

Outline of Micah

- 1-2 First Oracle: Condemnation of Judah's People w/ Future Restoration
- 3-5 Second Oracle: Condemnation of Judah's Leaders w/ Future Hope
- 6-7 Third Oracle: Controversy Between Judah and Jehovah w/ Future Triumph

Author

The name "Micah" means "Who is like Yahweh." His hometown was Moresheth-gath which was about 25 miles southwest of Jerusalem (1:1). Micah prophesied during the reigns of the Judean kings Jotham (750-732BC), Ahaz (732-715BC) and Hezekiah (715-686BC). He wrote during years of economic affluence and international peace. Micah witnessed the fall of the Northern kingdom to Assyria in 722BC. He also lived through the invasion of Judah also by the Assyrians under King Sennacherib in 701BC. Herod, of the New Testament, referred to Micah as an authority during the visit of the Magi (Mt.2:1-6). Jesus also quotes Micah 7:6 in Mt.10:35-36.

Summary

Micah ministered to the people of the Southern Kingdom of Judah. He prophesied the destruction of the Northern Kingdom of Israel by the Assyrians, plus he warned the Judeans that God will discipline them for their sins. The standard to obey was the Mosaic Covenant (Le.26; Du.28). If they obeyed, they would enjoy blessing, but if they disobeyed, they should expect punishment. The

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Micah contrasts imperfect leaders of his day with the perfect leader, their Messiah, who will discipline Judah for all to see, then will restore Israel to a position of world prominence when He comes in power.

book of Micah consists of three messages. In each message the theme of judgment is prominent. Yet Micah concludes with the message of a restoration and a remnant (2:12; 4:7; 5:7-8; 7:18). Micah's teaching of the remnant is unique among the Prophets. He sees the remnant as a force, not simply a residue of people (4:11-13). Micah attacked the idolatry that accompanied the acceptance

wants the people of the world to learn that He is sovereign by observing His dealings with Judah. Micah was a contemporary of Isaiah during Ahaz's reign. Where Isaiah focused on the throne in heaven, Micah focused on human rulers on the earth. In particular, he spoke of the misrule of the people in authority in Judah. Micah's message always has a two-fold theme,

PROPHETS

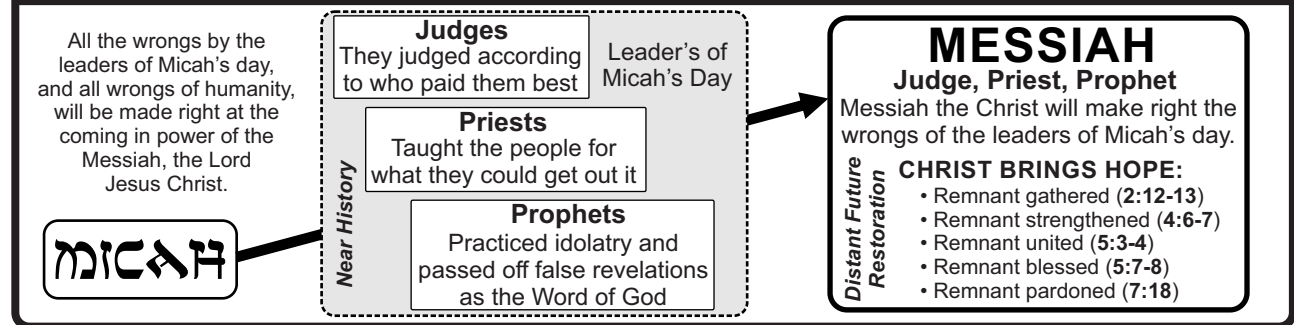
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MICAH SEES NEAR HISTORY FAILURE AND DISTANT FUTURE RESTORATION



of Canaanite worship. Yet his more distinct message was the burden of social injustices that marked the ruling class (2:1,8-9; 3:11; 6:11). He was a champion of civil rights. The Ruler from Bethlehem will effect deliverance of His people by removing everything that robs his people of complete trust in him (5:10-15). The source of power for God's people in the world is their absolute trust in Him and His resources. Micah called all the nations to observe God's judgment on His chosen people. He

namely, he denounced the false rulers and second he proclaimed the coming of the righteous Ruler. Micah lived to see the beginning of Hezekiah's revival.



CHRIST IN MICAH

- Micah wrote about the coming Messiah. He predicted His birthplace, lineage, origin (5:2), and future reign (4:1-7; 5:4). He called Him Israel's King (2:13) and Ruler who is eternal (5:2).