

THE TREMENDOUS COST OF DISOBEDIENCE

Sunday, January 24, 2021 — MICAH: Justice, Mercy and Hope series -- Msg 12 — Pastor Andrew Coleman

REVIEW: THE PROPHECY OF MICAH -- 3 Prophecy Cycles of God's Judgment and Mercy

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

1st Cycle : Destruction and Regathering	Micah chapters 1 & 2
2nd Cycle: Doom and Deliverance	Micah chapters 3, 4 & 5
3rd Cycle : Denunciations and Salvation	Micah chapters 6 & 7
-- God's <u>indictments</u>	(6:1-5 and 6:9-16)
-- Israel's <u>replies</u>	(6:6-8 and 7:1-10)
-- God's <u>Exaltation</u> and <u>Salvation</u> of His people	(7:11-20)

LAST WEEK:

The LORD declares His case against Israel for breaking their covenant with Him.
Despite God's repeated provision and rescue, they sin against Him continually.
Instead of sacrifices of appeasement, God desires humble obedience from the heart.

DEEPER CONTEXT:

Over 700 years before Micah's prophecy God's Law was given through Moses.
The Mosaic law & covenant are seen in the book of DEUTERONOMY.

- Deuteronomy 1-3 Intro and Speech #1 "*Keep the Law of God!*"
- Deuteronomy 4-28 Speech #2 "*The Law to be Kept*"-- followed by Blessings/Curses
- Deuteronomy 29-30 Speech #3 "*Covenant Established, Broken and Future Hope*"
- Deuteronomy 31-34 Moses' Successor, Israel's predicted rebellion, Moses' death

MICAH 6:9-16

English Standard Version (ESV)

9 *The voice of the LORD cries to the city—
and it is sound wisdom to fear your name:
“Hear of the rod and of him who appointed it!”*

10 *Can I forget any longer the treasures of wickedness
in the house of the wicked,
and the scant measure that is accursed?
11 Shall I acquit the man with wicked scales
and with a bag of deceitful weights?
12 Your rich men are full of violence;
your inhabitants speak lies,
and their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.*

13 *Therefore I strike you with a grievous blow,
making you desolate because of your sins.*

14 *You shall eat, but not be satisfied,
and there shall be hunger within you;
you shall put away, but not preserve,
and what you preserve I will give to the sword.*

15 *You shall sow, but not reap;
you shall tread olives, but not anoint yourselves with oil;
you shall tread grapes, but not drink wine.*

vs 9 God continues His indictment.

the LORD = YHWH (Yahweh aka Jehovah)
the city = Jerusalem (the capital)
sound wisdom = Prov. 9:10; versus '*worldly wisdom*'
the rod = instrument of judgment, discipline, correction
Deut. 8:5; Psalm 94:12; 119:75; Prov 3:11-12; Heb. 12:6; Rev. 3:19

vs 10-12 Guilty of dishonesty, violence & lying.

the scant measure = a false measure for cheating
Deut. 25:13-16; Amos 8:5; Prov 11:1
If God *forgets any longer* or *acquits the wicked* he would
be an accomplice. He would not be just.
rich men full of violence = wealth by murder

vs 13-15 God's judgment will bring them low!

illness, economic trouble, enemies will pillage,
cursed crops ALL as described in Deut. 28!

PROVERBS 26:3

*A whip for the horse, a bridle for the donkey,
and a rod for the back of fools.*

16 *For you have kept the statutes of Omri,
and all the works of the house of Ahab;
and you have walked in their counsels,
that I may make you a desolation, and your inhabitants
a hissing;
so you shall bear the scorn of my people.”*

vs 16 Utter disobedience of God’s people!

They kept the laws of wicked kings.

They did the work of wicked kings.

They walked in the ways of wicked kings.

So now God will wipe out all their earthly hopes
and give them over to be enslaved.

1. **Sound wisdom recognizes the fear of the Lord and voice of His accusation.**
 - A) A foolish person ignores the voice of God.
 - B) A foolish person scoffs at the holiness of God and His call to righteousness.

2. **Sound wisdom recognizes the discipline of the Lord and the rod of His correction.**
 - A) A wise person turns to God when trouble comes.
 - B) A foolish person curses God when trouble comes.

3. **Sound wisdom recognizes the futility that comes from walking in rebellion from God.**

4. **Sound wisdom comes from one place -- repentance and faith toward God through Jesus Christ.**

ACTS 20:17-21

17 Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. 18 And when they came to him, he said to them:

“You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, 19 serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; 20 how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, 21 testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

5. **CHRIST FULFILLED and RESTORED the covenant that we have broken.
Only by faith in Him can we find reconciliation and renewal that we so desperately need.**