September 26 READ NAHUM AND HABAKKUK

NAHUM CHAPTER 1

THE burden of Nineveh. The book of the vision of Nahum the Elkoshite.

2. God *is* jealous, and the LORD revengeth; the LORD revengeth, and *is* furious; the LORD will take vengeance on his adversaries, and he reserveth *wrath* for his enemies.

3 The LORD *is* slow to anger, and great in power, and will not at all acquit *the wicked*: the LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds *are* the dust of his feet.

4 He rebuketh the sea, and maketh it dry, and drieth up all the rivers: Bashan languisheth, and Carmel, and the flower of Lebanon languisheth.

5 The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein.

6 Who can stand before his indignation? and who can abide in the fierceness of his anger? his fury is poured out like fire, and the rocks are thrown down by him.

7 The LORD *is* good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.

8 But with an overrunning flood he will make an utter end of the place thereof, and darkness shall pursue his enemies.

9. What do ye imagine against the LORD? he will make an utter end: affliction shall not rise up the second time.

10 For while *they be* folden together *as* thorns, and while they are drunken *as* drunkards, they shall be devoured as stubble fully dry.

11 There is *one* come out of thee, that imagineth evil against the LORD, a wicked counsellor.

12 Thus saith the LORD; Though they be quiet, and likewise many, yet thus shall they be cut down, when he shall pass through. Though I have afflicted thee, I will afflict thee no more.

13 For now will I break his yoke from off thee, and will burst thy bonds in sunder. 14 And the LORD hath given a commandment concerning thee, *that* no more of thy name be sown: out of the house of thy gods will I cut off the graven image and the molten image: I will make thy grave; for thou art vile.

15 Behold upon the mountains the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace! O Judah, keep thy solemn feasts, perform thy vows: for the wicked shall no more pass through thee; he is utterly cut off.

CHAPTER 2

HE that dasheth in pieces is come up before thy face: keep the munition, watch the way, make *thy* loins strong, fortify *thy* power mightily.

2 For the LORD hath turned away the excellency of Jacob, as the excellency of Israel: for the emptiers have emptied them out, and marred their vine branches.

3 The shield of his mighty men is made red, the valiant men *are* in scarlet: the chariots *shall be* with flaming torches in the day of his preparation, and the fir trees shall be terribly shaken.

4 The chariots shall rage in the streets, they shall justle one against another in the broad ways:

they shall seem like torches, they shall run like the lightnings.

5 He shall recount his worthies: they shall stumble in their walk; they shall make haste to the wall thereof, and the defence shall be prepared.

6 The gates of the rivers shall be opened, and the palace shall be dissolved.

7 And Huzzab shall be led away captive, she shall be brought up, and her maids shall lead *her* as with the voice of doves, tabering upon their breasts.

8 But Nineveh *is* of old like a pool of water: yet they shall flee away. Stand, stand, *shall they cry*; but none shall look back.

9 Take ye the spoil of silver, take the spoil of gold: for *there is* none end of the store *and* glory out of all the pleasant furniture.

10 She is empty, and void, and waste: and the heart melteth, and the knees smite together, and much pain *is* in all loins, and the faces of them all gather blackness.

11. Where *is* the dwelling of the lions, and the feedingplace of the young lions, where the lion, *even* the old lion, walked, *and* the lion's whelp, and none made *them* afraid?

12 The lion did tear in pieces

enough for his whelps, and strangled for his lionesses, and filled his holes with prey, and his dens with ravin.

13 Behold, I *am* against thee, saith the LORD of hosts, and I will burn her chariots in the smoke, and the sword shall devour thy young lions: and I will cut off thy prey from the earth, and the voice of thy messengers shall no more be heard.

CHAPTER 3

WOE to the bloody city! it *is* all full of lies *and* robbery; the prey departeth not;

2 The noise of a whip, and the noise of the rattling of the wheels, and of the pransing horses, and of the jumping chariots.

3 The horseman lifteth up both the bright sword and the glittering spear: and *there is* a multitude of slain, and a great number of carcases; and *there is* none end of *their* corpses; they stumble upon their corpses:

4 Because of the multitude of the whoredoms of the wellfavoured harlot, the mistress of witchcrafts, that selleth nations through her whoredoms, and families through her witchcrafts.

5 Behold, I *am* against thee, saith the LORD of hosts; and I will discover thy skirts upon thy face, and I will shew the nations thy nakedness, and the kingdoms thy shame.

6 And I will cast abominable filth upon thee, and make thee vile, and will set thee as a gazingstock.

7 And it shall come to pass, *that* all they that look upon thee shall flee from thee, and say, Nineveh is laid waste: who will bemoan her? whence shall I seek comforters for thee?

