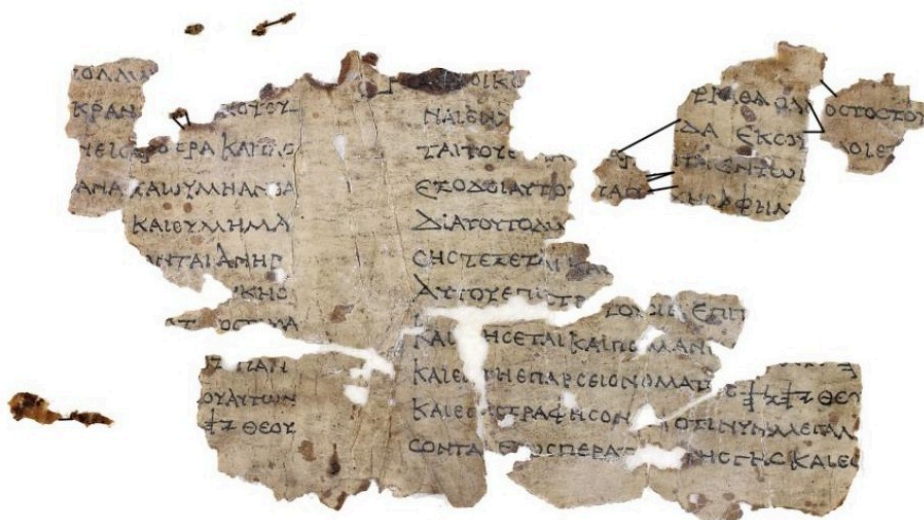


MICAH

Who is like Yahweh?

AUTHOR	Micah of Moresheth, a farm town about 25 miles southwest of Jerusalem 1:1, 1:14. A small town preacher who took on the big city.
EVENTS TOOK PLACE	About 740 to 700 BC, while Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah ruled Judah.
DATE WRITTEN	About 735 to 700 BC.
WRITTEN TO	Samaria, capital of the northern kingdom of Israel, and Jerusalem, capital of Judah.
ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS	Micah appears in several Dead Sea Scroll era copies of the Twelve Prophets, including the Hebrew scroll from Wadi Murabbaat and the Greek scroll from Nahal Hever, plus a commentary on Micah from Qumran Cave 1.
KEY VERSE	Micah 6:8. Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with your God.



ONE OF THE OLDEST COPIES OF MICAH

This is a piece of the Greek Minor Prophets Scroll, first brought out by Bedouin in 1952 and traced to the Cave of Horror at Nahal Hever, near the Dead Sea. It was copied by hand about 50 BC to AD 50, around the time Jesus was born. This piece holds part of Micah 5, including the promise that a ruler would come out of Bethlehem Ephrathah, 5:2. Look for God's name, YHWH, written in the old Hebrew letters right in the middle of the Greek words.

Hebrew pieces of Micah from about the same time were also found in Cave 4 at Qumran. A Hebrew scroll of the Minor Prophets from Wadi Murabba'at, copied around AD 100, holds most of Micah. Photo Shai Halevi, Leon Levy Dead Sea Scrolls Digital Library, Israel Antiquities Authority.

Historical Setting

Assyria is the superpower of the day, and it is hungry. In 722 BC it wipes out Samaria and the northern kingdom, just as Micah warned in 1:6. In 701 BC King Sennacherib invades Judah, destroys the fortress city of Lachish and surrounds Jerusalem. Micah preaches through all of it, at the same time as Isaiah. The two even share a famous passage, Micah 4:1 to 3 and Isaiah 2:2 to 4.

What Was Going Wrong

IDOLS EVERYWHERE. Samaria and Jerusalem were full of carved images, sacred pillars and Asherah poles 1:5 to 7, 5:12 to 14. God says He will smash every one.

CHILD SACRIFICE. King Ahaz, who ruled during Micah's ministry, burned his own son as a sacrifice 2 Kings 16:3. That is why Micah 6:7 asks, Shall I present my firstborn for my transgression? God's answer in 6:8 is a hard no.

