

Micah

***“Who Is Like the LORD
(Yahweh)”***

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History

- Before Israel went into Assyrian captivity, God's people were characterized by their rejection of God's Word, their idolatry and spiritual, social and national disintegration
- The prophets proclaimed God's anger and judgment but also God's unchanging promises, love, and future restoration for Israel

Theme

- God's condemnation of and coming judgment upon Judah and Israel due to their sins
- God's future ruler who, in the last days, will forgive and deliver Israel
- Though Micah was burdened because of the sin and judgment, he watched expectantly for the Lord and waited for the God of his salvation

Micah, the Prophet

- Micah was an unknown prophet from Moresheth (1:14)—about 20 miles SW of Jerusalem, probably near Gath
- Micah was God's prophet to Judah during the reigns of Jotham (740-731 BC), Ahaz (731-715 BC) and Hezekiah (715-686 BC) (1:1; Jer. 26:18)—reigns totaling 54 years, but how long Micah served is unknown
- Contemporary prophets: Isaiah (prophet to Jerusalem) and Hosea (to Israel)

Jotham

- Jotham (740-731 BC) was the eleventh king of Judah and son of Uzziah (2 Kings 15; 2 Chronicles 27)
- He was not able to root out the idolatry of the people
- Isaiah and Micah were prophets during his time

Ahaz

- Ahaz (731-715 BC) was the twelfth king of Judah and when attacked by the Edomites and Philistines he asked Assyria for help, but Assyria refused
- Ahaz openly brought idolatry into Jerusalem (2 Kings 16; 2 Chron. 28:1-4, 16-27)
- At best he was an evil king

Hezekiah

- Hezekiah (reigned 715-686 BC; 2 Kings 18-20; 2 Chronicles 29-32)
- Was king when the angel of the Lord killed 185,000 Assyrians (2 Kngs. 19:35)
- The Lord gave him 15 more years to live (2 Kings 20)
- He foolishly showed off the temple wealth to Berodach-Baladan, the king of Babylon (2 Kngs. 20:12-18)

Key Word

- **Hear** (9 times)
 - 1:2; 3:1, 4, 9; 6:1-2, 9; 7:7

Overview Outline

Chs. 1-3: Condemnation and judgment

Chs. 4-5: Coming kingdom and king

Chs. 6-7: God asks, Israel answers

Overview Outline

Three messages or oracles all beginning with the word “hear”:

Chs. 1-2: Coming judgment; promise of restoration

Chs. 3-5: Condemnation of Israel; glimpse of future hope

Chs. 6-7: Indictment of Israel; plea for repentance and promise of forgiveness

Chapter Outline

Ch. 1: The Lord is coming to judge

Ch. 2: “An evil time” (v. 3)

Ch. 3: Condemnation of rulers, prophets,
priests (v. 11)

Ch. 4: The Lord will reign

Ch. 5: Ruler from Bethlehem

Ch. 6: The Lord’s case against Israel

Ch. 7: Look to the Lord; wait for God (v. 7)

Verses to Remember

- 2:1, 7
- 3:2-3—instead of feeding the flock, they feast upon it
- 4:1-5
- 5:2
- 6:6-8
- 7:6 → Mt. 10:35-36
- 7:18-19 → Ps. 103:12

Lessons to Remember

- What are my values? Honesty, work ethic, help my neighbor, God's place in my life, personal responsibility, marriage and family, producer or just a consumer: do I give and help or simply take?
- Do I willingly sin and then excuse myself like the people of Micah's time?
- Do I listen to God speak in his word?
- Who is my God? Of my own making or the God revealed in Scripture?

Trivia

Micah said, “Woe is me for I am like” who?

7:1

“Those who gather summer fruits, like
those who glean vintage grapes”

Memory Verse Review (Hosea—Jonah)

- Hos. 4:6a—“My people...”
- Joel 2:32a—“And it shall...”
- Amos 3:3—“Can two...”
- Obad. 3—“The pride...”
- Jonah 3:2b—“Preach to it...”

Memory Verse for Micah

7:18a

“Who is a God like You,
pardoning iniquity...”