

Micah, part 2

Notes for 1 Aug

Sue Challen

Read: [Micah](#)

Please read chapters 1-7.

Notice the use of couplets and if it makes you slow and ponder more, notice the use of "Hear" or "Listen" as Micah gives a warning and then a message of hope. There are three main sections for these Micah 1 & 2, Micah 3 and Micah 6 & 7.

Also think how the study of this prophet has affected you. What is your favourite bit? We will have the opportunity for each to give a very small summary of your takeaways at the end.

Words and names have meaning, and they are important to the story or message.

- What is your experience of this or is it more obvious in other cultures?

Catherine has sent this next part on the Names of God. (Over to you C!)

- **Lord/Yahweh:** the covenant God whose iteration first appeared in Genesis 2. It is based on personal or corporate commitment of love. In Biblical narratives, it is the God who works through love.
- **Sovereign - Adoni:** "my lords" (note the plural form); derived from the word adon meaning ruler, master or owner. (This is interesting to me because of the terminology of Jesus saying we were "bought back" by his loving sacrifice.
- **The Lord's Spirit (Ruach Adoni):** the Breath of the Sovereign (Micah 3:8)
- **The Lord of Hosts (YHWH Tzvaot):** Micah 4:4 the Lord of Heaven's armies. (This has a different descriptor than El Shaddai)
- **The Lord our God - YHWH Eloheinu:** From the root Elohim (the might ones/the Lord Judges... Elohim first found in Genesis 1. Found in Micah 6:6 and in other spots in Micah. Elohim... majesty/power/creation and re-creation
- **EL:** Micah 7:18 - The strong or mighty One

Micah 2:12 - doesn't this just sound like what Yahweh did with Adam and Eve in Genesis 2?

Micah 3:4 - allowing the effects of the leaders breaking the covenant.

If we look at I Corinthians 14:3 - it would make sense that there would be such a reaction to the leaders who mislead their sheep

Other names in Micah

Micah means *Who is like God*. I wonder if this was given at birth or changed later. In Micah 1 there is a list of cities. These were in order of the path taken by the Assyrians when they attacked. They are symbolic of God's judgement sweeping through the region. The name is followed by a command.

Town	Meaning/sounds like	Command
Gath	Tell	Don't weep
Beth-leaphrah	House of Dust	Roll in Dust
Shaphir	Pleasant	Go as captive naked and ashamed
Zaanan	Come out	Don't come out
Beth-ezel	Adjoining house	Mourn as house has no support
Lachish	Team of horses	Harness horses
Maroth	Bitter	Anxiously wait for relief
Moreseth-gath	Gift/dowry	Send farewell gifts
Aczib	Deception	Deceived King of Isreal
Mareshah	Conqueror	A conqueror will come
Adullam was an area that was a retreat and a safe place. (David hid here from Saul)		
Samaria	Watch Tower/Mountain/Place	Blamed for Isreal's rebellion

- Please discuss your thoughts about the town or meaning or command

1st warning is judgement against social injustice, idolatry and oppression of poor.

2nd warning is denunciation of civic rulers, mercenary prophets and ungodly priests.

3rd warning is God's indictment against Isreal for breaking covenant laws, Forgetting past deliverances and being deceitful.

- Do you see a pattern building as Micah goes through these?

As a striking response, each is followed by a message of hope. The tone changes and the imagery is finally of what God will do to return His remnant to Him as a shepherd does his flock (Micah 7:14) and again the use of Mt Carmel which the people will understand. It means surrounded by a fruitful land.

Shema is another word which means to hear or listen but in Hebrew the word also implies action, focus and obedience.

In Micah we are being given so many lessons which were for the people, their leaders, priests, prophets and rulers but they are also relevant for our day and more importantly for each of us personally, we need to listen and act. We can also be assured of God's overwhelming love for us.

My favourite is still Micah 6:8 and 4:2-5 plus I have found new verses in this book which have become meaningful to me.

Discuss if we have time, I am interested!

- Does anyone know why our church's interpretation of end time prophecy only focuses on one religious group when we are experiencing other influences? The text about "even the very elect being deceived" explains Al to me!
- What about you? Please share your summary of what this Book means to you.
- Do you feel strengthened? ([1 Cor 14:3](#))

Pam will sing the chorus for us again (twice)...

See also

- <https://bibleproject.com/videos/micah/>

