



**COMING UP...** JUN 9: Isaiah part 1 (chs. 1-39) JUN 16 NO CLASS (*Father's Day*) JUN 23: Isaiah part 2 (chs. 40-66) JUN 30: Nahum JUL 7: Zephaniah JUL 14: Jeremiah part 1 (chs. 1-33)

**MICAH SUMMARIZED IN A WORD OR PHRASE: "Hope"**

**THE TIMES ...**

It's a time of relative peace and prosperity, but there's no justice, mercy or humility among God's people; so judgment is coming  
Israel has heard God's warnings, but hasn't believed them and hasn't repented  
Ahaz/Hezekiah are on Judah's throne; now she's following in Israel and Assyria's footsteps  
God sends Micah to announce discipline AND hope for His soon-to-be knocked-down people

**THE BASICS ...**

**Who:** Micah ("Who is like YHWH?") **When:** pre-exilic (745-690 BC) **Where:** primarily to Judah, but also to Israel  
**Why:** "Micah's purpose in writing was to show Judah that her covenant relationship to God was to result in [personal and national] justice and holiness." -Charles Dyer

**LESSON THEME: Knocked down but not out**

**Judgment Is Coming (Ch. 1-2)**

The Judge enters His courtroom (1:2-5)  
The summons to hear Him (1:2, 6-16)  
God's indictment (2:1-11)  
People's sins: idolatry (1:5); covetousness (2:1); preferring false messages to God's truth (2:6, 11)  
"I will knock you down ..." (2:4, 10)  
But you will not be knocked out (2:12-13)  
Your King will release and restore you one day

**The King Is Coming (Ch. 3-5)**

The summons to hear Him (3:1)  
God's indictment (3:1-12)  
Sins of your rulers and religious leaders (3:1-5, 11)  
"I will knock you down ..." (3:12)  
But you will not be knocked out (4:1-5:15)  
Your nation's future exaltation and might (4:1-13)  
Because the *Lord's* King is coming (5:1-4)  
Bringing with Him peace (5:5-6), triumph (5:7-9) and spiritual cleansing (5:10-15)

**His Kingdom Is Coming (Ch. 6-7)**

The summons to hear Him (6:1)  
God's indictment and sentence (6:1-16)  
Sins: no justice, mercy or humility (6:10-12)  
"I will knock you down ..." (6:13-16)  
Micah's response (7:1-10)  
Lament: no godly fellowship; only corruption  
His "look" of hope in the midst of discouragement  
But you will not be knocked out (7:11-20)  
There is a future victory and a reversal of fortunes

## Summary of Micah

Israel and Judah are about to be knocked down for their personal and national sins

Their situation is dire; their circumstances are bleak and growing worse daily

The ungodly among them are oblivious ...

The godly are discouraged and anxious ...

But God tells them: *Though you'll be knocked down for a time, you won't be knocked out*

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## APPLICATION: Knocked down but not out

### Do You Feel Knocked Down?

It's dark

Your soul is heavy and burdened

People are sinning

The world is winning

Evil is laughing

You feel alone

Hope seems lost ...

This is always how *Friday* looks ...

### It's Only Friday ...



**"It's Friday But Sunday's a-Coming" by Dr. S. M. Lockridge**

Copyright laws may prevent the embedding of this video in our class recording.

SEE VIDEO HERE:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gx6\\_rGLz20&index=4&list=RDcikenKl92Og](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8gx6_rGLz20&index=4&list=RDcikenKl92Og)

or search on YouTube: "Sunday's a coming"

### Don't Lose Hope!

You may be knocked down but you're *not* out!

Hope is *not* lost as long as our God is God

You have *not* been forsaken

The last word on your situation *hasn't* yet been spoken

The last action *hasn't* yet been taken

The final verdict *hasn't* yet been entered

It's only Friday!

Romans 12:12

Be joyful in hope ...

Because God isn't finished yet

Be patient in affliction ...

Because fruitfulness follows pruning

Be persistent in prayer ...

Because Jesus has walked the road you're now traveling; do you see His footprints ahead of you?

### How to Live on "Friday"

Micah 6:8

Act justly ...

Keep doing the right things; live by the Book

Love mercy ...

Even toward those who're hurting you

Walk humbly with your God ...

It's only Friday ... Sunday is still coming!

Look to Him with expectant, hopeful faith!

FOR NEXT TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

The Life Application Study Bible, Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.



