

Major Lessons From Minor Prophets

Lesson 7 - God's Special People (Micah)

Micah 6:8 “He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”.

Micah = “*who is as Jehovah or Yahweh?*”

This is not the prophet Micaiah the son of Imlah, 130 years between them. There are 10 Micahs in the Old Testament, apart from Maacah the wife of Rehoboam, a grand-daughter of Absalom.

Morashitite, from Moresheth-gath in the southwest plain of Judah.

First biblical prophet to predict the destruction of Jerusalem (Mic. 3:12).

Micah, prophesied from approximately 737-690 BC in Judah and is the author of the Book of Micah. He was a contemporary of the prophets Isaiah, Amos and Hosea and one of the twelve minor prophets of the (Old Testament). Micah's messages were directed chiefly toward Jerusalem. He prophesied the future destruction of Jerusalem and Samaria, and then future restoration of the Judean state, and he rebuked the people of Judah for dishonesty and idolatry.

Coming For Judgment

Micah 1:3, 4 (NKJV) *For behold, the Lord is coming out of His place; He will come down And tread on the high places of the earth. The mountains will melt under Him, And the valleys will split Like wax before the fire, Like waters poured down a steep place.*

Psalm 112:10 *The wicked shall see it, and be grieved; he shall gnash with his teeth, and melt away: the desire of the wicked shall perish.*

Rev 6:12-17 *And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, ...*

***Revelation 16:20** *And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found.*

Micah 1:5 (NKJV) *All this is for the transgression of Jacob And for the sins of the house of Israel. What is the transgression of Jacob? Is it not Samaria? And what are the high places of Judah? Are they not Jerusalem? Both Capitol places where they worshiped other Gods.*

Agony of the Prophet's Heart

Micah 1:8-9 (NKJV) ⁸ *Therefore I will wail and howl, I will go stripped and naked; I will make a wailing like the jackals And a mourning like the ostriches, ⁹ For her wounds are incurable. For it has come to Judah; It has come to the gate of My people— To Jerusalem.*

***Numbers 11:11** (NKJV) *So Moses said to the Lord, “Why have You afflicted Your servant? And why have I not found favor in Your sight, that You have laid the burden of all these people on me?”*

Jeremiah 8:21-22 (NKJV) ²¹ *For the hurt of the daughter of my people I am hurt. I am mourning; Astonishment has taken hold of me. ²² Is there no balm in Gilead, Is there no physician there? Why then is there no recovery For the health of the daughter of my people?*

***1 Kings 19:14** (NKJV) *And he said, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life.”*

Ezekiel 24:15-18 (NKJV) ¹⁵ *Also the word of the Lord came to me, saying, ¹⁶ “Son of man, behold, I take away from you the desire of your eyes with one stroke; yet you shall neither mourn nor weep, nor shall your tears run down. ¹⁷ Sigh in silence, make no mourning for the dead; bind your turban on your head, and put your sandals on your feet; do not cover your lips, and do not eat man's bread of sorrow.” ¹⁸ So I spoke to the people in the morning, and at evening my wife died; and the next morning I did as I was commanded.*

2 Corinthians 11:23-28 (NKJV) ²³ *Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. ²⁴ From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; ²⁶ in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; ²⁷ in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness—²⁸ besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches.*

1 Peter 4:14-16 (NKJV) ¹⁴ *If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified. ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters. ¹⁶ Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter.*

How much suffering has come to you because of your faithfulness to God? How much due to your unfaithfulness?

Those Who Devise Iniquity

Micah 2:1–2 (NIV) *Woe to those who plan iniquity, to those who plot evil on their beds! At morning's light they carry it out because it is in their power to do it. ² They covet fields and seize them, and houses, and take them. They defraud people of their homes, they rob them of their inheritance.*

Psalms 115:4–8 *Their idols are silver and gold, The work of men's hands. ⁵ They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see; ⁶ They have ears, but they do not hear; Noses they have, but they do not smell; ⁷ They have hands, but they do not handle; Feet they have, but they do not walk; Nor do they mutter through their throat. ⁸ Those who make them are like them; So is everyone who trusts in them.*

***Micah 3:12** (NKJV) ¹² *Therefore because of you Zion shall be plowed like a field, Jerusalem shall become heaps of ruins, And the mountain of the temple Like the bare hills of the forest.*

Jeremiah 26:18 *Micah the Morasthite prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and spake to all the people of Judah, saying, Thus saith the LORD of hosts; Zion shall be plowed like a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of a forest.*

Josephus relates that Titus, after he had taken Jerusalem, ordered his soldiers to demolish it, except three of the largest and most beautiful towers, and the western wall of the city; all the rest was leveled, so that they who had never before seen it, could scarcely persuade themselves it had been inhabited. The Jewish writers also inform us, that Turnus Rufus, whom Titus had left in command, ploughed up the very foundations of the temple. When Dr. Richardson visited this sacred spot in 1818, he found one part of Mount Zion supporting a crop of barley, and another undergoing the labor of the plough.

Peace, Peace

Micah 3:5 (NKJV) ⁵ *Thus says the Lord concerning the prophets Who make my people stray; **Who chant "Peace"** While they chew with their teeth, But who prepare war against him Who puts nothing into their mouths:*

Jeremiah 6:14 *They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.*

***1Thessalonians 5:3** *For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.*

Micah 3:11 (NKJV) *Her heads judge for a bribe, Her priests teach for pay, And her prophets divine for money. Yet they lean on the Lord, and say, "Is not the Lord among us? No harm can come upon us."*

A New Ruler From Bethlehem

Micah 5:2 (NKJV) ² *"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting."*

***Matthew 2:5–6** (NKJV) ⁵ *So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: ⁶ 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.' "*

"From the days of eternity the Lord Jesus Christ was one with the Father."—Ellen G. White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 19.

John 1:1–3 (NKJV) *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.*

John 8:58 (NKJV) *Jesus said to them, ...before Abraham was, I AM."*

Micah 5:4–5 (NKJV) ⁴ *And He shall stand and feed His flock. In the strength of the Lord, In the majesty of the name of the Lord His God; And they shall abide, For now He shall be great To the ends of the earth; ⁵ And this One shall be peace.*

Micah 5:7 (NKJV) *Then the remnant of Jacob **Shall be in the midst of many peoples**, Like dew from the Lord, Like showers on the grass, That tarry for no man Nor wait for the sons of men.*

What Is Good...Mercy

Micah 6:6–8 (NKJV) ⁶ *With what shall I come before the Lord, And bow myself before the High God? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, With calves a year old? ⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, Ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? ⁸ He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?*

Daniel 4:27 (NKJV) *Therefore, O king, let my advice be acceptable to you; break off your sins by being **righteous**, and your iniquities by showing **mercy** to the poor. Perhaps there may be a lengthening of your prosperity."*

Matthew 23:23 (NKJV) *“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: **justice and mercy and faith**. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone.*

Psalm 107:1 (NKJV) ¹ *Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.* (Is found 37 times in scripture.)

Into The Depths Of The Sea

Micah 7:18 (NKJV) ¹⁸ *Who is a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in mercy.*

Psalm 103:8–10 (NKJV) ⁸ *The Lord is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy. ⁹ He will not always strive with us, Nor will He keep His anger forever. ¹⁰ He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities.*

Micah 7:19, 20 *He will again have compassion on us, And will subdue our iniquities. **You will cast all our sins Into the depths of the sea.*** ²⁰ *You will give truth to Jacob And mercy to Abraham, Which You have sworn to our fathers From days of old.*

***Ezekiel 33:11** (NKJV) *Say to them: ‘As I live,’ says the Lord God, ‘I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?’*