8. Art thou better than populous No, that was situate among the rivers, *that had* the waters round about it, whose rampart *was* the sea, *and* her wall *was* from the sea?

9 Ethiopia and Egypt *were* her strength, and *it was* infinite; Put and Lubim were thy helpers.

10 Yet *was* she carried away, she went into captivity: her young children also were dashed in pieces at the top of all the streets: and they cast lots for her honourable men, and all her great men were bound in chains.

11 Thou also shalt be drunken: thou shalt be hid, thou also shalt seek strength because of the enemy.

12 All thy strong holds *shall be like* fig trees with the firstripe figs: if they be shaken, they shall even fall into the mouth of the eater.

13 Behold, thy people in the midst of thee *are* women: the gates of thy land shall be set wide open unto thine enemies: the fire shall devour thy bars.

14 Draw thee waters for the siege, fortify thy strong holds: go into clay, and tread the morter, make strong the brickkiln.

15 There shall the fire devour thee; the sword shall cut thee off, it shall eat thee up like the cankerworm: make thyself many as the cankerworm, make thyself many as the locusts.

16 Thou hast multiplied thy merchants above the stars of heaven: the cankerworm spoileth, and flieth away.

17 Thy crowned *are* as the locusts, and thy captains as the great grasshoppers, which camp in the hedges in the cold day, *but* when the sun ariseth they flee away, and their place is not known where they *are*.

18 Thy shepherds slumber, O king of Assyria: thy nobles shall dwell *in the dust*: thy people is scattered upon the mountains, and no man gathereth *them*.

19 *There is* no healing of thy bruise; thy wound is grievous: all

that hear the bruit of thee shall clap the hands over thee: for upon whom hath not thy wickedness passed continually?

HABAKKUK CHAPTER 1

THE burden which Habakkuk the prophet did see.

2 O LORD, how long shall I cry, and thou wilt not hear! *even* cry out unto thee *of* violence, and thou wilt not save!

3 Why dost thou shew me iniquity, and cause *me* to behold grievance? for spoiling and violence *are* before me: and there are *that* raise up strife and contention.

4 Therefore the law is slacked, and judgment doth never go forth: for the wicked doth compass about the righteous; therefore wrong judgment proceedeth.

5 ¶ Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvellously: for I will work a work in your days, *which* ye will not believe, though it be told *you*.

6 For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, *that* bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwellingplaces *that are* not theirs.

7 They *are* terrible and dreadful: their judgment and their dignity shall proceed of themselves.

8 Their horses also are swifter than the leopards, and are more fierce than the evening wolves: and their horsemen shall spread themselves, and their horsemen shall come from far; they shall fly as the eagle *that* hasteth to eat.

9 They shall come all for violence: their faces shall sup up *as* the east wind, and they shall gather the captivity as the sand.

10 And they shall scoff at the kings, and the princes shall be a scorn unto them: they shall deride every strong hold; for they shall heap dust, and take it.

11 Then shall *his* mind change, and he shall pass over, and offend, *imputing* this his power unto his god.

12 ¶ *Art* thou not from everlasting, O LORD my God, mine Holy One? we shall not die. O LORD, thou hast ordained them for judgment; and, O mighty God, thou hast established them for correction.

13 *Thou art* of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: wherefore lookest thou upon them that deal treacherously, *and* holdest thy tongue when the wicked devoureth *the man that is* more righteous than he? 14 And makest men as the fishes of the sea, as the creeping things, *that have* no ruler over them?

15 They take up all of them with the angle, they catch them in their net, and gather them in their drag: therefore they rejoice and are glad.

16 Therefore they sacrifice unto their net, and burn incense unto their drag; because by them their portion *is* fat, and their meat plenteous.

17 Shall they therefore empty their net, and not spare continually to slay the nations?

CHAPTER 2

WILL stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reproved.

2 And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make *it* plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

3 For the vision *is* yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

4 Behold, his soul *which* is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith. 5 ¶ Yea also, because he transgresseth by wine, *he is* a proud man, neither keepeth at home, who enlargeth his desire as hell, and *is* as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all people:

6 Shall not all these take up a parable against him, and a taunting proverb against him, and say, Woe to him that increaseth *that which is* not his! how long? and to him that ladeth himself with thick clay!

7 Shall they not rise up suddenly that shall bite thee, and awake that shall vex thee, and thou shalt be for booties unto them?

8 Because thou hast spoiled many nations, all the remnant of the people shall spoil thee; because of men's blood, and *for* the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein.

9 ¶ Woe to him that coveteth an evil covetousness to his house, that he may set his nest on high, that he may be delivered from the power of evil!

10 Thou hast consulted shame to thy house by cutting off many people, and hast sinned *against* thy soul.

11 For the stone shall cry out of the wall, and the beam out of the timber shall answer it.

12 ¶ Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood, and stablisheth a city by iniquity!