WITCHCRAFT. Sorcery and fortune tellers were big business 5:12.

LAND GRABS. The rich schemed at night to seize fields and houses from families 2:1 to 2.

BOUGHT JUDGES AND PREACHERS. Leaders took bribes, priests taught for a price, and prophets preached for money 3:11.

FAKE WEIGHTS. Merchants cheated customers with rigged scales 6:10 to 11.

The Idiot Proof Summary

The people of God have become just like everybody else. The rich cheat the poor, judges take bribes, and preachers say whatever pays. God warns that judgment is coming for both Samaria and Jerusalem. But judgment is never the last word. God promises to gather His people again, and to send a Ruler from little Bethlehem who will shepherd them and be their peace. Micah is seven short chapters, and it swings back and forth between doom and hope like a courtroom drama with a happy ending.

Micah at a Glance: Three Rounds of Hear This

CH 1 to 2

ROUND 1: HEAR, O PEOPLES 1:2

Judgment on Samaria and Judah, then a promise to gather the remnant.

CH 3 to 5

ROUND 2: HEAR NOW, O LEADERS 3:1

Corrupt leaders exposed, then the last days and the Ruler from Bethlehem.

CH 6 to 7

ROUND 3: HEAR NOW WHAT YAHWEH SAYS 6:1

God's courtroom case, then the God who throws sins into the sea.

Where Jesus Shows Up

MICAH 5:2 A Ruler born in Bethlehem whose origins are from eternity. Quoted to Herod in Matthew 2:5 to 6.

MICAH 5:1 The Judge of Israel struck on the cheek. Compare Matthew 27:30.

MICAH 5:4 TO 5 The Shepherd who will be our peace. Compare John 10:11 and Ephesians 2:14.

MICAH 7:6 Jesus quotes this line in Matthew 10:35 to 36.

GOD'S NAMES IN MICAH

Micah uses Yahweh, God's personal name, again and again. In 1:2 he says Adonai Yahweh, printed here as Lord Yahweh, which means Master Yahweh. In 4:4 he says Yahweh of Hosts, which means Yahweh who commands the armies of heaven. Elohim, printed God, is the mighty Creator.

What to Watch for in Micah

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES	5:1-2, 5:4-5
PROPHECIES FULFILLED IN SCRIPTURE	1:6, 1:9, 3:12, 4:10
PROPHETIC FORESHADOW	7:6
END TIMES PROPHECIES	4:1-3
ARCHAEOLOGY	1:13
DEMONIC	1:7, 3:6-7, 3:11, 5:12-14, 6:7, 6:16
GOD SPEAKING	Words in red are God speaking. Only the words He actually said are red.

Cool Stuff Most People Miss

A SERMON THAT SAVED A LIFE

About a hundred years after Micah, Jeremiah was on trial for his life. The elders stood up and quoted Micah 3:12, and Jeremiah was spared. Read it in Jeremiah 26:18 to 19.

SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES

The words of Micah 4:3 gave their name to a famous statue in the garden of the United Nations in New York, Let Us Beat Swords into Plowshares. It was a gift from the Soviet Union in 1959, so an officially atheist government ended up quoting the Bible.

A PROPHET WHO PUNS

Micah 1:10 to 15 is a string of wordplays on town names. Beth Leaphrah means house of dust, so its people are told to roll in the dust.

HIS NAME IS THE QUESTION

Micah is short for Micaiah, which means Who is like Yahweh? The book ends with the same question in 7:18. Who is a God like You?

Did Anybody Listen?

Yes. King Hezekiah took Micah seriously. He smashed the idols and sacred pillars and even broke up the bronze snake Moses had made, because people had started worshiping it 2 Kings 18:4. A century later Jeremiah 26:19 says Hezekiah feared Yahweh and God held back the disaster. One small town preacher helped turn a whole nation around.

