

13078-E September 18, 2013

Micah

I. Micah, the man.

a. *He was from Moresheth:*

- i. 25 Miles southwest of Jerusalem.
- ii. Probably a small farmer or craftsman.

b. *He was a contemporary of the prophet Isaiah:*

- i. His ministry was from roughly 735BC-690BC.
- ii. Micah's message echoed in the halls of the "Oval Office" of the eighth century BC

c. *He was a witness to the fall of Samaria:*

- i. Micah's prophesies the fall of Samaria (1:6-7).
- ii. In 722BC, Samaria fell, and the northern Kingdom was conquered by Assyria

II. Micah, the book

a. *It contains a message of judgment:*

b. *It contains a message of hope:*

c. *It contains a message about the Messiah and His Kingdom:*

III. Micah in a Nutshell (3 Words to Remember the Message of Micah)

a. *Rebuke: He intends to rebuke all the sins being committed against Him-*

- i. *He Rebukes the Idolatry:* The object of the Lord's anger was Israel and Judah, the Lord's own people. The Lord would first would judge and

rebuke Samaria for its idolatry, and then He would do the same to Jerusalem--1:1-7

ii. He Rebukes the Social Injustice: With their greed and disregard for the poor the civic leaders of the land had become like cannibals who happily chopped the people up and made them into stew for their own pleasure. -- 2:1-5; 2:8-10; 3:1-3; 6:10-16

iii. He Rebukes the Religious Leaders: These prophets were leading the people of God astray and therefore God would rebuke their sin. —3:5; 2:6-7, 10

1. How Will God Judge and Rebuke them? He will abandon them (5:3). He will separate Himself from them. They had chosen to love their sins rather than love Him, and so He ratified their decision.

b. Restore: God intends to restore His people to Himself.

- i. 2:12:* Notice, the three-fold use of “I will.” This is God’s work—He will accomplish it.
- ii. 4:8-10:* Babylonian Captivity. 70 years later, under Ezra and Nehemiah, a remnant was restored as God rescued them from their enemies, just as Micah promised.
- iii. 7:8-9:* Micah trusted that God in His justice would deal with Jerusalem’s sins, and that God in His mercy would save and restore those who really belong to Him!

1. The picture Micah presents of God's interaction with His sinful people is a foreshadowing of God's interaction with us through Christ Jesus!
2. The wrath of God that we deserve has fallen upon Christ and when we place our faith in Him, we inherit all of His righteousness and are immediately restored to our Father.

c. Renown: God intends for His Name to be renowned among the nations.

- i. Renown for His Supremacy: 4:1-7:* The restoration of the people wasn't simply for their own good; it was so God's supremacy would be acknowledged throughout the nations.
- ii. Renown for His Past Faithfulness: 6:1-5:* first delivering them from Egypt, then sustaining them in the desert, and finally in bringing them to the Promise Land.
- iii. Renown for His Present Mercy: 7:18-20:* Micah says there is pardon for sin; there is forgiveness for transgression; there is mercy and compassion available through the Lord.

IV. Closing: how does this pardon for sin, this forgiveness for transgression, this mercy and compassion from the Lord come about?

- a. Through Sacrifice and Offerings? No.***
- b. Through Obedience? No.***
- c. Through a Person? Yes!*** The Messiah—Micah's greatest prophecy. Micah 5:2.

- i. The Lord Jesus is the embodiment of God's mercy and He gives to us the forgiveness of sins, reconciliation with the Father, and the enabling power "to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."
- ii. This reveals God's character to the watching world and exalts God!