13 Behold, *is it* not of the LORD of hosts that the people shall labour in the very fire, and the people shall weary themselves for very vanity?

14 For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

15 ¶ Woe unto him that giveth his neighbour drink, that puttest thy bottle to *him*, and makest *him* drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!

16 Thou art filled with shame for glory: drink thou also, and let thy foreskin be uncovered: the cup of the LORD'S right hand shall be turned unto thee, and shameful spewing *shall be* on thy glory.

17 For the violence of Lebanon shall cover thee, and the spoil of beasts, *which* made them afraid, because of men's blood, and for the violence of the land, of the city, and of all that dwell therein.

18 ¶ What profiteth the graven image that the maker thereof hath graven it; the molten image, and a teacher of lies, that the maker of his work trusteth therein, to make dumb idols?

19 Woe unto him that saith to the wood, Awake; to the dumb stone, Arise, it shall teach! Behold, it *is* laid over with gold and silver, and *there is* no breath at all in the midst of it.

20 But the LORD *is* in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him.

CHAPTER 3

APRAYER of Habakkuk the prophet upon Shigionoth.

2 O LORD, I have heard thy speech, *and* was afraid: O LORD, revive thy work in the midst of the years, in the midst of the years make known; in wrath remember mercy.

3. God came from Teman, and the Holy One from mount Paran. Selah. His glory covered the heavens, and the earth was full of his praise.

4 And *his* brightness was as the light; he had horns *coming* out of his hand: and there *was* the hiding of his power.

5 Before him went the pestilence, and burning coals went forth at his feet.

6 He stood, and measured the earth: he beheld, and drove asun-

der the nations; and the everlasting mountains were scattered, the perpetual hills did bow: his ways *are* everlasting.

7 I saw the tents of Cushan in affliction: *and* the curtains of the land of Midian did tremble.

8 Was the LORD displeased against the rivers? *was* thine anger against the rivers? *was* thy wrath against the sea, that thou didst ride upon thine horses *and* thy chariots of salvation?

9 Thy bow was made quite naked, *according* to the oaths of the tribes, *even thy* word. Selah. Thou didst cleave the earth with rivers.

10 The mountains saw thee, *and* they trembled: the overflowing of the water passed by: the deep uttered his voice, *and* lifted up his hands on high.

11 The sun *and* moon stood still in their habitation: at the light of thine arrows they went, *and* at the shining of thy glittering spear.

12 Thou didst march through the land in indignation, thou didst thresh the heathen in anger.

13 Thou wentest forth for the salvation of thy people, *even* for salvation with thine anointed; thou woundedst the head out of the house of the wicked, by discovering

the foundation unto the neck. Selah.

14 Thou didst strike through with his staves the head of his villages: they came out as a whirlwind to scatter me: their rejoicing *was* as to devour the poor secretly.

15 Thou didst walk through the sea with thine horses, *through* the heap of great waters.

16. When I heard, my belly trembled; my lips quivered at the voice: rottenness entered into my bones, and I trembled in myself, that I might rest in the day of trouble: when he cometh up unto the people, he will invade them with his troops. 17 ¶ Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither *shall* fruit *be* in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and *there shall be* no herd in the stalls:

18 Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

19 The LORD God *is* my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' *feet*, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Nahum wrote concerning the future destruction of Nineveh. The book was written at a time when Assyria was at the very peak of her power. No man would have dreamed that mighty Nineveh would fall! But God knows the future, and He gave His message to Nahum to deliver to the frightened people of Judah. This was not a message of warning to Nineveh; they had heard God's warning from Jonah 150 years before. Now God's patience was running out and His judgment would fall.

The message of this book is one of hope for Judah—to encourage them to trust God in an hour of great danger. Each chapter tells us something about God and about the fall of the city. In chapter 1 we see that God is a jealous God, and that Nineveh will fall; in chapter 2 we see that God will judge the city, and that Nineveh's fall will be great. Then, in chapter 3, we see that His great judgment against the city is just, because Nineveh had been warned. She deserved the judgment that fell upon her.

The theme of the Book of Habakkuk could be, "Living by faith." The problem facing Habakkuk was one of wondering why God would allow injustice and violence throughout the land and do nothing about it. The wicked were prospering, while the righteous were suffering, and nothing was being done about it.

In chapter 1 Habakkuk wonders about the silence and inactivity of God. He was puzzled as he looked out across the world of that day and saw injustice, violence, strife, and contention. The whole nation was suffering because of the evils of the government. God told Habakkuk that He was working a work that would amaze him; that He would raise up the Chaldeans to conquer the nation and be His instrument to chastise the people.

