



MICAH

Chapter 1

1 ¶ The word of the LORD that came to ^aMicah the Morasthite in the days of ^bJotham, Ahaz *and* Hezekiah, kings of Judah, that he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

*Judgment Against
Samaria & Jerusalem*

2 ¶ Hear, all you people. Harken, O earth and all who are on it. And let the Lord GOD be a witness against you, the Lord from ^cHis holy temple.

3 For behold, the LORD comes forth out of His realm and will come down and tread on the high places of the earth.

4 And ^dthe mountains will melt beneath Him and the valleys will split apart, as wax before the fire, as water rushing down a slope.

5 All this is because of the rebellion of Jacob and for the sins of the house of Israel. What *is* the transgression of Jacob? *Is it* not Samaria? And what *are* the ^ehigh places of Judah? *Are they* not Jerusalem?

6 Therefore, I will make Samaria as a ^fheap of the field *and* as places for planting a vineyard. And I will pour down her stones into the valley and will ^guncover her foundations.

7 And all her graven images will be beaten to pieces and all ^hher temple gifts will be burned with fire. And I will lay desolate all her idols, for she

gathered *it* from the wages of prostitutes, as the ⁱwages of prostitutes they will again be used.

Lamentation

8 ¶ Therefore, I will lament and wail. I will go stripped and naked. ^jI will make a wailing like the jackals and mourning as the owls.

9 For her wound *is* incurable, for ^{kit} has come to Judah. He has come to the gate of My people, *even* to Jerusalem.

10 ^lDo not declare *it* at Gath. Do not weep at all. In Beth Ophrah roll yourself in the dust.

11 Go your way, inhabitant of Saphir, in shameful nakedness. The inhabitant of Zaanan did not come out in the mourning. Beth Ezel mourns. Its place to stand is taken away from you.

12 For the inhabitant of Maroth becomes weak waiting for good. But ^mcalamity came down from the LORD to the gate of Jerusalem.

13 O you inhabitant of ⁿLachish, harness the chariot to the swift beast. She *is* the beginning of the sin to the daughter of Zion, for the transgressions of Israel were ^ofound in you.

14 Therefore, you will ^pgive parting gifts to Moresheth Gath. The houses of ^qAchzib *will be* a lie to the kings of Israel.

15 Yet I will bring an heir to you, O

Chapter 1: a Jr 26:18 b Is 1:1 c Ps 11:4 d Am 9:5 e Dt 32:13; 33:29 f 2 Kg 19:25 g Ez 13:14 h Hs 2:5 i Dt 23:18 j Ps 102:6 k 2 Kg 18:13 l 2 Sm 1:20 m Is 59:9-11 n Is 36:2 o Ez 23:11 p 2 Sm 8:2 q Ja 15:44

inhabitant of ¹Mareshah. He will come to ²Adullam the glory of Israel.

16 Make yourself ¹bald and cut off your hair because of the ²children of your delight. Extend your baldness like the vulture, for they will go from you into ³exile.

Chapter 2

Plans of Man and God

1 ¶ Woe to those who devise iniquity and work evil on their beds! When the ¹morning is light, they practice it because it is in the power of their hand.

2 And they ¹covet fields and take *them* by violence, and houses, and take *them* away. So they oppress a man and his house, even a man and his heritage.

3 Therefore, thus says the LORD, “Behold, against this ¹family I devise a ²calamity, from which you will not remove your necks, neither will you walk haughtily, for it will be an evil time.

4 “In that day *one* will take up a parable against you and ¹lament with a bitter lamentation. He will say, ‘We are utterly plundered. He has changed the portion of my people. How he has removed *it* from me! To the apostate He divided our fields.’

5 “Therefore, you will have no one who will cast a cord by lot in the assembly of the LORD.”

False Prophets

6 ¶ “Do not prophesy,” *they say to those who prophesy. But if they do not speak out concerning these*

things, reproaches will not be turned back.

