

Bible Study Class
Clayton Presbyterian Church
Lesson 1 Micah

Introduction of Micah

The primary role of the prophets in the Bible was to speak with the people about the words and will of God in their specific situations. The prophets served as God's megaphones, declaring whatever God commanded them to say.

Read Deuteronomy 18:18-19

PART	CHAPTERS	TITLE	AUDIENCE
Section 1	chapters 1-2	Punishment and Rescue	All people
Section 2	chapters 3-5	Ultimate Blessing	Leaders of Israel
Section 3	chapters 6-7	God will forgive the remnant of his people	A personal plea for Israel to repent and return to God.

Micah will remind you that even when God seems distant and uninvolved, God still cares and offers hope to those who choose to remain faithful to him. Reading this book will remind you that God is still active in this world, and he will not allow sin to hinder his purposes.

Chapter 1 Prophet's first message, directed against Samaria, reaches to Jerusalem.

Read Micah 1: 1-4 The Lord comes to judge Israel and Judah.

The city of Moresheth-Gath was about 25 miles southwest of Jerusalem on the border lands between Judah and the Philistines. This means that the prophet Micah was like the prophet Amos, a man from the country sent to the city to bring the word of the Lord.

V1 Samaria is the capital of the Northern Kingdom. One of the golden calves is there.

Read 1 Kings 16:23-24

V 2 "All you people" is a call to all the world to hear how God is going to judge Samaria.

V 3 The Assyrians are God's instruments of judgment.

Read 2 Kings 18:1-6.

People feel safe as long as God stays in heaven.

Read Micah 1:5-9 Samaria left desolate in judgment

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V 5 Jerusalem with its temple is the appointed place of worship, but now it has become just another high place of heathen worship.

Read 2 Kings 17:3-18

V 6-7 The rest of the chapter speaks prophetically about the destruction of Samaria by Assyria.

Judgment on Judah

V 8-9 The following verses are a lamentation of Micah. The names of the towns are a word play.

Read Micah 1:10-16

Look at the map.

The shame of Judah's judgment is evident among the nations. Micah uses puns and plays on words to talk about the judgment coming upon the cities of Judah. These towns are clustered in the Shephelah - the lowlands between the coastal region and the mountains of Judah.

V 10 Gath means weep town.

V11 Shahir was a beautiful city.

V 12 Morath is a town where the people are bitter.

V 13 Lachish was about 4 miles from Micah's home. It means horse-town.

V 14 Akzib means cheat or lie.

V 15 Mareshah sounds in Hebrew like someone who takes possession like the person who wins a battle.

Read 1 Samuel 22:1-2

V16 God gives more orders for the people in Jerusalem.

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