In chapter 2 Habakkuk is watching and waiting. He had not become an atheist or agnostic. Rather, he went to his watchtower and began to pray, meditate, and wait on the Lord. God gave Habakkuk three wonderful assurances to encourage and strengthen him during those difficult days. First, in chapter 2:4 He says, "The just shall live by faith." I sincerely believe this is one of the most important verses in the Bible. It forms the text for three New Testament books— Romans, Galatians, and Hebrews.

In verse 14 He says, "For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD." We know this promise is yet future. There are still the same sins of greediness, covetousness, murder, drunkenness, and idolatry in our world today as were found in verses 5-19, but the promise of God still stands. His glory shall one day fill this earth, for Jesus Christ will return and put down all sin and establish His righteous Kingdom.

In verse 20 God says, "The LORD is in his holy temple." God was and is still on the throne.

In summary, the Book of Habakkuk shows us how to deal with life's problems. We must first learn to honestly admit that there are problems. We must talk to God about them; wait quietly before Him in prayer and meditation of His Word; and then, when He speaks, we must listen and obey.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"Hearken unto thy father that begat thee, and despise not thy mother when she is old" (Proverbs 23:22).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 30: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 11.

BIRTHDAY TODAY

ESTELLE PHINAZEE

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

FIRST NIXON-KENNEDY DEBATE ON TELEVISION.

This was the first of the famous debates between the presidential candidates.

1820 DANIEL BOONE DIED.

1789

METHODISTS ORGANIZED IN OUR COUNTRY.

The heritage of our Methodist friends is one of the richest in all Christendom. The list of great Methodist preachers reads like a hall of fame. John Wesley, Charles Wesley, George Whitefield, Sam Jones, Bob Jones, Sr., and many other names dot the history of Methodism. Methodism was founded by John Wesley as a fellowship and not as a denomination. It was branded immediately as fanaticism and was ridiculed by religious leaders and organizations of its day. It had a tremendous influence on campuses in England and spread like fire. John Wesley once said, "I just set myself on fire and folks come to watch me as I burn." Again he said, "Give me ten men who hate nothing but sin, love nothing but God, seek nothing but souls, and we will turn the world upside down for Jesus Christ." Let us pray today for this same spirit to characterize Methodism. Pray for God's blessing upon fundamental. **Bible-believing** Methodists everywhere. Then pray by name for Methodist friends who are in your scope of acquaintance.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1867

MAGGIE L. WALKER, BUSINESS AND CIVIC LEADER, first Black president of a U.S. corporation, born (death in 1934).

1937

SINGER BESSIE SMITH DIED OF INJURIES sustained in an automobile accident near Clarksdale, Mississippi.

1957

ORDER ALERTING REGULAR ARMY UNITS FOR POSSIBLE RIOT DUTY in other Southern cities cancelled by Army Secretary Wilbur M. Brucker.

1962

A BLACK CHURCH WAS DESTROYED BY FIRE in Macon, Georgia. This was the eighth church burned in Georgia since August 15.

1962

MISSISSIPPI BARRED MEREDITH FOR THE THIRD TIME. Lt. Gov. Paul Johnson and a blockade of state patrolmen turned back Meredith and federal marshals about four hundred yards from the gate of the school.

A Christian Life. . .

LEE RUTLAND SCARBOROUGH (1870-1945)

Baptist minister and educator. L.R. Scarborough was born in Colfax, Louisiana, on July 4, 1870. His father was a farmer and preacher. Lee, one of five children in the family, was converted to Christ at the age of 17 at the First Baptist Church in Waco, Texas, and was ordained as a Baptist minister by the First Baptist Church of Abilene, Texas, in 1896. After graduating from Baylor University in 1892, he taught at that same institution for the next two years. He then entered Yale University, where he received an additional degree in 1896. Upon completion of his seminary work at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1900, Scarborough pastored in Texas for the next eight years. In 1908 he went to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, as a professor in the school of theology, where he served until elected president of the seminary in 1915. He served in that capacity for the next 27 years until he retired in 1942.

During this period he also served as president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas (1929-31), vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention (1934-35), president of the Southern Baptist Convention (1938-41), and vice president of the Baptist World Alliance (1940-41). Dr. Scarborough was the author of 14 books, as well as a great preacher and soul-winner. He died in Amarillo, Texas, on April 10, 1945.



Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION: SCIENTIFIC ACCURACY OF SCRIPTURES

(Assignment 30)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning" link back on the DailyKJV page.)

The earth a round ball. (740 B.C.)

() Isaiah 40:22

It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants therefore are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in.

The earth hangs out in space on nothing. (1600 B.C.)

() Job 26:7 He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.

Night time on one part of the globe when Christ returns.

() Luke 17:34 I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left.

Day time on the other part of globe when Christ returns.

() Luke 17:36 Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

Christ holds the earth in its orbit.

() Colossians 1:17 And he is before all things, and by him all t hings consist. (hold together)