

MICAH: God's Judgment and Mercy

Sunday, October 4, 2020 — MICAH: Justice, Mercy and Hope series -- Msg 2 — Pastor Andrew Coleman

The Prophet Micah -- name means "Who is like LORD?" (Micah 7:8)

- He was a small-time preacher from a little town in the country.
- He preached for 25 to 40 years around 700 BC (same as big-time prophet Isaiah).
- He preached AGAINST the sins of idolatry and injustice in Judean society.
- He preached FOR repentance and righteousness. (6:8)
- God used Micah to bring King Hezekiah to repentance (Jeremiah 26:19) in his day.
- God used Micah's message to save the life of Jeremiah (Jeremiah 26:18) 100 years later!
- God uses Micah's message to proclaim the coming Messiah and His eternal reign (5:2-5).
- God uses Micah's message to give God's people hope of pardon and restoration.

KEY REALITIES Concerning God's Judgment as seen in Scripture:

- 1) Our society has a totally deficient understanding of God's judgment.
 - it is unknown ◦ it is unpopular ◦ it is underestimated ◦ it is maligned
(Deut 32:3-4; Revelation 19:1-2)
- 2) God's judgment reveals the sinfulness of man and the holiness of God.
- 3) A deficient understanding of God's judgment leads to a cheap understanding of God's mercy and grace.
- 4) A healthy understanding of God's judgment leads to a rich understanding of God's mercy and grace.

THE PROPHECY OF MICAH -- 3 Prophecy Cycles of Judgment and Mercy

The Setting: The people of Israel are in rebellion and have sinned against God.

The Outcome: God's mercy prevails in and over His judgment for those who are His own.

(And this is finalized at the Cross!)

- 1st Cycle : Destruction and Regathering** Micah chapters 1 & 2
- The Revelation of coming judgment (1:2-16)
 - The Reasons for coming judgment (2:1-11)
 - The Regathering after judgment (2:12-13) The Good Shepherd
- 2nd Cycle: Doom and Deliverance** Micah chapters 3, 4 & 5
- Doom for leaders, false prophets, Jerusalem (3:1-12)
 - Deliverance through the coming kingdom (4:1-:5:1)
 - The Deliverer (His first coming 5:2-3 and His second coming 5:4-15)
- 3rd Cycle : Denunciations and Salvation** Micah chapters 6 & 7
- God's indictments (6:1-5 and 6:9-16)
 - Israel's replies (6:6-8 and 7:1-10)
 - God's Exaltation and Salvation of His people (7:11-20)

NOTICE: In every cycle GOD'S MERCY PREVAILS in and over His judgment with His own!

The RESULTS of God's Word through Micah:

- 1) We see that God is serious about EVERYBODY'S sin and His holiness. (1:2)
- 2) We see that God's judgment is real and terrifying. (1:3-4 and 8-9)
vs 8-9 reveal the anguish, sorrow and incurable wound of our sin
- 3) We see that God's messengers care enough for people to warn and call them to God. (1:8)
there is a personal nature of God's judgment and His mercy
- 4) We see that God will keep His covenants with Abraham, Moses, David and all Israel by gathering and saving His people forever.

HOW DID GOD FULFILL HIS COVENANT-PROMISE OF MERCY?

THROUGH JESUS CHRIST -- GOD'S SUFFERING SERVANT WHO TOOK AWAY OUR SIN Isaiah chapter 53

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| <p>1 Who has believed what he has heard from us?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?</p> <p>2 For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
and no beauty that we should desire him.</p> <p>3 He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.</p> <p>4 Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.</p> <p>5 <u>But he was pierced for our transgressions;</u>
<u>he was crushed for our iniquities;</u>
<u>upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,</u>
<u>and with his wounds we are healed.</u></p> <p>6 All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
<u>and the LORD has laid on him</u>
<u>the iniquity of us all.</u></p> <p>7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he opened not his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,</p> | <p>and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he opened not his mouth.</p> <p>8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away;
and as for his generation, who considered
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people?</p> <p>9 And they made his grave with the wicked
and with a rich man in his death,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.</p> <p>10 Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;
he has put him to grief;
when his soul makes an offering for guilt,
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.</p> <p>11 Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,
make many to be accounted righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.</p> <p>12 Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because he poured out his soul to death
and was numbered with the transgressors;
<u>yet he bore the sin of many,</u>
<u>and makes intercession for the transgressors.</u></p> |
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2 Corinthians 5:21

For our sake he [God the Father] made him [God the Son] to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.