PROPHECIES FULFILLED IN SCRIPTURE

ARCHAEOLOGY

DEMONIC

GOD SPEAKING

1

CHAPTER 1 IN 30 SECONDS

God files a lawsuit against His own people, and the whole earth is called in as a witness. Micah gets so upset he announces he will walk around barefoot and stripped, which is a lot for a Tuesday. Then he roasts about a dozen towns with puns on their own names, like a prophet doing crowd work.

JUDGMENT TO COME // ISAIAH 7:17-25

¹This is the word of Yahweh that came to Micah the Moreshite in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah—what he saw regarding Samaria and Jerusalem:

²Hear, O peoples, all of you;
listen, O earth, and everyone in it!
May the Lord Yahweh bear witness
against you,
the Lord from His holy temple.

³For behold, Yahweh comes forth
from His dwelling place;
He will come down and tread
on the high places of the earth.

⁴The mountains will melt beneath Him,
and the valleys will split apart,
like wax before the fire,
like water rushing down a slope.

⁵All this is for the transgression of Jacob
and the sins of the house of Israel.
What is the transgression of Jacob?
Is it not Samaria?
And what is the high place of Judah?
Is it not Jerusalem?

⁶Therefore I will make Samaria
a heap of rubble in the open field,
a planting area for a vineyard.
I will pour her stones into the valley
and expose her foundations.

⁷All her carved images will be smashed to
pieces;
all her wages will be burned in the fire,
and I will destroy all her idols.
Since she collected the wages of a prostitute,
they will be used again on a prostitute.

■ MIC 1:6 [PROPHECY] Samaria would become a heap of rubble and her stones poured into the valley → 2KI 17:5-6; 2KI 18:9-10 p.---

■ MIC 1:7 [DEMONIC] God will smash Samaria's carved images and burn her idols

WEeping AND MOURNING

⁸Because of this I will lament and wail;
I will walk barefoot and naked.

I will howl like a jackal
and mourn like an ostrich.

⁹For her wound is incurable;
it has reached even Judah;
it has approached the gate of my people,
as far as Jerusalem itself.

¹⁰Do not tell it in Gath; do not weep at all.
Roll in the dust in Beth-leaphrah.

¹¹Depart in shameful nakedness,
O dwellers of Shaphir.
The dwellers of Zaanan
will not come out.

Beth-ezel is in mourning;
its support is taken from you.

¹²For the dwellers of Maroth pined for
good,
but calamity came down from Yahweh,
even to the gate of Jerusalem.

¹³Harness your chariot horses,
O dweller of Lachish.
You were the beginning of sin to the
Daughter of Zion,
for the transgressions of Israel were
found in you.

¹⁴Therefore, send farewell gifts to More-
sheth-gath;
the houses of Achzib will prove decep-
tive
to the kings of Israel.

¹⁵I will again bring a conqueror against
you,
O dweller of Mareshah.
The glory of Israel will come to Adullam.

¹⁶Shave yourselves bald and cut off your
hair
in mourning for your precious children;
make yourselves as bald as an eagle,
for they will go from you into exile.

■ MIC 1:9 [PROPHECY] Samaria's wound would reach Judah and come to the gate of Jerusalem → 2KI 18:13-17; IS 36:1-2 · MEDIUM p.---

■ MIC 1:13 [PROPHECY] Lachish would have to flee with chariots from the enemy → HISTORY: Sennacherib's Lachish reliefs and annals · MEDIUM

■ MIC 1:13 [ARCHAEOLOGY] Lachish Reliefs of Sennacherib → FIELD NOTES p.5

FIELD NOTES · ARCHAEOLOGY · CONFIDENCE: HIGH

THE LACHISH RELIEFS

MICAH 1:9 TO 16 · 2 KINGS 18:13 TO 14 · ISAIAH 36:1 TO 2 · 2 CHRONICLES 32:9



Photo: Mike Peel (www.mikepeel.net). Lachish Relief, British Museum, Room 10. Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution Share Alike (CC BY-SA 4.0). Source: Wikimedia Commons, File: Lachish_Relief_British_Museum_10.jpg. Used unaltered except for size.

