

MICAH – CHAPTERS 4-5 – The LORD’s Reign in Zion; Zion’s Future Triumph; The Coming Messiah; Judgment on Israel’s Enemies!

OBSERVATION

INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Monday 7:00pm, H 105 (1st floor, High School--foot of stairs, behind the gym, by the vending machine area), Tuesday 7:00am, Family, Room, CCCM – Phil Twente, cell #714 425 9221; email – ptwente@gmail.com For past studies, audio plus notes, go to: <http://www.missioncalvary.com/> Click on “Bible Studies” on the left column. References include commentaries by numerous pastor/teachers.

Micah name is “Who is like Jehovah”, was contemporary with Isaiah, Amos and Hosea. Micah has been called “Isaiah in short hand”- a shorter, abridged edition! We need to hear it again. We should be more concerned with people being established in truth, rather than being impressed with new insights!
Chapters 1-3 – Pronouncing Grievous Judgment;
Chapters 4-5 – Promising Glorious Restoration;
Chapters 6-7 – Proclaiming Gracious Reconciliation

The LORD’s Reign in Zion; vs. 1-5

Mic 4:1 *Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the LORD’s house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And peoples shall flow to it.*

Mic 4:2 *Many nations shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion the law shall go forth, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.*

Mic 4:3 *He shall judge between many peoples, And rebuke strong nations afar off; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore.*

Mic 4:4 *But everyone shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree, And no one shall make them afraid; For the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.*

Mic 4:5 *For all people walk each in the name of his god, But we will walk in the name of the LORD our God Forever and ever.*

Zion’s Future Triumph; vs. 6-13

Mic 4:6 *"In that day," says the LORD, "I will assemble the lame, I will gather the outcast And those whom I have afflicted;*

Mic 4:7 *I will make the lame a remnant, And the outcast a strong nation; So the LORD will reign over them in Mount Zion From now on, even forever.*

v. 1 In the last days - The Temple will be in Jerusalem and many will go there. Jesus refers as *“the tribulation, the great one”*. Mt. 24:20 We refer to it as the Great Tribulation, with 7 years of trouble, followed by a 1,000 year reign of Jesus Christ. The darker it became in Israel, the greater the light ahead.

v. 2 Many nations - This was in part fulfilled when so many proselyted servants of several nations, in love to their Jewish masters, and more to the God of the Jews, came up with them from Jerusalem. Come - So the Jews, released from captivity, encouraged each other; which was a fulfilling of this prophecy in part; the conversion of the multitude of the Gentiles to Christ, was a more eminent fulfilling of it. To the mountain - To the temple at Jerusalem, a type of Christ and the gospel church. From Jerusalem - In Jerusalem is declared the only way of worshipping God, and from thence the only law of right worship shall go forth, when the Messiah is come.

v. 3 He - The Messiah shall act as a judge and king. Rebuke - So Christ commissioned his apostles, to teach all nations. The instruments of war will be turned to agricultural implements. No people starving because of corruption! **We will be able to take the locks off our door then!**

v. 4 Everyone - The redeemed of the Lord, redeemed from Babylonian captivity, the type of a greater redemption by Christ. Shall sit - That is, they shall enjoy peace, security and plenty. This was more fully made good in the gospel – days. **A time of international peace as well as personal peace! How different Israel will be in that day!**

v. 5 All people walk - It is the practice of all nations, to serve their gods. Walk each in the name - Seek the Lord, embrace his law and worship. In the past they walked by their own gods, but in the future they will walk by the One True and Living God, forever and ever!

v. 6 In that day – still speaking of the millennial kingdom, speaking of Israel. the lame - The Jews weakened with the hard usage of oppressing conquerors. The outcast - Captive Judah; driven out, of their own land. And Christ will much more gather to his fold those who were captives to Satan.

v. 7 TA remnant - Which as they are preserved for a seed, so they take root and increase, and continue to the coming of the Messiah. **God always preserves a remnant. Egypt and Elijah, examples.**

Mic 4:3 *He shall judge between many peoples, And rebuke strong nations afar off; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore.* This verse is inscribed on the the UN building in New York City. **The problem is, the left out the first part of the verse, which is, of course, the key to the entire verse. No matter how organized or politically involved the church becomes, it will not be able to usher in peace on this earth. There won’t be peace nationally until the Prince of Peace comes back! The only way you or I can have peace is to allow Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, into our lives personally. And the only way the world can experience peace globally is for Jesus to come back and reign in Jerusalem—as seen from this prophecy!**

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Mic 4:8 And you, O tower of the flock, The stronghold of the daughter of Zion, To you shall it come, Even the former dominion shall come, The kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem."

