



Walking the Ancient Path

Nahum

History of Israel

God's
Covenant
With
Abraham

Israel

Israel

Assyria

Judah

Babylon

Exile

Return

Prophets of Israel

Amos
Hosea
Isaiah
Micah

Zephaniah
Jeremiah
Nahum
Habakkuk

Obadiah
Ezekiel

Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

Joel (?)
Jonah
(Ninevah)



Who was Nahum?

- **Unknown history**
- **Educated**
- **Wordsmith**
- **Resident of Judah**
- **Spoke to Ninevah**
- **Said what Jonah wanted to say**

A detailed stone relief carving from an Assyrian palace, likely the Lion Hunt Panel. It depicts a king in a chariot, shown in profile, attacking a lion. The king is wearing a checkered kilt and a tall, pointed crown. He holds a bow in his right hand and a spear in his left. The lion is shown in a dynamic, leaping pose, facing the king. The background of the relief is filled with a repeating pattern of small, pointed motifs. The entire scene is set against a dark blue background with a light blue curved line separating it from a green area at the bottom left.

Who were the Assyrians?

They were:

- **Extremely cruel**
- **Violent**
- **Ruthless**
- **Powerful**
- **Wealthy**



Nineveh



**Destroyed
612 BC**

Nahum 1:3-6

The Lord is slow to anger but great in power; the Lord will not leave the guilty unpunished. His way is in the whirlwind and the storm, and clouds are the dust of his feet.⁴ He rebukes the sea and dries it up; he makes all the rivers run dry . . .

*Do not doubt
my power!*

**5 The mountains quake
before him and the hills
melt away. The earth trembles at his
presence, the world and all who live in it.**

**6 Who can withstand his indignation?
Who can endure his fierce anger?**

***Do not doubt
my power!***

**No One Will
Mourn!**

Nahum 3:18-19

¹⁸ Your shepherds are asleep, O Assyrian king; your princes lie dead in the dust. Your people are scattered across the mountains - with no one to gather them together. ¹⁹ There is no healing for your wound; your injury is fatal.

**No One Will
Mourn!**

**All who hear of your
destruction will clap their**

**hands for joy. Where can anyone be found
who has not suffered from your continual
cruelty?**

**“I am your enemy!”
says the Lord of Heaven’s**

**Armies. “Your chariots will soon
go up in smoke. Your young men will be
killed in battle. Never again will you
plunder conquered nations.**

**The voices of your proud messengers will
be heard no more.”**

2:13 (NLT)

***I am against
you!***

**Why was God so
concerned about
the Assyrians?**





Why was God so concerned
about the Assyrians?

**God has always cared
about people - even
those given to evil.**



Why was God so concerned about the Assyrians?

The people of Ninevah are a type:

- Forgiveness is offered (Jonah)
- Ignore it at your own peril (Nahum)



**Why was God so concerned
about the Assyrians?**

**God's words gave the
oppressed hope.**



Why was God so concerned
about the Assyrians?

**We may not be the only
audience.**



**So What Does
This Have To
Do With Us?**

A close-up photograph of a clear glass bottle being crushed by a large, white, foamy wave. The water is splashing and spraying, creating a dramatic scene of destruction. The background is a dark, turbulent sea. In the foreground, a dark blue circular graphic partially obscures the bottom left corner.

You can
trust God.

**1:8. But he will sweep away his enemies
in an overwhelming flood.**

**1:10 His enemies, tangled like thornbushes
and staggering like drunks, will be
burned up like dry stubble in a field.**

2:5-6 Nineveh summons her picked troops, yet they stumble on their way . . . The river gates are thrown open and the palace collapses.

3:13 Your troops will be as weak and helpless as women. The gates of your land will be opened wide to the enemy and set on fire and burned.

3:14-15 Get ready for the siege!

Store up water! Strengthen the defenses! Go into the pits to trample clay, and pack it into molds, making bricks to repair the walls. ¹⁵ But the fire will devour you; the sword will cut you down.

Concerning the Fall of Nineveh

1. God will send a flood.
2. The palace will be destroyed.
3. Drunkenness will be involved.
4. Your collapse will involve both a siege and fire, and your walls will need repair.
5. The city gates will be opened.

The account of Diodorus Siculus, in his work 'Library of History,' concerning the fall of Nineveh is as follows:

“The King of Assyria had become overjoyed with his past victories, so he began a celebration for his soldiers serving them with great quantities of

wine and other provisions. Learning that the army was drunken and relaxed, the Medes quickly attacked their camp by the cover of night catching them off-guard.”

After slaying many of the soldiers, they pursued the rest of them as far as the city . . .

They were destroyed almost to a man. So great was the slaughter that the water mingled with blood and could be seen in the river for a great distance.

