

Your “Ruler” Will Come

MICAH 4-5

Justice will come



HISTORICAL BOOKS RELATIONSHIP

Samuel Saul David Solomon
UNITED KINGDOM

Israel (Northern Kingdom)

931BC

PROPHETS OF ISRAEL

AMOS
760 753

722BC

ELISHA
848 ???

HOSEA
755 725

ELIJAH
874 846

JONAH
785 750

Judah (Southern Kingdom)

931BC

PROPHETS OF JUDAH

(Babylonian Exile)

OBADIAH
850 840

ISAIAH
740 680

JEREMIAH
627 585

EZEKIEL
592 570

605BC

JOEL
841 834

MICAH
735 700

ZEPHANIAH
640 620

DANIEL
605 536

NAHUM
650 620

HABAKKUK
609 606

POST EXILE
MALACHI HAGGAI ZECHARIAH

1 Samuel
Judgship to Kingship

1085BC

2 Samuel
David

1010BC

1 Chronicles
Priestly

970BC

1 Kings
United then Divided Kingdom

853BC

2 Chronicles
Priestly aspects of History

2 Kings
Divided Kingdom and Exile

586BC

Ezra
Nehemiah

538BC

FIRST
COMING



BOOK OF MICAH



SECOND
COMING

CHAPTERS 1-2	CHAPTERS 3-5	CHAPTERS 6-7
Hear, all you peoples! (1:2)	Hear now, O heads of Jacob (3:1)	Hear now... O mountains (6:1)
FIRST MESSAGE	SECOND MESSAGE	THIRD MESSAGE
<i>Israel's Impending Judgment — & — Future Restoration</i>	<i>Guilt of Israel's Leaders — & — Her Future Hope</i>	<i>God's Case Against Israel — & — Ultimate Triumph of His Kingdom</i>

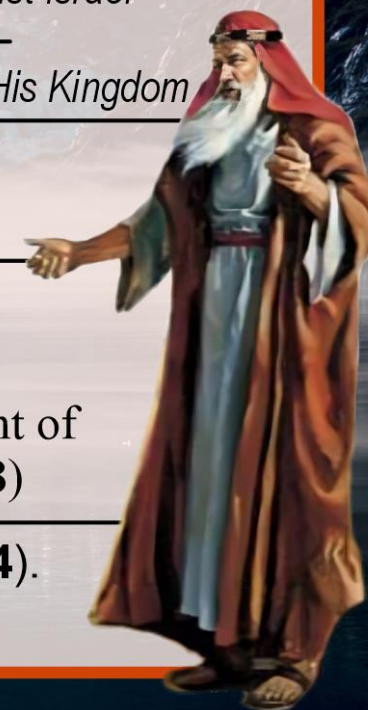
THEME: A true relationship with God is naturally linked to how we treat one another. Micah contrasts Judah's kingdom with God's righteous and just messianic kingdom.

KEY VERSE: • "He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?" (Mh.6:8)

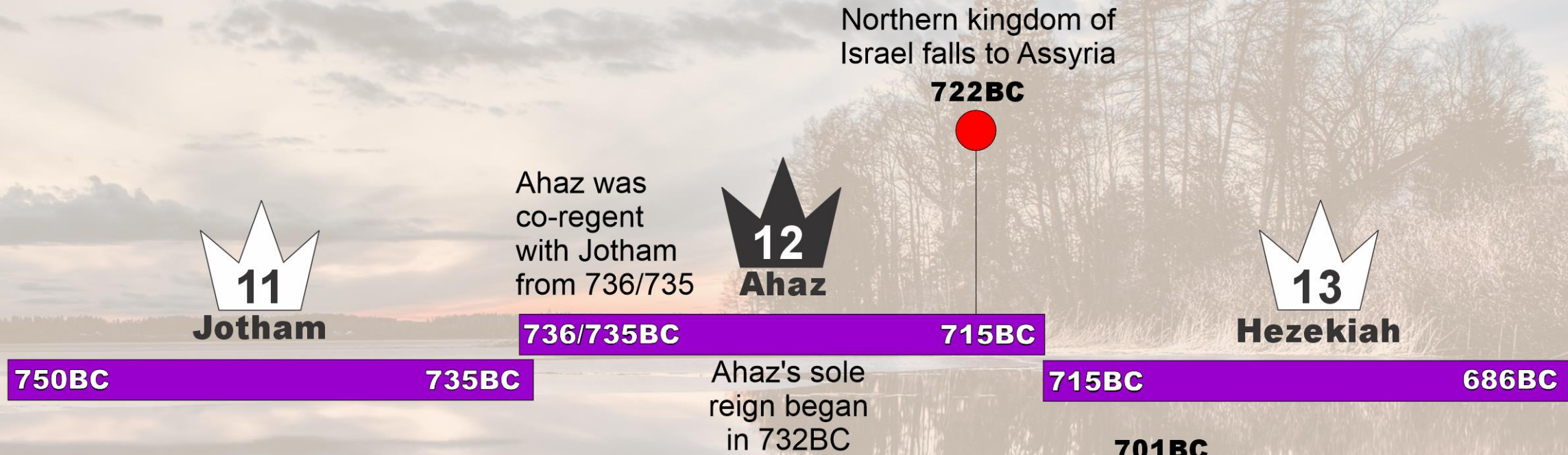
CHRIST IN MICAH: • "Who is a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in mercy." (Mh.7:18)

CHRIST IN MICAH: • Micah predicted Messiah's birthplace, lineage, origin (5:2), and future reign (4:1-7; 5:4).