WHAT IT IS

A series of carved stone panels from the palace of the Assyrian king Sennacherib. They show his army attacking the walled city of Lachish in Judah: siege ramps, battering rams, archers, and families of Judah being led away into exile.

HOW OLD IT IS

Carved about 700 to 690 BC for Sennacherib's palace, soon after his army captured Lachish in 701 BC.

WHAT MICAH WARNED VS WHAT THE STONE SHOWS

Micah 1:13 tells Lachish to hitch up the chariot horses and run. The reliefs show Lachish under attack and falling. Micah 1:16 says the people will go into exile. The reliefs show families of Judah marched away. Micah 1:9 says the disaster reaches the gate of Jerusalem. Sennacherib's own record says he trapped Hezekiah in Jerusalem but never says he took it.

WHERE AND WHEN FOUND

Dug up by the British explorer Austen Henry Layard in the 1840s in the ruins of Sennacherib's palace at Nineveh, in modern Iraq.

WHERE IT IS TODAY

The British Museum in London, Room 10.

WHAT IT CONFIRMS

The Bible says the king of Assyria attacked Lachish and sent messengers from there to Hezekiah in Jerusalem. Sennacherib was so proud of taking Lachish that he put it on his palace walls.

THE DIRT AGREES

Archaeologists at Tel Lachish in Israel found the actual Assyrian siege ramp, arrowheads, and sling stones from the battle.

THE PART HE LEFT OUT

Sennacherib's prism brags that he shut Hezekiah up in Jerusalem like a bird in a cage, but it never claims he took the city. The Bible explains why in 2 Kings 19:35 to 36.

WHAT IT DOES NOT PROVE

Micah never names Sennacherib or gives a date. Most scholars read Micah 1:10 to 16 as the Assyrian march through the Judean foothills, and the reliefs show that march at Lachish.

GOD SPEAKING

2

CHAPTER 2 IN 30 SECONDS

The rich are lying awake at night plotting how to take their neighbor's house, which is basically a real estate deal with extra steps. When Micah calls it out, the crowd tells him to stop preaching. Micah fires back that if a guy showed up promising free wine and beer, they would hire him as pastor on the spot.

WOE TO OPPRESSORS

¹Woe to those who devise iniquity
and plot evil on their beds!
At morning's light they accomplish it
because the power is in their hands.
²They covet fields and seize them;
they take away houses.
They deprive a man of his home,
a fellow man of his inheritance.
³Therefore this is what Yahweh says:
"I am planning against this nation a disaster
from which you cannot free your necks.
Then you will not walk so proudly,
for it will be a time of calamity.
⁴In that day they will take up a proverb
against you
and taunt you with this bitter lamentation:
"We are utterly ruined!
He has changed the portion of my people.
How He has removed it from me!
He has allotted our fields to traitors."

⁵Therefore, you will have no one in the
assembly of Yahweh
to divide the land by lot.

REPROOF OF FALSE PROPHETS // EZEKIEL 13:1-16

⁶"Do not preach," they preach.
"Do not preach these things;
disgrace will not overtake us."
⁷Should it be said, O house of Jacob,
"Is the Spirit of Yahweh impatient?
Are these the things He does?"

Do not My words bring good
to him who walks uprightly?

⁸But of late My people have risen up
like an enemy:
You strip off the splendid robe

from unsuspecting passersby
like men returning from battle.

⁹You drive the women of My people
from their pleasant homes.
You take away My blessing
from their children forever.

¹⁰Arise and depart,
for this is not your place of rest,
because its defilement brings
destruction—
a grievous destruction!
¹¹If a man of wind were to come
and say falsely,
"I will preach to you of wine and strong
drink,"
he would be just the preacher for this
people!

