

she cries out: “Stop! Stop!” –
but no one turns back.

2:9 Her conquerors cry out:
“Plunder the silver! Plunder the
gold!”
There is no end to the treasure;
riches of every kind of precious
thing.

2:10 Destruction, devastation, and des-
olation!
Their hearts faint,
their knees tremble,
each stomach churns, each face turns
pale!

Taunt against the Once-Mighty Lion

2:11 Where now is the den of the li-
ons,
the feeding place of the young lions,
where the lion, lioness, and lion cub
once prowled
and no one disturbed them?
2:12 The lion tore apart as much prey
as his cubs needed
and strangled prey to provide food for
his lionesses;
he filled his lairs with prey
and his dens with torn flesh.

Battle Cry of the Divine Warrior

2:13 “I am against you!” declares the
LORD who commands armies:^a
“I will burn your chariots with fire;
the sword will devour your young
lions;^b
you will no longer prey upon the
land;
the voices of your messengers will no
longer be heard.”

Reason for Judgment: Sins of Nineveh

3 Woe to the city guilty of bloodshed!
She is full of lies;
she is filled with plunder;

she has hoarded her spoil!

Portrayal of the Destruction of Nineveh

3:2 The chariot drivers will crack their
whips;
the chariot wheels will shake the
ground;
the chariot horses will gallop;
the war chariots will bolt forward!
3:3 The charioteers will charge ahead;
their swords will flash
and their spears will glimmer!
There will be many people slain;
there will be piles of the dead,
and countless casualties –
so many that people will stumble over
the corpses.

Taunt against the Harlot City

3:4 “Because you have acted like a
wanton prostitute –
a seductive mistress who practices
sorcery,
who enslaves nations by her harlotry,
and entices peoples by her sorcery^c –
3:5 I am against you,” declares the
LORD who commands armies.
“I will strip off your clothes!^d
I will show your nakedness to the na-
tions
and your shame to the kingdoms;
3:6 I will pelt you with filth;
I will treat you with contempt;
I will make you a public spectacle.
3:7 Everyone who sees you will turn
away from you in disgust;
they will say, ‘Nineveh has been dev-
astated!
Who will lament for her?’
There will be no one to comfort
you!”

*Nineveh Will Suffer the Same Fate as
Thebes*

3:8 You are no more secure than The-
bes^e –

2:13 ^a Traditionally the LORD of hosts (also in 3:5) ^b A figurative description of the Assyrian warriors **3:4** ^c Heb *fair of form, a mistress of sorceries* **3:5** ^d Resulting in shame and public ridicule **3:8** ^e Heb *No-Amon* (that is, *Thebes*, the capital of Upper Egypt and the center for the worship of the God Amon)