

Introduction to Micah

Micah 1:1

The word of the LORD that came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

Micah 1:1

He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8

Wow to you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!

Matt 23:23-24

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.

³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴ And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.

⁵ And he shall be their peace.

Micah 5:2-5a

#1: Who Was Micah?

The word of the LORD that came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

Micah 1:1

¹⁸ Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over transgression
for the remnant of his inheritance?
He does not retain his anger forever,
because he delights in steadfast love.

¹⁹He will again have compassion on us;
he will tread our iniquities underfoot.
You will cast all our sins
into the depths of the sea.

Micah 7:18-19

The word of the LORD that came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

Micah 1:1

⁸But as for me, I am filled with power,
with the Spirit of the LORD,
and with justice and might,
to declare to Jacob his transgression
and to Israel his sin.

Micah 3:8

#2: When Did Micah Minister?

The word of the LORD that came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

Micah 1:1

Relevant Background Passages

- 2 Kgs 15:32–20:21;
- 2 Chr 27–32;
- Isaiah 7; 20; 36–39;
- Jer 26:16-19

A few examples of the corruption:

- Seizing land from the weak (2:1-2)
- Robbing poor refugees (2:8)
- Taking advantage of widows (2:9)
- Politicians failing to stand up for justice (3:1-2, 9)
- Taking people's lives in order to complete building projects (3:10)
- Judges taking bribes; religious leaders serving greedily (3:11)
- Cheating clients by improper business scales (6:10-12)
- Shedding innocent blood (7:2-4)
- Distrusting everyone in society (7:5)
- Fighting within the family (7:6)

#3: What Did Micah Say?

The word of the LORD that came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

Micah 1:1

Micah's Major Themes

1. The Sovereign Lord is the Judge of the world. (1:2; 6:1-2)
2. The Shepherd-King gathers and delivers a people by His grace. (2:12-13; 4:6-8; 7:18)
3. God's people should respond to His love with a humble life of justice and mercy, not with empty religious ritual. (Micah 6:8)
4. The Lord is the focus of worship, not idols. (4:5)

For all the peoples walk
each in the name of its god,
but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God
forever and ever.

Micah 4:5

5. The liberating light of God's grace can overcome the darkness of sin and sorrow. (7:8-9; 7:18-20)

⁸Rejoice not over me, O my enemy;
when I fall, I shall rise;
when I sit in darkness,
the LORD will be a light to me.
⁹I will bear the indignation of the LORD
because I have sinned against him,
until he pleads my cause
and executes judgment for me.
He will bring me out to the light;
I shall look upon his vindication.

Micah 7:8-9

6. God's saving acts in the past provide a pattern for his saving acts in the future. (6:4-5; 7:14-15)

Micah's Incredible Perseverance

¹⁶Then the officials and all the people said to the priests and the prophets, "This man does not deserve the sentence of death, for he has spoken to us in the name of the LORD our God." ¹⁷And certain of the elders of the land arose and spoke to all the assembled people, saying, ¹⁸"Micah of Moresheth prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and said to all the people of Judah: 'Thus says the LORD of hosts,

" 'Zion shall be plowed as a field;
Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins,
and the mountain of the house a wooded height.' [Micah 3:12]

¹⁹Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him to death? Did he not fear the LORD and entreat the favor of the LORD, and did not the LORD relent of the disaster that he had pronounced against them? But we are about to bring great disaster upon ourselves.” **(Jeremiah 26:16-19)**

**“Hezekiah’s reformation was due to the preaching of Micah”
(A.F. Kirkpatrick).**

Concluding Exhortations:

- 1. Respond to God’s Word appropriately in a crooked and corrupt world.**
- 2. Believe that one person really can make a difference.**
- 3. Don’t grow weary in well doing.**
- 4. Rejoice in Promised Messiah.**