THE REMNANT OF ISRAEL // MICAH 5:7-15

¹²I will surely gather all of you, O Jacob;
I will collect the remnant of Israel.
I will bring them together like sheep in a
pen,
like a flock in the midst of its pasture—
a noisy throng.
¹³One who breaks open the way
will go up before them;
they will break through the gate,
and go out by it.
Their King will pass through before them,
Yahweh as their leader.

3

CHAPTER 3 IN 30 SECONDS

Micah goes after the rulers, the priests and the paid prophets all at once, and it is not a gentle sermon. He says they treat people like meat for a stew and only preach peace to whoever feeds them. The chapter ends with Jerusalem plowed like a farm field, a warning so memorable that about a hundred years later it saved Jeremiah's life.

RULERS AND PROPHETS CONDEMNED

¹Then I said:
"Hear now, O leaders of Jacob,
you rulers of the house of Israel.
Should you not know justice?
²You hate good and love evil.
You tear the skin from my people
and strip the flesh from their bones.
³You eat the flesh of my people

PROPHECIES FULFILLED IN SCRIPTURE

END TIMES PROPHECIES

DEMONIC

GOD SPEAKING

after stripping off their skin
and breaking their bones.

You chop them up like flesh for the cooking pot,
like meat in a cauldron."

⁴ Then they will cry out to Yahweh,
but He will not answer them.

At that time He will hide His face from them

because of the evil they have done.

⁵ This is what Yahweh says:

"As for the prophets
who lead My people astray,
who proclaim peace
while they chew with their teeth,
but declare war against one
who puts nothing in their mouths:

⁶ Therefore night will come over you without visions,

and darkness without divination.

The sun will set on these prophets,
and the daylight will turn black over them.

⁷ Then the seers will be ashamed
and the diviners will be disgraced.

They will all cover their mouths
because there is no answer from God."

⁸ As for me, however, I am filled with power
by the Spirit of Yahweh,
with justice and courage,
to declare to Jacob his transgression
and to Israel his sin.

⁹ Now hear this, O leaders of the house of Jacob

and rulers of the house of Israel,
who despise justice
and pervert all that is right,

¹⁰ who build Zion with bloodshed
and Jerusalem with iniquity.

¹¹ Her leaders judge for a bribe,
her priests teach for a price,
and her prophets practice divination for money.

Yet they lean upon Yahweh, saying,

"Is not Yahweh among us?

No disaster can come upon us."

MIC 3:6 [DEMONIC] False prophets lose their visions and the diviners are disgraced

¹² Therefore, because of you,
Zion will be plowed like a field,
Jerusalem will become a heap of rubble,
and the temple mount a wooded ridge.

4

CHAPTER 4 IN 30 SECONDS

Plot twist. After all the doom, Micah zooms out to the last days, when the nations stream to God and melt their weapons into farm tools. Everybody gets their own vine and fig tree, and nobody has to lock the door. Then he tells Jerusalem they are headed to Babylon, which is a strange travel brochure, but God promises to rescue them there.

THE MOUNTAIN OF THE HOUSE OF YAHWEH //

ISAIAH 2:1-4

¹ In the last days the mountain of the house of Yahweh
will be established as the chief of the mountains;

it will be raised above the hills,
and the peoples will stream to it.

² And many nations will come and say:

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of Yahweh,

to the house of the God of Jacob.

He will teach us His ways,
so that we may walk in His paths."

For the law will go forth from Zion
and the word of Yahweh from Jerusalem.

³ Then He will judge between many peoples
and arbitrate for strong nations far and wide.

Then they will beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks.

Nation will no longer take up the sword
against nation,
nor will they train anymore for war.

⁴ And each man will sit under his own vine
and under his own fig tree,
with no one to frighten him.

MIC 3:11 [DEMONIC] Jerusalem's prophets practice divination for money

MIC 3:12 [PROPHECY] Zion would be plowed like a field; Jerusalem become a heap of ruins → 2KI 25:9-10; JER 26:18 p. -

MIC 4:1 [PROPHECY] In the last days nations would stream to Yahweh's mountain, and swords would be beaten into plowshares → STILL TO COME

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

PROPHECIES FULFILLED IN SCRIPTURE

OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW GOD SPEAKING

For the mouth of Yahweh of Hosts has spoken.