7 Should this be said, O house of Jacob?, “Is the Spirit of the LORD angry? Are these His deeds? Do not My words do good to him who walks uprightly?”

8 “Lately My people have risen up as an enemy. You strip off the robe with the garment from those who trust you, as they pass by like men returned from war.

9 “The women of My people you have cast out from their pleasant houses. From their children you have taken away My glory forever.

10 “Arise and depart, for this *is* not *your* ¹rest. Because it is ²defiled, it will destroy *you*, even with a great destruction.

11 “If a man walking in the spirit and falsehood lie, *saying*, ‘I will prophesy to you of wine and of strong drink,’ he will even be the ¹spokesman to this people.

Promise of Deliverance

12 ¶ “I ¹will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of you. I will surely gather the remnant of Israel. I will put them together as the sheep in a pen, ²as the flock in the midst of their fold. ³They will make great noise by reason of *the multitude of men*.

13 “The one who breaks open the way will come up before them. They will break out, pass through the gate, and go out by it. And ¹their king will pass before them, ²with the LORD at their head.”

r Ja 15:44 s 2Ch 11:7 t Jb 1:20 u Lm 4:5 v Am 7:11,17 Chapter 2: a Hs 7:6,7 b Is 5:8 c Jr 8:3 d Am 5:13 e 2 Sm 1:7 f Dt 12:9 g Lv 18:25 h Is 30:10 i Mc 4:6,7 j Jr 31:10 k Ez 33:22; 36:37 l Hs 3:5 m Is 52:12

Chapter 3

Rebuke of the Leadership

1 ¶ And I said, “Hear now O heads of Jacob, and you ^aprinces of the house of Israel. ^bIs it not for you to know justice?”

2 “You who hate the good and love the evil, who strip their skin from off them and the flesh from off their bones;

3 “who also ^ceat the flesh of My people and flay their skin from off them, and they break their bones and chop them in pieces, as for the pot and ^das flesh in the caldron.”

4 Then ^ethey will cry out to the LORD, but He will not hear them. He will even hide His face from them at that time because they have behaved themselves wickedly in their deeds.

5 ¶ Thus says the LORD ^fconcerning the prophets who make My people stray, who ^gchew with their teeth and cry out, “Peace,” but against him ^hwho puts nothing in their mouths they declare holy war.

6 “Therefore, ⁱyou will have night without vision, and you will have darkness without divination. And the sun will go down over the prophets and the day will be dark over ^jthem.

7 “Then the seers will be ashamed and the diviners confounded. Yes, they will all cover their lips, ^kfor *there is no answer from God.*”

8 ¶ But truly I am full of power by the Spirit of the LORD, and of justice and of might, ^lto declare to Jacob

his transgression and to Israel his sin.

9 Hear this you heads of the house of Jacob and princes of the house of Israel who abhor justice and pervert all equity.

10 ^mThey build up Zion with ⁿblood and Jerusalem with iniquity.

11 ^oHer heads judge for a bribe and ^pher priests teach for hire. And her prophets divine for money. ^qYet they will lean on the LORD and say, “Is not the LORD among us? Calamity will not come upon us.”

12 Therefore, on account of you Zion will be ^rplowed *as* a field and ^sJerusalem will become heaps, and ^tthe mountain of the house as the high places of the forest.

Chapter 4

The Mountain of the Lord

1 ¶ But ^ain the last days it will come to pass *that* the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established on the top of the mountains. And it will be exalted above the hills, and people will flow unto it.