## The Near East in the Time of Micah

735~725 BC

Micah warned that SAMARIA and the kingdom of ISRAEL would be destroyed (1:2-7), and so it happened in 722 BC at the hands of the Assyrians. Micah also prophesied the destruction of Jerusalem and the kingdom of Judah (1:9, 12; 3:10-12; 4:10-5:1); it finally happened at the hands of the Babylonians much later, in 605-586 BC.



"Micah" by James Tissot

### MICAH

Imminent Judgment of God's People			Ultimate Blessing of God's People		Present Response of God's People		
retribution			restoration		repentance		
The coming of the Lord	The condemnation of the Lord	The complaints of the Lord	The coming kingdom	The characteristics of the coming kingdom	God's lawsuit against Israel	Micah's lament over Israel	God's blessing for Israel
1:1	1:5	1:6 1:16	2:1 3:12	4:1 5:6	5:7 5:15	6:1 6:16	7:1 7:10 7:11 7:20

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### TIMELINE OF MICAH





# MICAH'S ISRAEL & JUDAH

## JUDEAN TOWNS OF MICAH 1

Verse	Name	Meaning
1:10	Gath	= "tell"
1:10	Beth-le-aphrah	= "house of dust"
1:11	Shaphir	= "beautiful"
1:11	Zaanan*	= "come out"
1:11	Beth-ezel*	= "house of taking away"
1:12	Maroth*	= "bitter"
1:13	Lachish	= "to the steeds"
1:14	Moresheth-gath	= "one who is betrothed"
1:14	Achzib	= "deception"
1:15	Mareshah	= "conqueror"
1:15	Adullam	= symbolic of hostility, i.e. David's exile in 2 Sam 23:13

\*location unknown

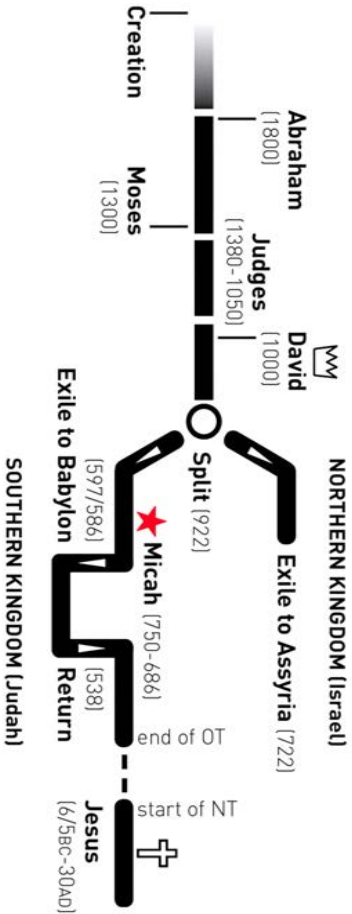


# NAVIGATING MICAH

**FROM WHOM?** The word of the Lord came to Micah, who lived in the town of Moresheth, 35 km south-west of Jerusalem (1:1). Micah's name means, "Who is like Yahweh?" (compare with 7:18).

**TO WHOM?** The prophetic message of the book is addressed to Samaria and Jerusalem, Jacob and Israel (1:1; 3:1), yet all the peoples of the earth are called to listen and witness the Lord's indictment against his people (1:2; 6:1-2).

**WHEN?** Micah prophesied in the 8th century BC, during the reigns of the Judean kings: Jotham (750-735 BC), Ahaz (735-715 BC), and Hezekiah (715-687 BC).



**WHY?** Micah seeks to set forth God's case against his people, to "declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin" (3:8). In a time of great affluence and prosperity, Israel and Judah were deeply infected with religious corruption and social injustice. God's leaders - civil, religious and prophetic - had failed to lead righteously, and God's people consequently were consumed by idolatry, violence, and the abuse of the weak and poor.

**WHAT?** The twin themes of Micah's prophecy are judgment and hope. On account of Samaria and Jerusalem's covenant unfaithfulness, the Lord God promises to bring judgment on his people through their enemies, Assyria and Babylon. Yet in his covenant faithfulness, God also promises to deliver, gather and care for a remnant of his people, in a restored Zion through his Davidic king. From Micah's prophecy, it's clear that the punishing divine judge, Yahweh, is also the gracious and merciful, shepherd king:

"Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance?" (7:18)

We see the prophecy ultimately fulfilled in the one born in Bethlehem, blessed with divine strength and majesty and whose "origins are from old" (5:2): Jesus, the great Lord, judge, shepherd and king. He alone is the true deliverer of everlasting security and peace for his people (e.g. Matthew 2:6; 12:15-21; John 7: 10:16). For no God is like him.



