

THE NATIONS' HOPE

Sunday, November 1, 2020 — MICAH: Justice, Mercy and Hope series -- Msg 5 — Pastor Andrew Coleman

REVIEW:

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.

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: The judgment prophecies are intended to lead God's people to repentance.
In every cycle God's mercy PREVAILS for His people in and over His judgment.

CHAPTER 4 GOD'S DELIVERANCE THROUGH THE COMING KINGDOM

MICAH 4:1-2

- 1 *It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and it shall be lifted up above the hills;
and peoples shall flow to it,*
- 2 *and many nations shall come, and say:
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth the law,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.*

KEY OBSERVATIONS:

Vs 1 The Eternal Temple will rise!

Dramatic shift from total destruction
to glorious restoration.

The message is GOD'S HOPE for His people.

-- literal or figurative?

The earthly temple gives way
to eternal temple.

Vs 2 The Nations will come!

Luke 24:44-47; Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19-20
Revelation 5:9-10

God's people come from all nations.

HOW DOES THIS HAPPEN?

Through the WORD of the Lord.
Christ the living Word.

Our salvation now: 'the already'
Heaven to come: 'the not yet'.

Hebrews 12:22-24

22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, 23 and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

REVELATION 21:1, 9-10, 22-24 (John's vision)

1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

9 Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, "Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb." **10** And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, **11** having the glory of God,

22 And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. **23** And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. **24** By its light will the nations walk,

MICAH 4:3-5

3 He shall judge between many peoples,
and shall decide disputes for strong nations
far away;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore;

4 but they shall sit every man under his vine and
under his fig tree,
and no one shall make them afraid,
for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

5 For all the peoples walk
each in the name of its god,
but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God
forever and ever.

KEY OBSERVATIONS:

Vs. 3 God's perfect judgment will
bring perfect peace.

- Not a judgment of condemnation
but of perfect coordination.
- Sinful rulers bring war.
- God's perfect rule brings peace.

Vs. 4 God's people will enjoy peace
and prosperity.

- your work will be fruitful
- you will enjoy rest
- you will enjoy safety
- Count on it -- the Warrior of the Universe
has promised!

Vs. 5 **BACK TO OUR PRESENT MESS...**

- EVERYONE worships something.
- We worship YHWH the eternal one.

JOSHUA 24:14-15

*Choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served
in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you
dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."*

KEY APPLICATIONS:

- 1)** GOD is fully aware that we need the promise of his mercy and reward to walk with Him
faithfully through this fallen world. Are you?
- 2)** Study God's work in your salvation. Study God's plan for heaven. Be amazed.
- 3)** If you haven't already, choose today whom you will serve; the LORD or lesser gods.