2 And many nations will come and say, “Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD and to the house of the God of Jacob. And He will teach us of His ways and we will walk in His paths.” For the law will go forth from Zion and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

3 And He will judge among many people and rebuke strong nations afar off. And they will beat their swords into ^bplowshares and their spears into

Chapter 3: a Ez 22:27 b Jr 5:4,5 c Ps 14:4; 27:2 d Ez 11:3,6,7 e Jr 11:11 f Ez 13:10,19 g Mt 7:15 h Ez 13:18 i Is 8:20-22; 29:10-12 j Is 29:10 k Am 8:11 l Is 58:1 m Jr 22:13,17 n Hk 2:12 o Is 1:23 p Jr 6:13 q Is 48:2 r Jr 26:18 s Ps 79:1 t Mc 4:1,2 Chapter 4: a Is 2:2-4 b Is 2:4

pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up a sword against nation, nor will they learn war anymore.

4 ^dBut every man will sit under his vine and under his fig tree and no one will make *them* afraid. For the mouth of the LORD of armies has spoken *it*.

5 For all people will walk in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever.

God's Eternal Plan

6 ¶ “In that day,” says the LORD, ^f“I will assemble the lame and ^ggather the outcasts, even those whom I have afflicted.

7 “I will make the lame a ^hremnant and the outcasts a strong nation. And the LORD ⁱwill reign over them in Mount Zion from now on, even forever.

8 “And you, O tower of the flock, the stronghold of the daughter of Zion, to you it will come, even the former dominion. The kingdom will come to the daughter of Jerusalem.

9 ¶ “Now why do you cry out aloud? ^j*Is there* no king in your midst? Has your counsellor perished? For ^kpangs have taken you as a woman in labor pains.

10 “Be in pain and labor to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in labor pains. For now you will go forth out of the city and you will dwell in the field, and you will

go *even* to ^lBabylon. There you will be delivered. There the ^mLORD will ⁿredeem you from the hand of your enemies.

11 ^o“Now many nations have gathered against you who say, ‘Let her be defiled and let our eye ^plook on Zion.’

12 “But they do not know the ^qthoughts of the LORD, nor understand His counsel. For He will gather them ^ras the sheaves into the threshing floor.

13 ^s“Arise and ^tthresh, O daughter of Zion. For I will make your horn iron and I will make your hoofs bronze. And you will ^ubeat in pieces many people. And ^vI will consecrate their gain to the LORD and their substance to ^wthe Lord of the whole earth.

Chapter 5

The Promised Ruler

1 ¶ “Now gather yourself into troops, O daughter of troops. He has laid siege against us. They will ^astrike the judge of Israel with a rod on the cheek.

2 “But you, ^bBethlehem ^cEphratah, *though* you are small ^damong the ^ethousands of Judah, *yet* out of you He will come forth to Me *who is* to be ^fRuler in Israel, ^gwhose goings forth *have been* from old, from everlasting.”

3 Therefore, He will give them up until the time *when* ^hshe who labors in pain has brought forth. Then the

c Ps 72:7 d Zc 3:10 e Zc 10:12 f Ez 34:16 g Ps 147:2 h Mc 2:12 i Is 9:6; 24:23 j Jr 8:19 k Is 13:8 l Am 5:27 m Is 45:13 n Ps 18:17 o Lm 2:16 p Ob 12 q Is 55:8,9 r Is 21:10 s Jr 51:33 t Is 41:15 u Dn 2:44 v Is 18:7 w Zc 4:14 **Chapter 5:** a Lm 3:30; Mt 27:30; Mk 15:19 b Mt 2:6; Lk 2:4,11; Jn 7:42 c Gn 35:19; 48:7 d 1 Sm 23:23 e Ex 18:25 f Is 9:6 g Ps 90:2; Jn 1:1 h Mc 4:10

remnant of His brethren will return to the children of Israel.

4 And He will stand and feed His flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD His God. And they will remain, because His greatness will reach to the ends of the earth.

5 Now this One will be the peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land, and when he treads in our palaces, then we will raise up against him seven shepherds and eight leaders of men.

6 And they will rule the land of Assyria with the sword and the land of Nimrod in its entrances. Thus He will deliver us from the Assyrian when He comes into our land and when He treads within our borders.