Mic 4:9 Now why do you cry aloud? Is there no king in your midst? Has your counselor perished? For pangs have seized you like a woman in labor.

Mic 4:10 Be in pain, and labor to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, Like a woman in birth pangs. For now you shall go forth from the city, You shall dwell in the field, And to Babylon you shall go. There you shall be delivered; There the LORD will redeem you From the hand of your enemies.

Mic 4:11 Now also many nations have gathered against you, Who say, "Let her be defiled, And let our eye look upon Zion."

Mic 4:12 But they do not know the thoughts of the LORD, Nor do they understand His counsel; For He will gather them like sheaves to the threshing floor.

Mic 4:13 "Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion; For I will make your horn iron, And I will make your hooves bronze; You shall beat in pieces many peoples; I will consecrate their gain to the LORD, And their substance to the Lord of the whole earth."

v. 8 God is probably addressing the land itself. O tower - One tower put for the whole city Jerusalem. The strong - hold - Ophel, a strong fort, is likewise put for the whole city. The former dominion; the government (after seventy years captivity) shall return to the former royal family, and continue in it 'till Shiloh come. This, in the type was fulfilled, under Zerubbabel and his successors; but the whole antitype concerns the Messiah's kingdom.

v. 9 It is thought the next two verses deal with the Babylonian captivity of the Southern Kingdom under King Nebuchadnezzar, looking beyond the impending captivity of the northern ten tribes by Assyria. Now - Now I have promised such great things to you. No king - Thou hast lost thy king Zedekiah, but thy God, thy king is with thee. Thy counsellor - Has your counselor perished? - Yet the Wonderful Counselor is with you. Messiah, the wisdom of His father, has the conduct of your sufferings, deliverance and re-establishment.

v. 10 In pain - Thou shalt have troubles, sorrows, and dangers in the wars against the Babylonians, and in the captivity under them. Now - Shortly. In the field - In their journey to Babylon they were forced to lodge in the fields. Delivered - By Cyrus, by Darius, and by Artaxerxes; and this was a type of a greater deliverance. Redeem - The Hebrew word points out a redemption by the next kinsman, and so minds us of the Messiah, the great redeemer of the church. **Cf. Mt. 24:22; Is. 44:28; 2 Chron. 36:22-23**

v. 11 Now Micah moves far into the future, the time of the Great Tribulation. These final three verses look forward to the war which concludes the Great Tribulation Period, the war of Armageddon. - The time is at hand. Defiled - Let her be polluted with blood, and let us enter, sack and destroy her temple and palaces. Look - With delight on her destruction. **Cf. Joel 3:12-17; Zech. 12:1-9 & 14: 1-9;** Ezekiel 38 and 39.

v. 12 They are coming against Israel blindly, not knowing that God is bringing them there for judgment. The thoughts - The design of the holy, just and faithful God. As the sheaves - The husbandman gathers the sheaves into the floor to thresh them; so God in due time will bring his enemies together, that they may be bruised, broken and destroyed. The enemies will be stomped!

v. 13 Their help will come from the Lord, who made the heavens and the earth, not from any earthly nations. And thresh - The future strength of the church employed in subduing her enemies, is here foretold. Iron - This expresses the strength of the church firm as iron, to beat down her enemies. Bronze - By this figurative speech, is the strength of Zion expressed, treading underfoot, and breaking the power of her enemies in pieces. And I - I, the church. Their gain - The spoils of my conquered enemies.

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INTERPRETATION

APPLICATION

Chapter Five Continues the Subject begun in Chapter four, promising the future glory because of past promises.

Mic 5:1 Now gather yourself in troops, O daughter of troops; He has laid siege against us; They will strike the judge of Israel with a rod on the cheek.