⁵ Though all the nations
may walk in the name of their gods,
yet we will walk in the name of Yahweh
our God
forever and ever.

THE RESTORATION OF ZION // ZECHARIAH 8:1-23

⁶ "On that day," declares Yahweh,
"I will gather the lame;
I will assemble the outcast,
even those whom I have afflicted.

⁷ And I will make the lame into a remnant,
the outcast into a strong nation.
Then Yahweh will rule over them in Mount
Zion
from that day and forever.

⁸ And you, O watchtower of the flock,
O stronghold of the Daughter of Zion—
the former dominion will be restored to
you;
sovereignty will come to the Daughter of
Jerusalem."

⁹ Why do you now cry aloud?
Is there no king among you?
Has your counselor perished
so that anguish grips you like a woman
in labor?

¹⁰ Writhe in agony, O Daughter of Zion,
like a woman in labor.
For now you will leave the city
and camp in the open fields.
You will go to Babylon;
there you will be rescued;
there Yahweh will redeem you
from the hand of your enemies!

¹¹ But now many nations
have assembled against you,
saying, "Let her be defiled,
and let us feast our eyes on Zion."

¹² But they do not know the thoughts of
Yahweh
or understand His plan,
for He has gathered them
like sheaves to the threshing floor.
¹³ Rise and thresh, O Daughter of Zion,
for I will give you horns of iron

and hooves of bronze
to break to pieces many peoples.
Then you will devote their gain to Yahweh,
their wealth to the Lord of all the earth.

5

CHAPTER 5 IN 30 SECONDS

The most famous chapter in the book. A tiny town called Bethlehem, so small it barely made the map, gets picked to produce a Ruler whose origins go back to eternity. About seven hundred years later the chief priests quoted this exact verse to King Herod, which did not make Herod's week any better.

A RULER FROM BETHLEHEM // MATTHEW 2:1-12

¹ Now, O daughter of troops,
mobilize your troops;
for a siege is laid against us!
With a rod they will strike the cheek
of the judge of Israel.
² But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come forth for Me
One to be ruler over Israel—
One whose origins are of old,
from the days of eternity.

³ Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of His brothers will return
to the children of Israel.

⁴ He will stand and shepherd His flock
in the strength of Yahweh,
in the majestic name of Yahweh His
God.

And they will dwell securely,
for then His greatness will extend
to the ends of the earth.

⁵ And He will be our peace
when Assyria invades our land
and tramples our citadels.
We will raise against it seven shepherds,

■ MIC 5:1 [PROPHECY] The judge of Israel would be struck on the cheek with a rod → MT 27:30; MK 15:19 · MEDIUM p.-

■ MIC 5:2 [PROPHECY] Born in Bethlehem → MT 2:1-6 p.-

■ MIC 5:2 [PROPHECY] Ruler in Israel → LK 1:33 p.-

■ MIC 5:2 [PROPHECY] From everlasting → JN 8:58 p.-

■ MIC 5:2 [QUOTED] Quoted in the New Testament → MT 2:6 p.-

■ MIC 5:2 [ALLUDED TO] The New Testament refers to this → JN 7:42 p.-

■ MIC 5:4 [PROPHECY] The Ruler would shepherd His flock in the strength of Yahweh, His greatness would reach the ends of the earth, and He would be our peace → JN 10:11; EPH 2:14 · MEDIUM p.-

■ MIC 4:10 [PROPHECY] Zion would go to Babylon and there Yahweh would rescue her → 2KI 25:11; EZR 1:1-3 p.-

MESSIANIC PROPHECIES DEMONIC GOD SPEAKING

even eight leaders of men.

⁶ And they will rule the land of Assyria with the sword,
and the land of Nimrod with the blade drawn.