7 ¶ And the remnant of Jacob will be in the midst of many people as dew from the LORD, as the showers on the grass that wait for no man, nor wait for the sons of men.

8 And the remnant of Jacob will be among the nations in the midst of many people as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep, which, if he passes through, tramples down and tears and there is no one to rescue.

9 Your hand will be lifted up on your adversaries and all your enemies will be cut off.

10 ¶ “Then it will come to pass in that day,” says the LORD, “that I will cut off your horses out of the midst

of you and I will destroy your chariots.

11 “And I will cut off the cities of your land and throw down all your strongholds.

12 “And I will cut off witchcrafts out of your hand, and you will have no more soothsayers.

13 “Your graven images also I will cut off, and your standing images out of the midst of you. And you will no longer worship the work of your hands.

14 “And I will root up your Asherim from among you and I will destroy your cities.

15 “And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury on the nations, such as they have not heard.”

Chapter 6

God's Charge Against Israel

1 ¶ Hear now what the LORD says. “Arise! Plead your case before the mountains and let the hills hear your voice.

2 “Hear O mountains the LORD'S complaint, and you strong foundations of the earth. For the LORD has a complaint with His people, and He will contend with Israel.

3 “O My people, what have I done to you? And how have I wearied you? Testify against Me.

4 “For I brought you up out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you out of the house of servants. And I sent before you Moses, Aaron and Miriam.

i Mc 4:7; 7:18 j Is 40:11; 49:9 k Ps 72:8 l Is 9:6 m Gn 10:8-11 n Is 14:25 o Mc 5:3 p Dt 32:2 q Nm 24:9 r Zc 9:10 s Dt 17:16 t Is 2:7; 22:18 u Is 2:6 v Zc 13:2 w Is 2:8 x 2 Th 1:8 **Chapter 6:** a Ps 50:1,4 b Hs 12:2 c Is 1:18 d Jr 2:5,31 e Is 43:22,23 f Dt 4:20

5 “O My people, remember now what ^aBalak king of Moab counseled and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him from Shittim to Gilgal, so that you may know the ^brighteousness of the LORD.”

6 ¶ With what will I come before the LORD *and* bow myself before the High God? Will I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

7 ^aWill the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, *or* with ten thousand ^brivers of oil? ^cWill I give my firstborn *for* my transgression, the fruit of my body *for* the sin of my soul?

8 He has ^ashown you, O man, what *is* good and what the LORD requires of you, but ^bto do justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God?

Israel's Guilt and Punishment

9 ¶ The LORD'S voice cries out to the city—it is sound wisdom to fear Your name. “Hear the rod! Who has appointed it?

10 “Are there still the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked and the short measure *that is* abominable?

11 “Will I acquit a man with the ^awicked balances and a bag of deceitful weights?

12 “For her rich men are full of ^aviolence and her inhabitants have spoken lies. And ^btheir tongue *is* deceitful in their mouth.

13 “Therefore, I will also ^amake you

sick in striking you, in making *you* desolate because of your sins.

14 ^r“You will eat, but not be satisfied. And your vileness *will be* in the midst of you. And you will take hold, but will not deliver. And what you rescue I will give up to the sword.

15 “You will ^ssow, but you will not reap. You will tread the olives, but you will not anoint yourself with oil, and *make* sweet wine, but will not drink wine.

16 “For the statutes of ^oOmri are ^ukept and all the works of the house of Ahab *are done*. And you walk in their counsels, so that I should make you a desolation and your inhabitants a hissing. Therefore, you will bear the ^vreproach of My people.”

Chapter 7

Israel's Woe

1 ¶ Woe is me! For I am as when they have gathered the summer fruits, as the grape ^a gleanings of the vintage. *There is* no cluster to eat. My ^bsoul desired the first-ripe fruit.

2 The ^cgood *man* has perished out of the land. And *there is* no one upright among men. They all lie in wait for blood. ^dEach of them hunts the other with a net.

