

Minor Prophets Major Truths: Nahum

Claude Lainey – June 29, 2025

The Slow Drift

Nahum ministry came around 663–612 BC

Nahum 1:9 (NIV) Whatever they plot against the Lord he will bring to an end; trouble will not come a second time.

Nahum 3:19 (NIV) Nothing can heal your wound; your injury is fatal. Everyone who hears the news about you claps his hands at your fall, for who has not felt your endless cruelty?

Nahum 1:3 (NIV) The Lord is slow to anger and great in power; the Lord will not leave the guilty unpunished!

Jonah 4:2 (NLT) Jonah said: “I knew that you are a merciful and compassionate God, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. You are eager to turn back from destroying people.”

Nahum 1:7–8 (NIV) The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him, ⁸but with an overwhelming flood he will make an end of Nineveh; he will pursue his foes into darkness.

1. God is merciful and compassionate and slow to anger!

2 Peter 3:9-10 (NLT) The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come as unexpectedly as a thief.

- **We can't confuse God's patience for permission.**

Nahum 3:1 (NIV) Woe to the city of blood, full of lies, full of plunder, never without victims!

2. What are the things that cause us to drift away?

- (1) **When we crowd God out. We don't always reject God, we just crowd Him out with everything else.**

Revelation 2:4–5 (NIV) “You have forsaken your first love... remember the height from which you have fallen.”

- (2) **When we neglect spiritual habits. We don't drift by accident, we drift by neglect.**

Psalms 1:1–2 (NIV) Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. ²But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Hebrews 2:1 (NIV) We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.

- (3) **When we let unresolved hurt or resentment take root in our hearts.**

- **Bitterness hardens our spiritual sensitivity.**

(4) When we lose our focus.

2 Timothy 1:6–7 (NIV) For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

(5) When we ignore God's promptings!

James 4:17 (NLT) Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.

Hebrews 3:7–8 (NIV) "So, as the Holy Spirit says: 'Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts...'"

(6) When we allow sin. Sin always separates.

1 Corinthians 10:12 (NLT) If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall.

Proverbs 24:30–31 (NIV) I went past the field of the sluggard, past the vineyard of the man who lacks judgment; ³¹thorns had come up everywhere, the ground was covered with weeds, and the stone wall was in ruins.

What we don't cultivate, we'll eventually lose — Faith, marriage, calling, health

- (1) It starts with comfort. "Things are going well. I don't need to push as hard."**
- (2) Then comes neglect. When I forget my need of God and of others**
- (3) Followed by compromise. When we justify and find excuses for our decisions and actions.**
- (4) Then decline — Passion fades, convictions weaken, sin feels normal.**
- (5) Eventually: I get lost ... I don't see the shore anymore. Like the lost sheep!**

Song from Casting Crowns called: Slow Fade 2007

Be careful little eyes what you see
It's the second glance that ties your hands
As darkness pulls the strings

It's a slow fade
When you give yourself away
It's a slow fade
When black and white have turned to grey

And thoughts invade, choices made
A price will be paid
When you give yourself away
People never crumble in a day
It's a slow fade
It's a slow fade

Be careful little ears what you hear
When flattery leads to compromise
The end is always near

The journey from your mind to your hands
Is shorter than you're thinking
Be careful if you think you stand
You just might be sinking

People never crumble in a day (slow fade)
Daddies never crumble in a day (slow fade)
Families never crumble in a day

For the Father up above is looking down in love
Oh, be careful little eyes what you see