So He will deliver us
when Assyria invades our land
and marches into our borders.

THE REMNANT OF JACOB // MICAH 2:12-13

⁷ Then the remnant of Jacob will be
in the midst of many peoples
like dew from Yahweh,
like showers on the grass,
which do not wait for man
or linger for mankind.

⁸ Then the remnant of Jacob will be
among the nations,
in the midst of many peoples,
like a lion among the beasts of the forest,
like a young lion among flocks of sheep,
which tramples and tears as it passes
through,
with no one to rescue them.

⁹ Your hand will be lifted over your foes,
and all your enemies will be cut off.

¹⁰ "In that day,"
declares Yahweh,
"I will remove your horses from among
you
and wreck your chariots.

¹¹ I will remove the cities of your land
and tear down all your strongholds.

¹² I will cut the sorceries from your hand,
and you will have no fortune-tellers.

¹³ I will also cut off the carved images
and sacred pillars from among you,
so that you will no longer bow down
to the work of your own hands.

¹⁴ I will root out the Asherah poles from
your midst
and demolish your cities.

¹⁵ I will take vengeance in anger and wrath
upon the nations that have not obeyed
Me."

MIC 5:12 [DEMONIC] God will cut off sorceries and fortune tellers from His people

MIC 5:13 [DEMONIC] God will destroy carved images, sacred pillars, and Asherah poles

6

CHAPTER 6 IN 30 SECONDS

God takes His people to court, and the mountains are the jury. His opening question is basically, What did I ever do to you? The people wonder if God wants rams, rivers of oil or even their firstborn, and God answers with the simplest job description ever written: do justice, love mercy, walk humbly.

THE CASE AGAINST ISRAEL

¹ Hear now what Yahweh says:

"Arise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

² Hear, O mountains, Yahweh's indictment,
you enduring foundations of the earth.
For Yahweh has a case against His people,
and He will argue it against Israel:

³ 'My people, what have I done to you?
Testify against Me how I have wearied
you!

⁴ For I brought you up from the land of
Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of
slavery.

I sent Moses before you,
as well as Aaron and Miriam.

⁵ My people, remember what Balak king of
Moab counseled
and what Balaam son of Beor answered.
Remember your journey from Shittim to
Gilgal,
so that you may acknowledge the right-
eousness of Yahweh."

⁶ With what shall I come before Yahweh
when I bow before the God on high?
Should I come to Him with burnt offerings,
with year-old calves?

⁷ Would Yahweh be pleased with thou-
sands of rams,
with ten thousand rivers of oil?

Shall I present my firstborn for my trans-
gression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my
soul?

⁸ He has shown you, O man, what is good.

MIC 6:7 [DEMONIC] Shall I give my firstborn child as an offering for my sin

PROPHETIC FORESHADOW DEMONIC OLD TESTAMENT QUOTED IN THE NEW GOD SPEAKING

And what does Yahweh require of you
but to act justly, to love mercy,
and to walk humbly with your God?

THE PUNISHMENT OF ISRAEL

⁹ The voice of Yahweh calls out to the city
(and it is sound wisdom to fear Your
name):

"Heed the rod

and the One who ordained it.

¹⁰ *Can I forget any longer,
O house of the wicked,
the treasures of wickedness
and the short measure, which is ac-
cursed?*

¹¹ *Can I excuse dishonest scales
or bags of false weights?*

¹² *For the wealthy of the city
are full of violence,
and its residents speak lies;
their tongues are deceitful in their
mouths.*

¹³ *Therefore I am striking you severely,
to ruin you because of your sins.*

¹⁴ *You will eat but not be satisfied,
and your hunger will remain with you.
What you acquire, you will not preserve;
and what you save, I will give to the
sword.*

¹⁵ *You will sow but not reap;
you will press olives but not anoint your-
selves with oil;
you will tread grapes but not drink the
wine.*

¹⁶ *You have kept the statutes of Omri
and all the practices of Ahab's house;
you have followed their counsel.*

*Therefore I will make you a desolation,
and your inhabitants an object of con-
tempt;
you will bear the scorn of the nations."*

7

CHAPTER 7 IN 30 SECONDS

Micah looks around and cannot find one honest person, not even at the family dinner table. But he refuses to quit: I will look to Yahweh. The book ends by asking the same question Micah's own name asks, Who is a God like You? He is the God who throws your sins into the deepest part of the sea, and as Corrie ten Boom put it, then posts a sign that says No Fishing.