3 So that they may do evil earnestly with both hands, the prince and the judge ask for a ^ebribe. And the great *one* utters his mischievous desire. So they weave it together.

4 The best of them *is* ^fas a brier. The most upright *is sharper* than a thorn

g Nm 22:5,6 h Jg 5:11 i Is 1:11 j Jb 29:6 k 2 Kg 16:3 l Dt 10:12 m Gn 18:19 n Hs 12:7 o Mc 2:1,2 p Jr 9:2-6,8 q Lv 26:16 r Lv 26:26 s Am 5:11 t 1 Kg 16:25,26 u Hs 5:11 v Is 25:8 Chapter 7: a Is 17:6 b Is 28:4 c Is 57:1 d Hk 1:15 e Mc 3:11; Lk 1:72,73 f Ez 2:6

hedge. The day of your watchmen *and* your visitation is coming. Then their confusion will occur.

5 ^sDo not trust in a friend. Do not put confidence in a guide. Guard the doors of your mouth from her who lies in your ^hbosom.

6 For the ⁱson dishonors the father. The daughter rises up against her mother, the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. A man's enemies *are* the men of his own house.

7 Therefore, I will look to the LORD. I will ^jwait for the God of my salvation. My God will hear me.

Faith in God

8 ¶ ^kDo not rejoice over me, O my enemy. ^lWhen I fall, I will arise. When I sit in darkness, the LORD *will be* a light to me.

9 ^mI will bear the indignation of the LORD, because I have sinned against Him, until He pleads my ⁿcause and executes justice for me. He will bring me forth to the light *and* I will behold His righteousness.

10 Then my enemy will see and ^oshame will cover her who said to me, ^p“Where is the LORD your God?” My eyes will behold her. Now she will be trodden down as the mire of the streets.

11 *In* the day that your ^qwalls are to be built, *in* that day the decree will go far and wide.

12 *In* that day *also* ^rthey will come even to you from Assyria and *from* the

cities of Egypt, and from Egypt even to the Euphrates, and from sea to sea, and *from* mountain to mountain.

13 Yet the land will be desolate because of those who dwell in it, because ^sof the fruit of their deeds.

Prayer and Praise

14 ¶ Feed Your people with Your staff, the flock of Your heritage who dwell solitarily *in* the ^tforest in the midst of Carmel. Let them feed *in* Bashan and Gilead as in the days of old.

15 ^u“According to the days of your coming out of the land of Egypt I will show to him ^vmarvellous *things*.”

16 ¶ The nations ^wwill see and be confounded at all their might. ^xThey will lay *their* hand on *their* mouths *and* their ears will become deaf.

17 They will lick the ^ydust like a serpent. ^zThey will crawl out of their holes like worms of the earth. ^aThey will be afraid of the LORD our God and will be afraid because of You.

18 ^bWho *is* a God like unto You, who ^cpardons iniquity and passes by the transgression of the ^dremnant of His heritage? ^eHe does not retain His anger forever because He delights *in* ^fmercy.

19 He will turn again. He will have compassion on us. He will tread our iniquities underfoot, and You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

20 ^gYou will be true to Jacob, *and show* mercy to Abraham, ^has You have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

g Jr 9:4 h Dt 28:56 i Mt 10:36 j Is 25:9 k Pv 24:17 l Pv 24:16 m Lm 3:39,40 n Jr 50:34 o Ps 35:26 p Ps 42:3 q Am 9:11 r Is 11:16; 19:23-25 s Jr 21:14 t Is 37:24 u Ps 68:22; 78:12 v Ex 34:10 w Is 26:11 x Jb 21:5 y Is 49:23 z Ps 18:45 a Jr 33:9 b Ex 15:11 c Ex 34:6,7,9 d Mc 4:7 e Ps 103:8,9,13 f Ez 33:11 g Lk 1:72,73 h Ps 105:9