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## MICAH OVERVIEW

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**TITLE** "The word of the Lord that came to Micah ... concerning Samaria and Jerusalem." 1:1

**CYCLE 1** 1:2-15  
**CALL** "Hear ..." 1:2



**JUDGEMENT** 1:2-16



**EVIDENCE** 2:1-11



**HOPE** 2:12-13

**CYCLE 2** 3:1 - 5:15  
**CALL** "Hear ..." 3:1



**EVIDENCE** 3:1-3, 5, 9-11

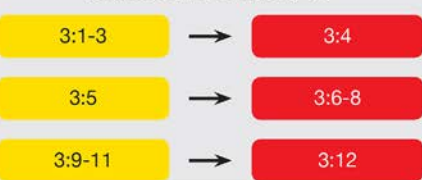


**JUDGEMENT** 3:4, 6-8, 12



**HOPE** 4:1 - 5:15

### 3 x DOOM ORACLES



After the introductory title (1:1), the book of Micah consists of three cycles of God's judgement against his people, including the evidence cited for the indictments, before turning to the promise of future hope. Each cycle is introduced by the refrain to "hear" the word of God (1:2, 3:1 and repeated in 3:9, 6:1).

**CYCLE 3** 6:1 - 7:20  
**CALL** "Hear ..." 6:1



**JUDGEMENT** 6:1-16



**LAMENT** 7:1-7



**HOPE** 7:8-20

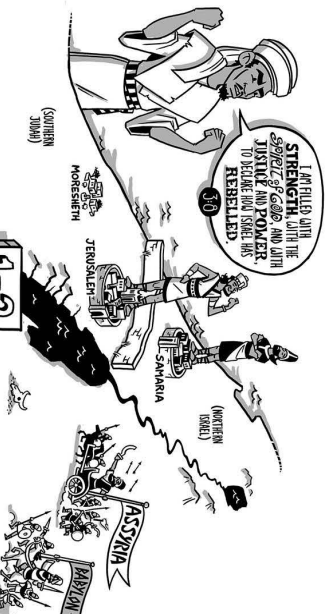


# MICAH

**GOD DELIGHTS IN COVENANT LOVE, SO HE WILL AGAIN SHOW COMPASSION. HE WILL TRAMPLE OUR EVIL; HE WILL TOSS OUR SINS INTO THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA.\***

**ALLUSION TO GOD'S COVENANT PROMISES TO ABRAHAM (GENESIS 12, 15, 17)**  
ALL NATIONS WILL BLESS THROUGH ABRAHAM  
**JUDGMENT** ← **LOVE**  
GOD'S COVENANT LOVE & COMPASSION PROMISES ARE MORE POWERFUL THAN ALL THE EVIL WE CAN THINK UP.  
GOD'S COVENANT LOVE PROMISES ARE MORE POWERFUL THAN ALL THE EVIL WE CAN THINK UP.

