

Micah 1:1-16

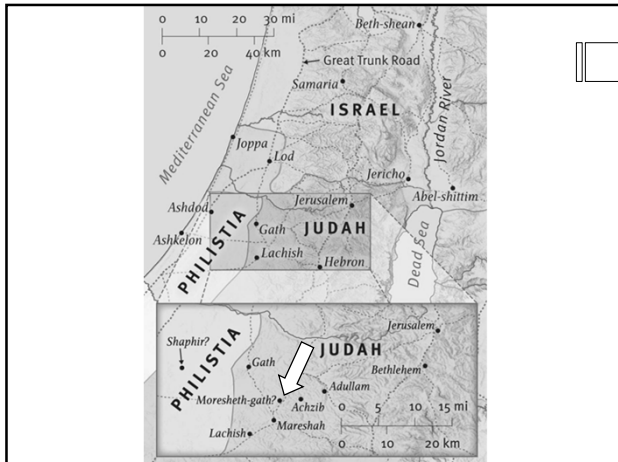
Finding Christ in Micah

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Who was Micah?

- “The word of the Lord... came to Micah” (v.1)
- A prophet is a spokesperson for God

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Who was Micah?

- From the southern kingdom Judah
- Prophesied around 735-715 BC
- Jotham (2 Kings 15:32-38), Ahaz (2 Kings 16-17), and Hezekiah (2 Kings 18-20)
- He lived through the destruction of the northern kingdom Israel (Samaria was destroyed in 722 BC)

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Who was Micah?

Micah's message:

- Confronting idolatry
 - Calling for orthodoxy
- Confronting social and economic injustice
 - Calling for orthopraxy
- The promise of the coming King, the Messiah

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The word of the LORD that came to Micah of Moreseth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

Hear, you peoples, all of you;
pay attention, O earth, and all that is in it,
and let the Lord GOD be a witness against you,
the Lord from his holy temple.

For behold, the LORD is coming out of his place, and will come down and tread upon the high places of the earth.
And the mountains will melt under him,
and the valleys will split open,
like wax before the fire,

like waters poured down a steep place.

All this is for the transgression of Jacob
and for 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?

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Therefore I will make Samaria a heap in the open country,
 a place for planting vineyards,
 and I will pour down her stones into the valley
 and uncover her foundations.
 All her carved images shall be beaten to pieces,
 all her wages shall be burned with fire,
 and all her idols I will lay waste,
 for from the fee of a prostitute she gathered them,
 and to the fee of a prostitute they shall return.

For this I will lament and wail;
 I will go stripped and naked;
 I will make lamentation like the jackals,
 and mourning like the ostriches.
 For her wound is incurable,
 and it has come to Judah;
 it has reached to the gate of my people,
 to Jerusalem.

7

Tell it not in Gath;
 weep not at all;
 in Beth-le-aphrah
 roll yourselves in the dust.
 Pass on your way,
 inhabitants of Shaphir,
 in nakedness and shame;
 the inhabitants of Zaanan
 do not come out;
 the lamentation of Beth-ezel
 shall take away from you its standing place.
 For the inhabitants of Maroth
 wait anxiously for good,
 because disaster has come down from the LORD
 to the gate of Jerusalem.

8

Harness the steeds to the chariots,
 inhabitants of Lachish;
 it was the beginning of sin
 to the daughter of Zion,
 for in you were found
 the transgressions of Israel.
 Therefore you shall give parting gifts
 to Moresheth-gath;
 the houses of Achzib shall be a deceitful thing
 to the kings of Israel.
 I will again bring a conqueror to you,
 inhabitants of Mareshah;
 the glory of Israel
 shall come to Adullam.
 Make yourselves bald and cut off your hair,
 for the children of your delight;
 make yourselves as bald as the eagle,
 for they shall go from you into exile.

Micah 1:1-16

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1. The Threat of Judgment: God charges his people with rebellion (v.2-7)
2. Micah's Christ-like Response: weeping for those who are lost (v.8-9)
 - Micah mourns over judgment to come despite the fact that it is deserved.
 - God also takes no pleasure even in the death of a wicked person (Ezekiel 18:32 and 33:11).
 - And Jesus lamented over Jerusalem, "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling" (Matthew 23:37-38).

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Micah 1:1-16

1. The Threat of Judgment: God charges his people with rebellion (v.2-7)
2. Micah's Christ-like Response: weeping for those who are lost (v.8-9)
3. More Warnings and a Call to Humility and Repentance (v.10-16)
 - V.10-15 refer to cities of Judah, the southern kingdom, that would be destroyed by the Assyrians.
 - V.16: A call to repentance and humility.

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Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
 and passing over transgression
 for the remnant of his inheritance?
 He does not retain his anger forever,
 because he delights in steadfast love.
 He will again have compassion on us;
 he will tread our iniquities underfoot.
 You will cast all our sins
 into the depths of the sea.
 You will show faithfulness to Jacob
 and steadfast love to Abraham,
 as you have sworn to our fathers
 from the days of old.

Micah 7:18-20

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