

Ancient Voices for Unsettled Times
Nahum: *The Good News of God's Wrath*

Nahum 1:2-7

*The Lord is a jealous and avenging God;
the Lord is avenging and wrathful;
the Lord takes vengeance on his adversaries
and keeps wrath for his enemies.*

³ *The Lord is slow to anger and great in power,
and the Lord will by no means clear the guilty.
His way is in whirlwind and storm,
and the clouds are the dust of his feet.*

⁴ *He rebukes the sea and makes it dry;
he dries up all the rivers;
Bashan and Carmel wither;
the bloom of Lebanon withers.*

⁵ *The mountains quake before him;
the hills melt;
the earth heaves before him,
the world and all who dwell in it.*

⁶ *Who can stand before his indignation?
Who can endure the heat of his anger?
His wrath is poured out like fire,
and the rocks are broken into pieces by him.*

⁷ *The Lord is good,
a stronghold in the day of trouble;
he knows those who take refuge in him.*

Reflection Questions:

- In what ways does God's "slowness to anger" give you comfort? What about the fact that He will "by no means clear the guilty?"
- Both Jonah and Nahum quote the same passage from Exodus 34:6-7. Where have you seen God be patient? Where have you seen God punish?
- In what ways do you trust God to be a "stronghold in the day of trouble?"
- How does Nahum challenge you to think about God's wrath differently?

Guided Prayer:

Pray through the words of Nahum 1:2-7. *Ask God to help you to rest fully on Christ's finished work on the cross which satisfied His wrath and yet brings you comfort. Specifically repent of any sins that are lingering in your heart. Ask Him to find your hope in Him and Him alone. In Jesus' name, Amen.*