created by the Bible Project



**1-2**

**GOD APPEARS TO JUDGE HIS PEOPLE**  
(LIKE AT MT SINAI - SEE EXODUS 19-20)

**ACCUSATIONS & WARNINGS**



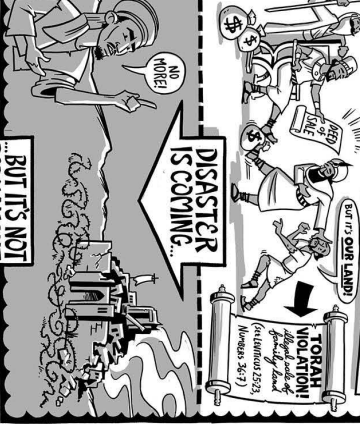
**BUT WHY...?**

**HOPE & RESTORATION**



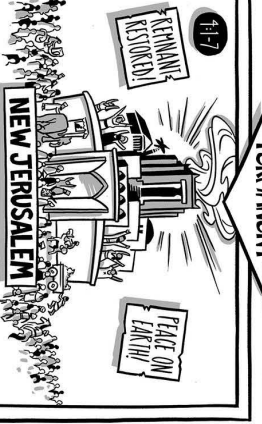
**3-4a**

**INJUSTICE OF GREAT LEADERS**  
(LIKE OUR LAND)



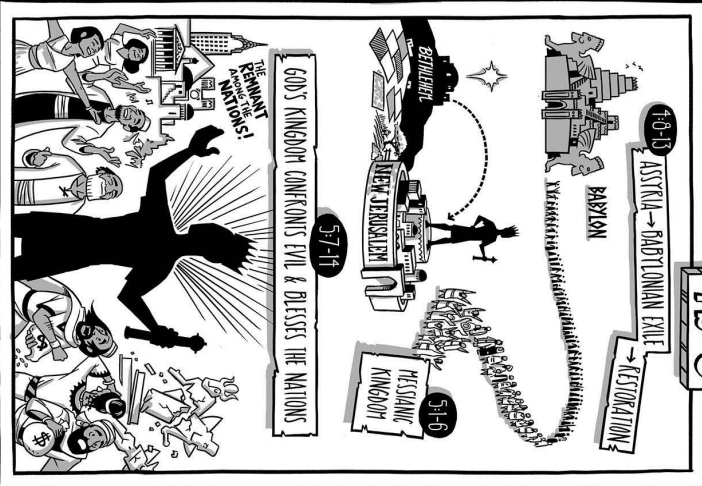
**DISASTER IS COMING.**

**BUT IT'S NOT PERMANENT**



**4b-5**

**ASTORIA → BAPTISTONIAN EXILE**



**GOD'S KINGDOM CONDEMNS EVIL & BLESS THE NATIONS**

**6-7**

**ISRAEL'S UNJUST ECONOMIC PRACTICES**

**HERE HAS TOLD YOU O HUMAN WHAT IS GOD, AND WHAT THE LAND REQUIRES OF YOU: DO JUSTICE TO LOVE MERCY, AND TO WALK HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD.** (6:8)



**REASONS FOR FUTURE HOPE:**

**1 GOD'S CHARACTER**  
GOD IS A GOD LIKE YOU AND YOURS SIN & REBELLION? (7:18)

**2 GOD'S PROMISES**  
"YOU WILL STAY TRUE TO GOD & SHALU COVENANT LOVE TO BROTHER, AS YOU SWORE LONG AGO." (7:20)

**MICAH** One important aspect of the ancient Tanak\* order of the Hebrew Bible is that the 12 prophetic works of Hosea through Malachi, sometimes referred to as the Minor Prophets, were designed as a single book called The Twelve. Micah is the sixth book of The Twelve. Micah lived in the small town of Moresheth in the southern kingdom of Judah at the same time Isaiah was alive in Jerusalem. The northern and southern kingdoms had split long ago, and both had been violating their covenant with the God of Israel. Micah warned that God would allow the empire of Assyria to take out the north and ravage Jerusalem, and that after them, Babylon would bring even more destruction. Like all the prophets, Micah spoke on God's behalf to accuse Israel, or, as he puts it in chapter 3, "I am filled with strength, with the Spirit of God, and with justice and power, to declare how Israel has rebelled" (Mic 3:8). Most of this book explores Micah's accusations and warnings of God's impending judgment on Israel, but Micah also had a message of hope that countered these warnings and told of the restoration that God would one day bring about.

\***Tanak** (Hebrew תנ"ך), or Tanakh, is an acronym for the Hebrew Bible consisting of the initial Hebrew letters (T + N + K) of each of the text's three major parts. Since the ancient Hebrew language had no clear vowels, subsequent vowel sounds were added to the consonants resulting in the word Tanak. The major portions of the Hebrew Bible represented by these three letters are:

- Torah** (תורה) Instruction, Law - The five books of Moses, Pentateuch
- Nevi'im** (נביאים) Prophets
- Ketuvim** (כתובים) Writings - separated into sections of history, wisdom, poetry, psalms

In Hebrew, the Tanakh is also called מִקְרָא, Mikra or Miqra, meaning "that which is read." The Tanakh is not only sacred scripture for the Jews but is also considered by Christians to be divinely inspired. These 24 books are the same books found in the Protestant Old Testament, but the order of the books is different. The enumeration differs as well: Christians count these books as 39, not 24. This is because Jews often count as a single book what Christians count as several. However, the term *Old Testament*, while common, is often considered pejorative by Jews as it can be interpreted as being inferior or outdated relative to the New Testament.