

MICAH (Student Edition)

- I. The Prediction of Judgment 1:1--3:12
 - A. Introduction to the Book of Micah 1:1
 - B. The Judgment on the People 1:2--2:13
 - 1. Judgment on Samaria 1:2-7
 - 2. Judgment on Judah 1:8-16
 - 3. Cause of the Judgment 2:1-11
 - 4. Promise of Future Restoration 2:12-13
 - C. The Judgment on the Leadership 3
 - 1. Judgment on Princes 3:1-4
 - 2. Judgment on Prophets 3:5-8
 - 3. Promise of Future Judgment 3:9-12
- II. The Prediction of Restoration 4:1--5:15
 - A. The Promise of the Coming Kingdom 4:1-5
 - B. The Promise of the Coming Captivities 4:6--5:1
 - C. The Promise of the Coming King 5:2-15
 - 1. Birth of the Messiah 5:2
 - 2. Rejection of the Messiah 5:3
 - 3. Work of the Messiah 5:4-15
- III. The Plea for Repentance 6:1--7:20
 - A. The First Plea of God 6:1-8
 - 1. God Pleads 6:1-5
 - 2. Micah Replies 6:6-8
 - B. The Second Plea of God 6:9--7:6
 - 1. God Pleads 6:9-16
 - 2. Micah Replies 7:1-6
 - C. The Promise of Final Salvation 7:7-20

AUTHOR-

This book was written by the prophet Micah, a native of the village of Moresheth in southern Judah near the Philistine city of _____. Since Micah championed the rights of the poor, he was probably a _____ or _____ himself, although he shows a remarkable knowledge of Jerusalem and Samaria, the capital cities of the nations of Judah and Israel. Fearless and outspoken in denouncing sin, he is mentioned by Jeremiah (Jeremiah 26:17, 18), was a contemporary of Isaiah, Hosea (and possibly Amos) and concentrated his ministry mostly in Judah. His name means “Who is Like the Lord?” and he was so committed to the Lord that he went _____ on occasion to get his message across.

WHEN THE BOOK WAS WRITTEN-

Micah tells us that he prophesied "in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah" (1:1). The reigns of these three kings stretched from about _____; so his book was probably written sometime during this period.

ABOUT THE BOOK-

Micah's opening verse is written in prose, but everything thereafter is _____. This poetical prophecy speaks of the Lord who has no equals in judging and pardoning sin. His compassionate faithfulness keeps covenant with Abraham and his descendants.

Micah begins his words of judgment with calls for the people to _____. God is portrayed as _____, the _____. God is a witness against His people (1:2); He demands justice (3:1); He even calls upon the elements of creation to be His witnesses, since He has a legal dispute against His people (6:1-2). The clear implication is that God has _____ for their behavior.

God insists that His people keep their part of the covenant agreement. But even while making His demands, He holds out the possibility of grace and forgiveness.

These contrasting passages give real insight into the character of God. In His wrath He _____; He cannot maintain His anger forever. Judgment with love may seem incompatible but is truly the work of the Lord. God was determined to maintain His holiness, and so He acted in judgment on those who had broken His covenant. But He was just as determined to fulfill the promises He had made to Abraham centuries earlier. This compelled Him to point to the fulfillment of the covenant in the kingdom to come.

Perhaps the greatest contribution of the Book of Micah is its _____. This prophecy in chapter 5 is stunning in its _____ because it names _____ where the Messiah was born-the village of Bethlehem in the territory of the tribe of Judah so many years before its fulfillment. It is remarkable when we think of the circumstances that were necessary to bring it to fulfillment. Although they were residents of Nazareth, Mary and

Joseph “happened” to be in Bethlehem at the right time when the Messiah was born _____ after Micah's prediction. This is a valuable lesson on the _____ of God. He always manages to work His will through a unique combination of forces and events.

BASIC THEMES-

Micah can be seen as the _____. The subjects of Micah's messages reveal much about the society of his day. He constantly denounced the oppression of the _____. He characterized the rich as devising ways in which to cheat the poor out of their land (2:1-5). People were evicted from their homes and had their possessions stolen. Those who committed such crimes were fellow Israelites. The _____ was full of deception and injustice. Dishonest merchants were using _____, bribing judges, and charging excessive _____. Even the priests and prophets seemed to be caught up in this tidal wave of greed and dishonesty that swept his country. The rulers of the country, who had the responsibility of upholding justice, did the opposite (3:1-4).

Micah also denounced the _____ of the nation. He predicted the destruction of Judah as an act of God's judgment. Other prophets, however, led the people to believe that this could never happen because God was residing in the nation and would protect them. Micah contended that the other prophets' message was not from God. Instead, the message from God was the imminent devastation of Judah.

The people worshiped other gods. They did not quit believing in and worshipping the God of Judah, but they combined this worship with _____. The people believed all that religion required of them was to bring their sacrifices and offerings to the Temple. No _____ was acknowledged between their activity in the Temple and their activity in daily life. Micah attempted to correct this misconception by arguing that God is not just interested in the physical act of making a sacrifice but is supremely concerned with obedience that extends into daily life in chapter 6:6-8. This great passage expresses the truth that _____ consists of _____.

Micah warned of impending judgment on God's people for their disobedience. At the same time, he proclaimed messages of hope.

Judgment would come, but afterwards, God would restore a remnant of the people devoted to Him. In this Micah emphasizes the reality of God's love. Practically every passage about God's wrath _____
_____. Hence, unlike the unjust kings that the people were accustomed to, God would bring a ruler who would allow the people to live in peace (5:1-5). Ultimately, the Babylonians destroyed Judah in 586 B.C., but a remnant returned. Matthew saw in Micah's hope for a new ruler a description of Christ (Matt. 2:6).

A POSSIBLE KEY WORD-

Following the above discussion and the balance in the book, I believe a great key word would be: _____.

KEY VERSE(S) AND CHAPTER-

Staying with my key word the basic themes, and the revelation of a key aspect of God's character, my key verse is: _____ and my key chapter is: _____.

JESUS REVEALED IN THE BOOK-

- The prophecy of His birth in Bethlehem (5:2)
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

THE HOLY SPIRIT REVEALED IN THE BOOK-

- The prophetic all speaks to the Spirit
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

SOME TRUTHS AND APPLICATIONS-
Micah 2:6,7

Micah 3:11

Never set a price on your ministry. Never seduce people to give to you using psychological or spiritual manipulation.

Micah 4:2

Climb the mountain in prayer with the Lord. Sit at His feet and and ask that His Word become alive to you. Rely on the power of His Word, through your passionate prayers, to enable you to walk as the child of God you are.

Micah 7:8, 9