The Coming Messiah – The Future King! vs. 2-4

Mic 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting."

Mic 5:3 Therefore He shall give them up, Until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; Then the remnant of His brethren Shall return to the children of Israel.

Mic 5:4 And He shall stand and feed His flock In the strength of the LORD, In the majesty of the name of the LORD His God; And they shall abide, For now He shall be great To the ends of the earth;

Judgment on Israel’s Enemies vs. 5-15

Mic 5:5 And this One shall be peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land, And when he treads in our palaces, Then we will raise against him Seven shepherds and eight princely men.

Mic 5:6 They shall waste with the sword the land of Assyria, And the land of Nimrod at its entrances; Thus He shall deliver us from the Assyrian, When he comes into our land And when he treads within our borders.

Mic 5:7 Then the remnant of Jacob Shall be in the midst of many peoples, Like dew from the LORD, Like showers on the grass, That tarry for no man Nor wait for the sons of men.

v. 1 Now gather yourself - Since this must be done, do it quickly. O daughter of troops - Nineveh or Babylon. He - Sennacherib, or Nebuchadnezzar. He - The proud, oppressive enemy. **The judge - The king. Of Israel, the final king, Zedekiah** - Not the ten tribes, though they are actually called by this name, but the two tribes that adhered to David's family.

v. 2 The Lord says, let me tell you about your next King! Bethlehem - Bethlehem of Judah was called Ephrathah, from the fruitfulness of the land where it stood: the word whence it is derived importing fruitfulness. You are little - If you are the least in other respects in this you are honored above them all. Ruler - King and sovereign. In Israel - Amidst the Israel of God. Going forth - Whose generation, as He is the Son of God, equal with His father, is Eternal. **This verse is the sole basis for directing the wise men to Bethlehem! Cf. Is. 7:14; 9:6; Psalm 90:2; Prov. 8:23-25; Mt. 1:23; John 8:58; 16:28**

v. 3 Now there is an interval which takes place between the time of Christ's rejection and the time of His return as the King to rule on the earth! - God. Give them up - To the Chaldeans. She - The daughter of Zion, compared here to a woman in travail, shall be delivered out of captivity. His brethren - The brethren of the Messiah. Those of Judah and Benjamin who were carried captive. **The Jews will be regathered from their worldwide dispersion.**

v. 4 Here the Lord Jesus is depicted as the Shepherd who feeds His flock – He is the Shepherd of the church and also of Israel. **The Good Shepherd – Ps. 22; The Great Shepherd – Ps. 23; and the Chief Shepherd Ps. 24.**

v. 5 This One - The Messiah. The peace - Which is promised to the people of God; all their deliverances are not only for his sake, but effected by his power. Shall tread in our palaces - Which Sennacherib did in all the cities of Judah, except Jerusalem. We - Hezekiah, and with him the prophets and people, shall prevail with God to send deliverance. Seven shepherds - A certain number put for an uncertain. **Possibly, the seven Maccabees, Mattathias, and his five sons, and Hyrcanus, the son of Simon.**

v. 6 They - The seven shepherds, and eight principal men, those great instruments of God's revenge, and his church's deliverance. Treads in our palaces - So did Merodach Baladan, king of Babylon. The land of Nimrod - The same with the land of Assyria. The entrance - The fortified frontiers. In this manner shall he, the Messiah, deliver the Jews, His people. The Assyrian - **The type of all other enemies, to the people of God.**

v. 7. The dew and rain refer to the blessing the people of Israel will be among the nations. As this was fulfilled in the type, before the gospel was preached to all nations, so it hath been, now is, and ever shall be fulfilled in ages to come. God's remnant shall be a blessing to the places they live in.

V. 5:6 "They shall waste with the sword the land of Assyria -continues the prediction of the last days when "the Assyrian" represents the confederacy of nations which will come against Israel at the end of the Tribulation period. Israel, strengthened by their Shepherd, will not only repulse the attack but will carry the battle into enemy territory.

