

The Political Prophet

Chapter 7

Audio Lesson: Old Testament number 80



Objective: To understand the messages of the book of Micah.



“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.” . . . He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. Therefore I will look to the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation; My God will hear me.”

—Micah 5:2, 4, 7:7

The Book of Micah records three great sermons of the prophet Micah. This prophet was born and raised in farm country, but he was called to preach God’s words to the political and spiritual leaders of the capital cities of both Israel and Judah. He joined many of the other prophets in placing the blame for the moral and spiritual corruption of the people of God on the leaders of both of those Kingdoms.

In his first sermon, Micah invited all the earth to watch as God punished His people of Israel and Judah. Because they had not demonstrated His glory in their works, He would demonstrate His justice in their punishment. Then His glory would be revealed one day in their restoration. In his second and third sermons, Micah addressed the leaders of God’s people and explained how corrupt they had become. The only way they could be rescued from their failures was for God to send a perfect Ruler: the Messiah.



1. True or **false**? Unlike the other prophets, Micah was not a very good preacher.
2. **True** or false? Micah lived before the Babylonian captivity, about the same time as the prophet Isaiah.
3. **True** or false? Micah preached in the capital cities of the northern and southern kingdoms.
4. True or **false**? God always chooses well-educated people to preach to the well-educated, and uneducated people to preach to the uneducated.

Unless otherwise noted, choose one answer for each question.

5. The sermons in the book of Micah blame what kind of people? (*choose all that apply*)
 - a. Farmers
 - b. Government and civil leaders**
 - c. Enemies of God's people
 - d. Spiritual leaders**
6. What is the message of Micah's first sermon?
 - a. God will one day destroy the earth.
 - b. God wants to show the world through His people what He is like.**
 - c. The time of the Messiah would soon come.
 - d. Nineveh will be punished for its sins.
7. What does God do with His people when they do not reflect His character?
 - a. He destroys them.
 - b. He overlooks their sin and blesses them anyway.
 - c. He makes them work twice as hard to earn His favor.
 - d. He disciplines them to demonstrate His righteousness.**
8. What is the main subject of Micah's second sermon?
 - a. Governments**
 - b. Assyrians
 - c. Drought and famine
 - d. The end of time
9. What three kinds of leaders did Micah preach about?
 - a. Presidents, lawmakers, and tax collectors
 - b. Teachers, parents, and elders
 - c. Prophets, priests, and civil authorities**
 - d. Kings, military leaders, and police
10. What did Micah say about Israel's leaders?
 - a. They were doing a great job.
 - b. They were corrupt and unjust.**
 - c. They would be voted out of office by the people.
 - d. They needed to rule by force.

11. What did Micah accuse Israel's spiritual leaders of doing?

- a. **Practicing sorcery for money**
- b. Expecting some financial support for their godly ministry
- c. Trying to overthrow the government
- d. Preaching strict morality that the people were unable to obey.



Do you think it is possible for human beings to demonstrate for others what God's character is like? In what ways can we do that? Can you think of any examples of people who have done that for you?



Thank God that He made us in His image so that we could reflect who He is. Ask Him to develop His character in you more and more each day.



Going Deeper

1. Where did Micah place the blame for the moral corruption of the people of God? _____

2. What was his message to the civic or secular leaders of the people of God? _____

3. What was his message to the priests, who were the teachers of God's people? _____

4. What was his message to the prophets, who were to exhort the people to obey the Word of God? _____

5. How did he prophesy the ideal or perfect government of God? (Consider Micah 5:2, 4; 7:7)

6. What was unique about his prophecy of the coming of the Messiah? _____

7. What obstacle did this prophet address that was blocking the work of God? _____
