

University Heights Church
of Christ
445 Columbia Ave.,
Lexington, KY 40508
(859) 255-6257
www.uheightschurch.com

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday

Bible Study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:30 PM (This is immediately followed by a short worship period)

First Friday of Each Month

Singing: 7:30 PM

LEADERSHIP

Elders

David Collins
John Thompson
Troy Antle

Evangelist

Adam Litmer

Deacons

Richard Brundige
Matt Thompson
Adam Litmer
Bill Morelan
Jim Parsons
Pat Seabolt
Adam Daniels
Jamie Powell

Adam's Office Hours

Tuesday-Friday (8:30-4:00)

do have other chairs. The point here is we do have what we need; God has provided. He has never failed us. We need to make sure that we do our part, beginning with praising Him for who He is and thanking Him for all that He has done for us, things too numerous to count. Praising and thanking will help reduce the worry and build the trust in the One who has promised to provide.

Note

If you have not yet taken the time to read brother Paul's article, it will do your soul good to set aside a few minutes to do so. Paul is an insightful and encouraging writer. We are blessed to have a number of able men willing to share the fruits of their studies in this way. Thanks, guys!

IN NEED OF PRAYERS

Bennie and the Poynter family, Jim Parsons, Julie Patton, Declan Weatherholt, Jaclyn Litmer, David Seabolt, Jeff Howerton, Rhonda Boyd, Nicholas Thompson, Louis Harrod, Paul Atkisson, Vicky Litmer, Sheila Lawson, Keia Burton, Robert Brundige, Susie Burton, Valerie and Barry Boyd, Janett's mother and stepfather, Sandy Driver, Erlene Young, Burnice Richardson, Larry Sells, Evelyn Damron, Tony Tyree, Jennifer Dunbar, Jean Gartland, John Blessing, William Roberts, Kip Pearce, Paul Lyda, Pete Soro

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“Unless the Lord Watches Over The City...”

Adam Litmer

Nahum's prophetic work is short yet fascinating. He prophesied about Assyria and specifically its capital city, Nineveh. The book is a sort of “sequel” to Jonah. About a hundred years before Nahum Nineveh had repented through that prophets reluctant preaching. By the time of Nahum things in Nineveh had gotten so bad that God had determined it was time for them to suffer one of the terrible “days of the Lord.”

A wicked nation suffering God's vengeful judgment (Nahum 1:2) is certainly not unique to Nahum. We can read of the prophets delivering God's message of judgment to Edom, Philistia, Moab, Babylon, Egypt, and many others. In the case of Nahum's prophesy, God seems to take special care to point out that it was when Assyria was at her strongest that He would see her humbled. Nahum 1:12-13 says, *“Thus says the Lord, ‘Though they are at full strength and many, they will be cut down and pass away. Though I have afflicted you, I will afflict you no more. And now I will break his yoke from off you and will burst your bonds apart.’”*

Truly Assyria was as strong as they were only because God permitted it. Though Assyria had destroyed Israel and provided a constant threat to Judah, God wanted His people to know that He was using the wicked Assyrian's as a chastening rod. When Assyrian iniquity became complete, God broke their yoke from off Judah's neck and burst their bonds apart. The point I want us to get is this: *there was nothing Assyria could do about it.*

Take a moment to read Nahum 2 (only 13 verses). Did you see all the things Nineveh trusted in? Their walls were strong, their soldiers were mighty, their chariots were many, their officers were skilled, and their wealth was immense. They were described as lions! Yet verse 13 makes the one statement

that rendered all of Assyria's assets useless—*“Behold, I am against you, declares the Lord of hosts.”*

When God is against a nation there is no such thing as national security. Nineveh's wall could have stood a mile high, all of her soldiers could have stood as tall as Goliath, gold and precious metals could have filled the streets for lack of space to store such them, all of her allies could have stood at the gates, her chariots could have numbered in the millions with the most skillful charioteers to man them, all of her horses could have been of the finest stock, and every nation could have trembled in terror beholding her. Yet the simple fact that she made God her enemy doomed her and all she trusted in for her security was as useless as a miniscule whisper of wind against a mighty oak. Because Nineveh's security was not based upon God, Nineveh was not secure at all.

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchman stay awake in vain (Psalm 127:1). Friends, where is your security? Upon what do you base your trust? Jehovah prompted Nineveh to keep her trust where it had been and see the result. In Nahum 3:14 He says, *“Draw water for the siege; strengthen your forts; go into the clay; tread the mortar; take hold of the brick mold!”* She had always trusted in her provisions and the strength of her city. Jehovah urged her to keep it up. Grab some water, gather the material to make bricks, and just keep strengthening that wall. Surely no one could breach it! Surely no one could reach them on the other side! Verse 15 says, *“There will the fire devour you; the sword will cut you off. It will devour you like the locust.”*

Nineveh's national security was an illusion, nothing more. She rejected true security and was destroyed because of it. Her destruction was so thorough, so complete, that the location of that once majestic city was not discovered until 1842. Such is the “security” of those who reject God.

God Provides

Paul Fox

Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? (Matthew 6:25-26)

If you ever need some cheering up and you want to hear someone with an optimistic viewpoint, just watch and listen to some birds. Birds by their very nature are carefree, light-spirited, happy creatures. They have been called “live saints” who sing praises to God without the least worry and are fed by Him day by day. God does not expect birds to work for a living like He expects man. For them, there is no seedtime or harvest. They have no barns or granaries in which they store up their food, but their tables are always set. Sometimes they have the choicest food, sometimes just enough to sustain life, but they eat and survive because God takes care of them.

How foolish we would be to fail to learn from those lovely birds that decorate our lives with their songs and natural habitats. The God that takes care of them is the very same God that created us and cares for us as well, only more so. He is our heavenly Father and we are his dear children. He loves us and will give us everything we need. After all, He gave us our bodies. How could He fail to take care of its nourishment?

But as sinful creatures we many times put our noses to the grindstone and forget to look to our heavenly Provider. We may worry about what we will eat, how long we will keep our job, whether or not we can afford our house payments, and a host of other needs and commitments that make demands of us. Such anxiety over our physical necessities shows a lack of trust in the Giver of all things. Worrying indicates that we are trying to make it alone, forgetting that all things come from God. In our sinfulness, Christ comes to us with the examples of the little birds, and tells us to cast our cares upon Him. If we will do that He has promised to provide. May we trust in Him without hesitation, resting upon His providence.

Many times we find we do not have everything we think we need. We say we need a new car and the money just isn't available. That living room chair is ready to fall apart. The room addition we had planned—well, there is no need to even think of it now. And, we could go on and on, convincing ourselves that we never have enough.

But is this true? Are we really lacking in the things we need? What is meant by “need”? While it varies from one person to another, if we examine the situation we will probably find that the things we do not have and think we need are things we really, in fact, don't absolutely need. A new car would really be nice to have, but the old one can be repaired. That extra room can wait, and we