It is interesting to see how Micah completely **sets forth Christ: first, as the One to be born in Bethlehem.** When He was born on earth, **He came in humility.** We need to note that He humbled Himself (see [Php 2:5-8](#)). We don't humble ourselves; sometimes some other people humble us, **but Christ humbled Himself.** There was an emptying on the part of Christ. Of what did He empty Himself? Not His deity. That little baby, reclining so helplessly on His mother's bosom, could have spoken this universe out of existence. He is God of very God and man of very man, but He limited Himself. Self-limitation was something that He took willingly. We do not limit ourselves willingly. In fact, we expand ourselves. We are aggressive. We want to win. We want to be on top. Man is self-assertive. He is self-centered. He is selfish. **But Jesus Christ is the Shepherd. He was born not in a royal city or in the capital, but in the insignificant town of Bethlehem—and in a stable.** That is no place for a king to be born! When Christ came to earth, He emptied Himself of His glory.

Second, Micah indicates that He is the eternal One "whose goings forth have been from ... everlasting."

Third, Micah depicts Him as the Shepherd who came to die for His sheep and to watch over His own.

And finally, when He comes again, He will be the Chief Shepherd, coming in might and power and glory to deliver His people.

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Mic 5:8 And the remnant of Jacob Shall be among the Gentiles, In the midst of many peoples, Like a lion among the beasts of the forest, Like a young lion among flocks of sheep, Who, if he passes through, Both treads down and tears in pieces, And none can deliver.

Mic 5:9 Your hand shall be lifted against your adversaries, And all your enemies shall be cut off.

Mic 5:10 "And it shall be in that day," says the LORD, "That I will cut off your horses from your midst And destroy your chariots.

Mic 5:11 I will cut off the cities of your land And throw down all your strongholds.

Mic 5:12 I will cut off sorceries from your hand, And you shall have no soothsayers.

Mic 5:13 Your carved images I will also cut off, And your sacred pillars from your midst; You shall no more worship the work of your hands;

Mic 5:14 I will pluck your wooden images from your midst; Thus I will destroy your cities.

Mic 5:15 And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury On the nations that have not heard."

v. 8 Not the Israel of today, but God promises that in the future, when Israel is obeying the Lord, He will make them the head and not the tail of the nations! like a young lion - For strength and courage, which the beasts of the forest dare not oppose, and cannot resist.

v. 9 In that day God is going to give them victory over their enemies!

v. 10 In that day – this will come to pass “in that day”, which is still future.

v. 11 This probably means that God will remove all the things on which Israel had leaned for support. The cities - Cut off the occasion of fortifying their cities, thou shalt need no other defense than what I am to thee.

vs. 12-13 He is going to get rid of idolatry and false religion. They will worship only the living and true God..

v. 14 your wooden images - The groves which they abused by idolatrous worship.

v. 15 "The nations" are the nations who are persecuting His people. The Messiah will bring blessing and peace to the remnant of Israel and to the remnant of the other nations of the world who turn to Him, but He will "execute vengeance in anger and fury upon the nations that have not heard"—this, probably refers to the Great Tribulation period.

The world today is worshiping gods, and goddesses of sex, of power, of pleasure. The world today is caught up into the new ageism, Satanism, all kinds of occult, spirituous practices. These are the things that God is going to judge in vengeance, and in severe tribulation, in the last days. “And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury On the nations that have not heard.”

Psa 92:1-2 It is good to give thanks to the LORD, And to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; [2] To declare Your lovingkindness in the morning, And Your faithfulness every night,

"Revelation Song"

*Worthy is the, Lamb who was slain
Holy, Holy, is He. Sing a new song, to Him who sits on
Heaven's Mercy Seat [Repeat 2x]*

*[Chorus:]
Holy, Holy, Holy Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was, and is, and is to come With all creation I sing:
Praise to the King of Kings! You are my everything,
And I will adore You...! Yeah!*

*Clothed in rainbows, of living color Flashes of lightning,
rolls of thunder Blessing and honor, strength and
Glory and power be To You the Only Wise King, Yeah
[Repeat Chorus:]*

*Filled with wonder, Awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your Name Jesus, Your Name is Power
Breath, and Living Water Such a marvelous mystery
Yeah...*

*[Chorus:]
Holy, Holy, Holy Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was, and is, and is to come, With all creation I
sing: Praise to the King of Kings! You are my
everything, And – I - will - adore YOU...
[Chorus (Repeats)]*