

# MICAH

## THE PROPHET MICAH

- Micah means, “Who is like Yah?”
- Ministered during the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah (1:1)
- From the town of Moresheth, some 20 miles southwest of Jerusalem.

## THE MESSAGE OF MICAH

- Recipients: Micah 1:1, “which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem” (cf 1:5).
- Three oracles:
  - Oracle 1: *In the midst of judgment, the Lord gathers his people* (1:2-2:13).
  - Oracle 2: *In the midst of evil rulers, the Lord rules* (3:1-5:15).
  - Oracle 3: *In the midst of sin, the Lord forgives* (6:1-7:20).
- Message: Though the Lord will certainly judge the sin of the people of Israel, he will in the future just as certainly gather, rule over, and forgive them in a glorious restored Kingdom as their Good Shepherd.

## AN OUTLINE OF MICAH

### 1. Introduction (1:1).

### 2. Oracle 1 (1:2-2:13): *In the Midst of Judgment, the Lord Gathers His People.*

#### 2.1. The Coming Devastating Judgment (1:2-16).

- 2.1.1. A prophecy of coming judgment (1:2-9)
- 2.1.2. Lamentation for the destruction to Jerusalem (1:10-16)

#### 2.2. The Sins of Judah (2:1-2:13).

- 2.2.1. God’s ironic response to premeditated evil (2:1-5)
  - 2.2.1.1. The sin of covetousness (2:1-2).
  - 2.2.1.2. God’s response (2:3-5)
- 2.2.2. The sin of rejecting God’s word (2:6-11).

#### 2.3. The Unfailing Promise (2:12-13). (On Israel as God’s flock, see Gen 49:24; Num 27:17; 2 Sam 5:2; 7:7; 1 Chr 11:2; 17:6; 1 Kgs 22:17; Psa 23; 28; 78; 80; Jer 3; 31; Ezek 34; John 10:1-18)

### 3. Oracle 2 (3:1-5:15): *In the Midst of Evil Rulers, the Lord Rules.*

#### 3.1. Lustful leaders (3:1-12)

- 3.1.1. The rulers of Jacob perverted justice (3:1-4).
- 3.1.2. The prophets did not speak the word of the Lord (3:5-8).
- 3.1.3. The judgment upon the rulers and prophets in Judah (3:9-12) (cf. Neh 2:17).

#### 3.2. The Davidic King and the Restored Kingdom (4:1-5:15).

- 3.2.1. The restoration of Israel (4:1-5).

#### 3.2.2. Bad news and good news (4:6-5:1).

#### 3.2.3. The ruler of the restored kingdom (5:2-15).

##### 3.2.3.1. The description of the coming Davidic King (5:2-5).

- 3.2.3.1.1. The source of the King: Bethlehem Ephrathah (5:2)
- 3.2.3.1.2. The mission of the King: the will of the Lord (5:2)
- 3.2.3.1.3. The occupation of the King: “ruler” (5:2)
- 3.2.3.1.4. The days of the King: the King to be born is eternal
- 3.2.3.1.5. The dark shadows over the King (5:3)
- 3.2.3.1.6. The Shepherd-King (5:4-5a).
- 3.2.3.1.7. The victory of the coming Davidic King (5:6).

##### 3.2.3.2. The victory of the remnant of Jacob (5:7-9).

##### 3.2.3.3. The purification of the people of Israel (5:10-15).

### 4. Oracle 3 (6:1-7:20): *In the Midst of Sin, the Lord Forgives.*

#### 4.1. The Indictment Renewed (6:1-7:6).

- 4.1.1. The case against Israel (6:1-5).
- 4.1.2. The Lord’s simple requirements (6:6-8) (cf. 1 Sam 15:22; Isa 1:11-20; Jer 7:21-23; Hos 6:6; Amos 4:5; 5:15, 22-24; Deut 10:12, 18; Matt 22:38-40).
- 4.1.3. The end for those who sin (6:9-16)
- 4.1.4. The ubiquity of the wicked vs. the piety of Micah (7:1-6).
  - 4.1.4.1. Micah laments the sin of his brethren (7:1).
  - 4.1.4.2. Micah laments that only wicked men remain (7:2-6).

#### 4.2. The Hope of Israel Reiterated (7:7-20).

- 4.2.1. The surety of the promise (7:7-17).
  - 4.2.1.1. Don’t let appearances fool you (7:8-10).
  - 4.2.1.2. Jehovah will bless his people but judge sinners (7:11-13).
  - 4.2.1.3. The Lord will shepherd his people (7:14-17).
- 4.2.2. The amazing grace of God (7:18-20).



## APPLICATION

1. “Greater mourning now.” (Micah 1:8-9, 16)
2. Let us seek the reconciliation of the Jewish people with their God through Jesus Christ.
3. Let us never reject the Word of God. (Micah 2:6-11)
4. We ought to be people who cultivate a love for good and a hatred of evil. (Micah 3:1-3; 9-12)
5. We ought to be honest in our business dealings. (Micah 6:11-13)
6. Ministers of the gospel ought never be bought. (Micah 3:5-8)
7. Even though every other man turns away from the Lord, let us be a church that continues to wait on the Lord. (Micah 7:1-7)
8. Though the physical evidence that God will keep his promises may appear at times to be slim, let us trust the word of the Lord. (Micah 4:5)
9. We ought to be people who stand in awe of God’s grace and compassion to us. (Micah 7:18-20)