

The Floral Heights Informer

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The Book of Micah

Little is known about the prophet Micah. He is referred to as a “*Morashite*” (Micah 1:1) which indicates his home place of Moresheth-gath in Judah. The books of Jeremiah (Jer. 26:18 / Micah 3:12) and Matthew (Matt. 2:6 / Micah 5:2) have quotes from Micah. Said associations indicate the authenticity of Micah’s place in the canon of scripture. Micah prophesied during the days of Jotham (740 – 732 BC), Ahaz (732 – 716 BC), and Hezekiah (716 -687 BC), kings of Judah (Micah 1:1). Samaria was destroyed by the Assyrians at 722 BC. Micah speaks of this event in the future tense at Micah 3:6 and thereby the book must have been written before this date sometime during the days of Jotham.

The days of Micah were evil times (Micah 2:3). There was scarcely a Godly person to be found (Micah 7:2). Dependable and trustworthy people could not even be found among one’s own family (Micah 7:5-6). The wicked spent their time devising sinful deeds against the impoverished people around them (Micah 2:1). The wealthy had no conscience when coveting, planning, and taking possession of another’s field (Micah 2:2). God’s people were guilty of idolatry (Micah 1:7), witchcraft (Micah 5:12), and possessing a haughty spirit (Micah 2:3). Prophets who spoke negatively about the people’s deeds were looked down upon (Micah 2:6). The people’s “*desire*” and “*diligence*” were not in areas of truthfulness and justice but rather “*evil ways*” (Micah 7:3). The “*sin of Jacob and the house of Israel*” (Micah 1:5) was not limited to any one class of people. The rulers, heads, prophets, and priests were all guilty of coveting financial gain at the expense of others (Micah 3:1-11).

Local News:

Welcome to all our visitors. We pray that you will be edified by our service and that you will ask questions if things are not as you are accustomed to seeing. Please come back at your every opportunity.

We are thankful to God report that **Wanda Cox** is doing well. She had a bit of infection in her leg and it has been taken care of with antibiotics.

Nina Grey is scheduled to have knee replacement surgery this May 29th (pending the outcome of an upcoming stress test). Continue to pray for her as well.

Continue to keep **Rita York, Hobie and Joni Miller** in your prayers.

Continue to pray for our shut-ins:

Stella Davidson
696-1030 (Home)

Calvin York
692-0489 (Home).

Bessie Murphy
4600 Taft Blvd, Apt. 538

The book of Micah reminds us of a court scene. Jehovah God called all the earth to hear His testimony against Israel and Judah (Micah 1:2). The mountains and hills are likened unto a jury to whom God called Israel to give her complaining testimony (Micah 6:1ff). Israel exemplified her state of spiritual delusion when exclaiming her faithfulness to God while practicing unlawful deeds (cf. Micah 3:11; 7:4). Jehovah explained to His people that it mattered not whether they sacrificed thousands of rams and offered ten thousand rivers of oil, He would always reject it as long as their hearts and deeds were far from Him (Micah 6:6-7). The Lord then stated, *“He hath showed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth Jehovah require of thee, but to do justly, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with thy God”* (Micah 6:8). While Israel cheated the farmers, was unkind to the poor, and refused to acknowledge her sins with a spirit of humility, she remained impure and separate from Jehovah (cf. Micah 6:11).

The hope that any may cling to in these wicked days was to be found in the coming Messiah from Bethlehem (Micah 5:2). He would reign in a kingdom (Micah 4 all) that is comprised of forgiven sinners (Micah 7:18-20). God will certainly save a remnant who by faith walk in the steps of hope that they will one day be forgiven as God has promised (Micah 2:12; 5:7; 7:20).

The book of Micah teaches Christians living in the 21st century. The prophets that were before and those after Micah had the same basic message. Let man do justly, love kindness, and walk humbly with thy God. To live in such a way is to display a spirit of faith and humble subjection to the will of God rather than my own personal will (cf. Rom. 8:1ff). God has created all things and even time itself. He has the sovereign right to measure man by His standard and expect that we will do as He pleases. Eternity is at the heart of books like Micah. We will not find within its pages a plan to get rich or to be successful in climbing the corporate ladder. What we find are instructions that will help us make it to heaven.

John C. Robertson

Do you realize what you are Doing?

Introduction:

Sometimes we all fall to sin through the weakness of our flesh (Rom. 3:23; James 1:12ff). Some; however, have made sin a way of life (Eph. 2:2; 5:6). This lesson shall examine the fearfulness of walking in sin. Some of us may need to be awakened to the terror of God against sinners.

- I. When I sin I separate myself from God (Isa. 59:1-2) and brethren (I Jn. 1:5-7).**
- II. Do you realize what you are doing when you sin?**
 - A.** When I reject God's will for my own I set myself against God's word (Col. 2:6-8; II Jn. 9).
 - B.** When I reject God's will for my own ways I set myself against God's people (Acts 22:8; I Cor. 8:12).
 - C.** When I reject God's will for my own ways I am resisting the Holy Spirit (Acts 7:51ff).
 - D.** Those who continue in sin are against Christ (Acts 2:22-24, 36; Matt. 26:62-68) and represent a spirit of antichrist (cf. I Jn. 2:22-23).
- III. Knowing the terror of the Lord we ought to persuade men to be forgiven and cast off the works of Darkness (II Cor. 5:11):**
 - A.** Consider the fierce anger of the Lord against His enemies (cf. Nahum 1:2, 6).
 - B.** When one sets themselves against the Lord he:
 - 1.** To treat Jesus with disrespect is to be against God (Jn. 1:1; I Jn. 5:20).
 - 2.** The creator of all things in the universe (Col. 1:16; Rev. 4:11; 10:6).
 - 3.** The one who has authority over all things:
 - a.** The Physical elements of the world (Nahum 1:4-5; Matt. 8:25-27; 14:26-27).
 - b.** Demons (Matt. 8:30-32)
 - c.** Sickness, disease, and physical deformities (Matt. 9:20-21, 29-31; 12:13-14).
 - d.** Life (Matt. 9:18-19).
 - e.** Animals (Jonah 2:10; Matt. 17:27).
 - f.** Mankind (Nahum 1:4-7).
 - g.** The kingdoms of men (Isa. 10:5-6, 24ff; Jer. 51:7, 20).

Conclusion:

When I contemplate the reality of Jehovah God I am often left in shame over my transgressions. The one who would continue in sin ought to consider who God is. The sovereignty of God is depicted in his power over all nature, human life, and the kingdoms of men. To reject God's will is thereby to reject the Christ, Christians, nature, humanity, and the kingdoms of men. Said rebellion will be the eternal ruin of many. Do you realize what you are doing?