ISRAEL'S GREAT MISERY // MATTHEW 10:34-39;
LUKE 12:49-53

¹ Woe is me!

For I am like one gathering summer fruit
at the gleanings of the vineyard;
there is no cluster to eat,
no early fig that I crave.

² The godly man has perished from the
earth;
there is no one upright among men.
They all lie in wait for blood;
they hunt one another with a net.

³ Both hands are skilled at evil;
the prince and the judge demand a
bribe.

When the powerful utters his evil desire,
they all conspire together.

⁴ The best of them is like a brier;
the most upright is sharper than a
hedge of thorns.

The day for your watchmen has come,
the day of your visitation.
Now is the time of their confusion.

⁵ Do not rely on a friend;
do not trust in a companion.

Seal the doors of your mouth
from her who lies in your arms.

⁶ *For a son dishonors his father,
a daughter rises against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-
in-law.*

*A man's enemies are the members
of his own household.*

ISRAEL'S CONFESSION AND COMFORT

⁷ But as for me, I will look to Yahweh;

■ MIC 7:6 [PROPHECY] A man's enemies would be the people of his own household → MT 10:35-36; LK 12:53
MEDIUM p.-

■ MIC 7:6 [QUOTED] Quoted in the New Testament → MT 10:35-36 p.-

■ MIC 7:6 [QUOTED] Quoted in the New Testament → LK 12:53 p.-

■ MIC 6:16 [DEMONIC] Judah follows the ways of Omri and Ahab's house

GOD SPEAKING

I will wait for the God of my salvation.
My God will hear me.

⁸ Do not gloat over me, my enemy!
Though I have fallen, I will arise;
though I sit in darkness,
Yahweh will be my light.

⁹ Because I have sinned against Him,
I must endure the rage of Yahweh,
until He argues my case
and executes justice for me.
He will bring me into the light;
I will see His righteousness.

¹⁰ Then my enemy will see
and will be covered with shame—
she who said to me,
“Where is Yahweh your God?”
My eyes will see her;
at that time she will be trampled
like mud in the streets.

¹¹ The day for rebuilding your walls will
come—
the day for extending your boundary.

¹² On that day they will come to you
from Assyria and the cities of Egypt,
even from Egypt to the Euphrates,
from sea to sea and mountain to moun-
tain.

¹³ Then the earth will become desolate
because of its inhabitants,
as the fruit of their deeds.

GOD'S COMPASSION ON ISRAEL

¹⁴ Shepherd with Your staff Your people,
the flock of Your inheritance.
They live alone in a woodland,
surrounded by pastures.
Let them graze in Bashan and Gilead,
as in the days of old.

¹⁵ As in the days when you came out of
Egypt,
I will show My wonders.

¹⁶ Nations will see and be ashamed,
deprived of all their might.
They will put their hands over their
mouths,
and their ears will become deaf.

¹⁷ They will lick the dust like a snake,
like reptiles slithering on the ground.
They will come trembling from their
strongholds

in the presence of Yahweh our God;
they will tremble in fear of You.

¹⁸ Who is a God like You,
who pardons iniquity
and passes over the transgression
of the remnant of His inheritance—
who does not retain His anger forever,
because He delights in loving devotion?

¹⁹ He will again have compassion on us;
He will vanquish our iniquities.

You will cast out all our sins
into the depths of the sea.

²⁰ You will show faithfulness to Jacob
and loving devotion to Abraham,
as You swore to our fathers
from the days of old.