemies to judge His enemies

Personalize (What do we do with that?)

1. Believe ______ His prophecies and share the gospel accordingly
2. Examine our lives to ensure we are on the ______ side
3. Perform our vows and proclaim ______ tidings

Next week: The Destruction of Nineveh (Nahum 3)

Homework

1. Ask the Holy Spirit for help
2. Read next week’s text (multiple times in multiple ways) (Nahum 3)
3. Talk to someone about the text (fb.com/OurSundaySchool or in person)
4. Share (fb.com/OurSundaySchool) insights and questions by Thursday
5. Invite a member or non-member

Extra Credit

Watch: The Bible Project Video on Nahum (youtube.com/watch?v=Y30DanA5EhU)