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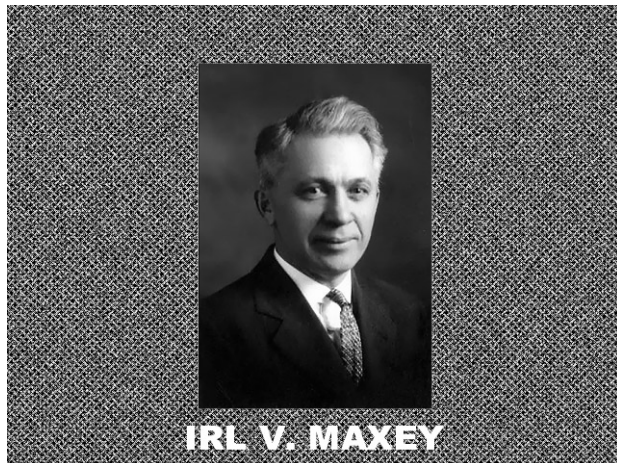
**THE BOOK OF NAHUM
As Translated By Irl V. Maxey**

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CHAPTER 1

1 The heart-burden about Nineveh, the book about the vision of Nahum the Elkosite.

2 The Lord is jealous and takes revenge. When the Lord revenges, He does it in fury. He takes vengeance on His enemies and pours wrath on His personal opposers.

3 The Lord has patience and great fortitude, and will not treat the wicked as innocent. He has a purpose in the tempest and the clouds are dust His feet stirs up.

4 He chides the sea and dries it up and leads all rivers to the desert. Bashan is weak, also Carmel. The flowers of Lebanon are weary.

5 The mountains are in a commotion by Him and the hills dissolve, the earth trembles and also the universe before His face. The habitants all tremble.

6 Who can stand before His indignation? Who can withstand the fury of His wrath? His indignation is poured out in fire; the rocks are dissolved by Him.

7 The Lord is good, a comfort in tribulation, and knows those who put confidence in Him.

8 With an overflowing flood will He make an end of this place (Nineveh). His enemies shall be pursued by darkness.

9 What do you think against God? He will make an end itself of this thing (Nineveh's Judgment). It will not have to be done twice.

10 As thorns bound together, as convivers piled together by drink, I will consume them like dry stubble.

11 There has one come out of you who evilly opposes God, and whose mind is drawn by prevarication.

12 Thus says God, Though they are so complacent because they are many, I will shave you clean and pierce you through. I punished you, but I will not repeat it.

13 Now I will take his yoke from you and snap his chains.

14 The Lord has a command about you: Your name shall not be broadcasted again. I will break in pieces the house of your gods -- break your images and bury you because you are dishonorable.

15 Behold upon the mountains the feet of the evangelist, the announcer of peace. Celebrate your feasts, Judah -- render your promises. He is cast down who passed through you (Belial) -- he is destroyed.

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CHAPTER 2

1 He who snatches away is before your face. Beware the imminent danger! Watch your way! Be fully prepared to journey. Be very strong men.

2 God has turned down the pride of Jacob as He did Israel. The empty are poured out and have marred their young vines.

3 They have bronzed the shields of his mighty men, dressed them in scarlet. The whips of the charioteers are a flame of fire! The agitators (charioteers) are benumbed.

4 They are confused on the journey. Four-horse chariots run in the broad streets; their scythe-bladed wheels glitter as flaming torches (sun reflections) gleam as lightning streaks.

5 He shall remember his great men, but his day has fled. They shall weaken in their journey. Hasten to the wall (for protection) and prepare his defense.

6 The gates of the city are opened by a flood, and the royal place destroyed.

7 The captive soldier is led away. His handmaid with her gems and doves is cast out, murmuring in her heart.

8 Nineveh was like a great fish aquarium, yet she shall truly flee. They shall cry, Stand! Stand! -- but none shall turn back.

9 Seize the silver. Seize the gold. There is no end to their riches out of all their desirable utensils.

10 She is spoiled. She is split and torn to pieces. Her heart faints. Her knees shake -- pains in all backs, and all faces have fear.

11 Where do the lions dwell? Where does the young lion feed? Where roams the lion that he walks in that place and the lion whelps play fearlessly?

12 The lion who took enough for his young and caught for his mate -- filled his cave with prey and his bed with rapine.

13 Behold, I am against you, says the Lord of hosts. I will burn your four-horse chariots. Swords will slay your young lions. I will cut off thy plunder from the earth. The voice of your messenger shall no more be heard.

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CHAPTER 3

1 Oh, bloody city! all full of mendacity and injustice! Plunder has not ceased from you;

2 The crack of the whip, rumble of rolling wheels, snorting of horses and running horses, the clang of the four-horse chariots with their prancing steeds,

3 The cavalry's swords gleam and their spears glisten. Multitudes die -- great ruin -- no end of cadavers -- [the] fleeing stumble over them.

4 On account of your many fornications, the beautiful and pleasing harlots, having such enchantments and selling nations in your fornications and many families [through] your sorceries.

5 See! I am opposed to you, says the Lord of all armies. I will make you ashamed (reveal your private parts) and will show the world your nakedness and the ignominy of your reign.

6 I will cast over you abomination. I attach to you detesting and show you up as [an] example.

7 It shall be that all who see you shall draw back, and say, Nineveh is destroyed. Who mourns her? Where will she seek comfort?

8 Are you better than populous Alexandria, situated on a river with water encircling her, whose riches was the sea (a sea port), whose waters reached the walls?

9 Ethiopia was her strength and also Egypt. It is not finite; Africa and Libya shall be your auxiliary.

10 But also themselves shall go down, led to captivity, her young children dashed on the stones at the head of all the streets. She shall bewail for her honorable ones and all the rich men are bound in fetters.

11 You shall be drunken, despicable, and asking help from your enemies.

12 All your forts shall be like fig trees with early fruit: If they are shaken, the fig falls in the eater's mouth.

13 The people of your land are all women (sarcasm). The gate bars will be burned and the gates of the land thrown wide open.

14 Bring in plenty of water for the siege. Reinforce your fortifications. Get into the mud and tread the clay to make good brick for the kiln.

15 Fire shall eat you there. You will perish by the sword, chewed up -- like the locust eats. You have congregated as locusts and multiplied as the wingless locust.

16 You have increased your merchants as the stars of heaven, moving like an army of locusts, and flew away (to all the earth);

17 Your generals are like locusts, your captains as locusts who crawl into the hedges on cool nights, but fly away when the sun rises and no one knows where they were.

18 Your pastors sleep; your chiefs are buried; your people lurk on the mountains and no one congregates them.

19 No one protects your sad heart; your plague is bad. All that hear your moaning will wring their hands, because evil goes from you continually.

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THE END OF THIS TRANSLATION OF THE BOOK OF NAHUM