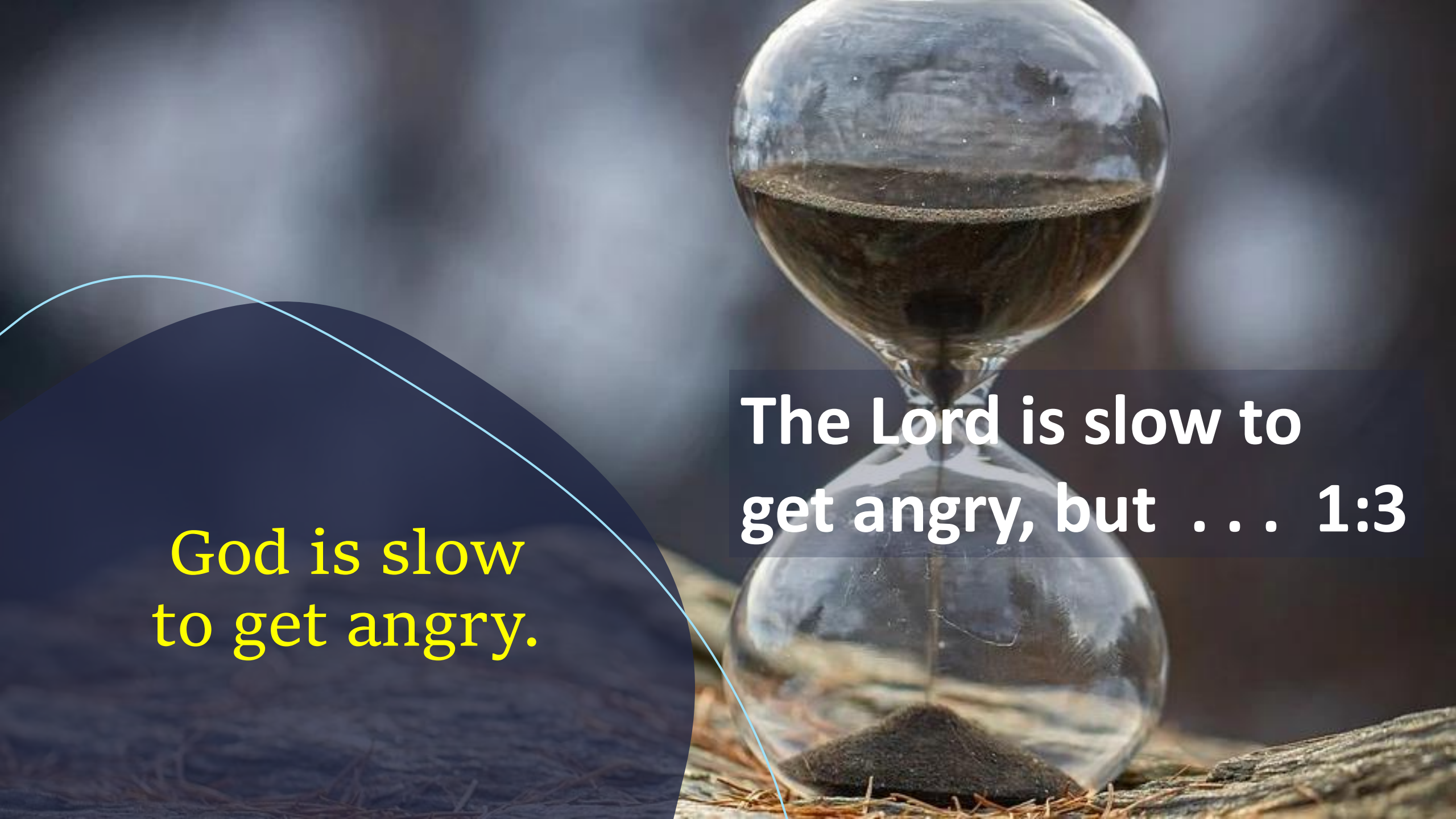
Furthermore, now that the Assyrian king was shut up in the city and surrounded, many of the nations revolted . . .

Now there was a prophecy which had been handed down to him from his ancestors that "No enemy will ever take Nineveh by storm unless the river shall first become the city's enemy." Assuming, therefore, that this would never be, he held out hope, his thought being to endure the siege and and await troops

which he hoped would be sent from his subjects . . . The inhabitants of the city had a great abundance of all provisions, since the king had made plans for this situation. Consequently the siege dragged on. . . . But in the third year, after there had been heavy and continuous rains. it came to pass that the

Euphrates running very full, inundated a portion of the city and broke down the walls for a distance of 20 stades (approximately 2 1/4 miles.) At this the king, believing that the prophecy was fulfilled and that the river had plainly become the city's enemy, abandoned all hope of saving himself. And in order that

he might not fall into the hands of the enemy, he built an enormous pyre in his palace . . . he consigned . . . himself and his palace to flames. . . . the silver and gold was carried off.” Seeing their king was dead, Nineveh opened its gates to the besiegers, but this tardy submission did not save the proud city. It was pillaged and burned. Diodorus Siculus - Book II.



God is slow
to get angry.

The Lord is slow to
get angry, but . . . 1:3



But you can't
fool God.

The Lord is slow to
get angry, but his
power is great,
and he never lets the
guilty go unpunished.

1:3

The background of the slide features a warm, orange and yellow sunset sky. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of several people are visible, with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or worship. A semi-transparent blue circular graphic is overlaid on the left side of the image, partially covering the silhouettes.

Great News:
**There's no
need to try!**

So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death.
Romans 8:1-2