CHRIST IN MICAH: • He is called Israel's King (2:13) and Ruler who is eternal.



MICAH HISTORICAL BACKGROUND



LEGEND

-  **KING** = Basically Bad
-  **KING** = Basically Good

735 **MICAH** **700**




PAIN BEFORE ZION'S RESTORATION

(Micah 4:9-13)

MULTI-VIEW PROPHECY



 **Verses 1-8 describes kingdom blessing.**

 **Verses 9-10 predicts the Babylonian captivity of 605 BCE which begins "the times of the Gentiles," and includes God's promise to rescue the nation.**



**Now why do you cry aloud? Is
there no king in your midst?
Has your counselor perished?
For pangs have seized you like
a woman in labor.**


MICAH 4:9





“Now why do you cry aloud? Is there no king in your midst? Has your counselor perished? For pangs have seized you like a woman in labor.” (Mi.4:9)

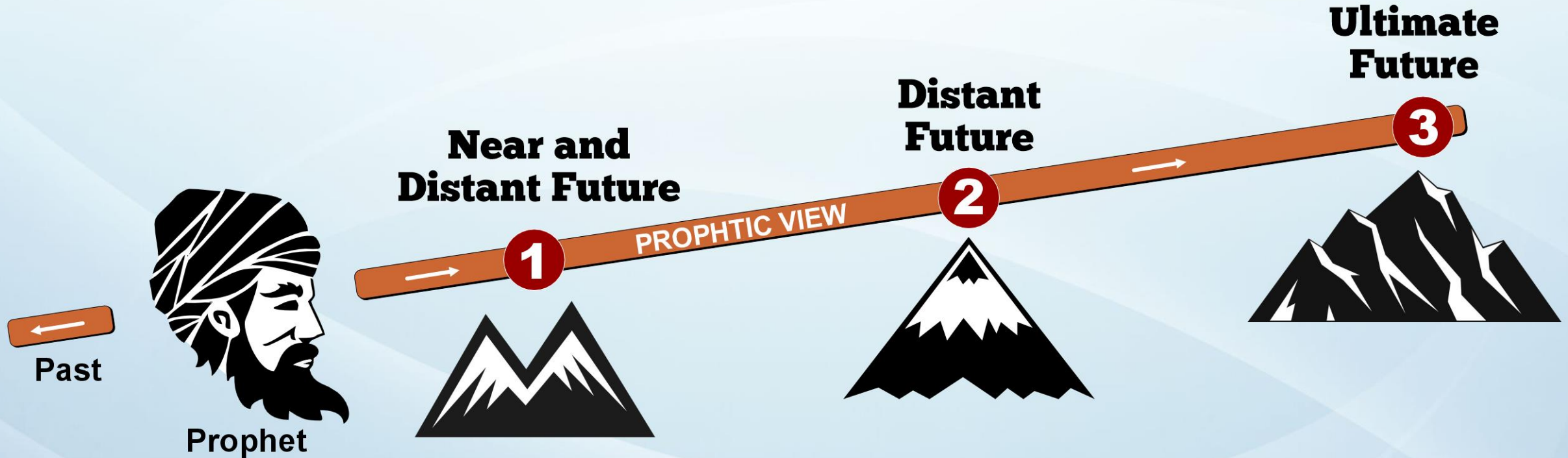
- **After telling of the glory of restored Zion (Millennial Kingdom), now Micah tells them of some of the pain they will experience before it comes (605BC).**
- **Part of the pain will be a lack of leadership (“no king in your midst ... counselor perished”).**



¹⁰For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place. ¹¹For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. (Je.29:10-11)





MULTI-VIEW PROPHECIES



Be in pain, and labor to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, Like a woman in birth pangs. For now you shall go forth from the city, You shall dwell in the field, And to Babylon you shall go. There you shall be delivered; There the LORD will redeem you From the hand of your enemies.

MICAH 4:10





“Be in pain, and labor to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, Like a woman in birth pangs. For now you shall go forth from the city, You shall dwell in the field, And to Babylon you shall go. There you shall be delivered; There the LORD will redeem you From the hand of your enemies.” (Mi.4:10)

- The pains preceding childbirth are used to compare the distress of the captivity before the restoration.**
- As is common in the prophets, Micah intertwines ages after having just spoken of the Millennial Earth, now he speaks of Israel’s deliverance from Babylonian captivity.**
- Even though the nation is delivered from the Babylonian captivity in 536 BCE, it is still under the 4th cycle of discipline, and never fully recovers.**



ISRAEL: STAGES OF DISCIPLINE

Leviticus 26:14-39

“If you will not”

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| STAGE
1 | — Physical & Mental Diseases (Lv.26:14-17) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distress from illness, famine, and defeat |
| STAGE
2 | — Drought & Bad Harvest (Lv.26:18-20) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• “seven times” principle of intensification |
| STAGE
3 | — Dread of Wild Animals (Lv.26:21-22) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Desolation of the land, animals running rampant |
| STAGE
4 | — Desolation by Enemies Bringing Disease <ul style="list-style-type: none">• God will send sword of vengeance (Lv.26:23-26) |
| STAGE
5 | — Deportation From the Land (Lv.26:27-39) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Destruction of cities; horrors of cannibalism• Land will enjoy its Sabbath years |

DANIEL CHAPTERS: ACTUAL

DANIEL CHAPTER: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

IN BABYLON

605 B.C.	604 B.C.	603 B.C.	564 B.C.	539 B.C.	538 B.C.	556 B.C.	553 B.C.	538 B.C.	536 B.C.	536 B.C.	536 B.C.
Captivity	Neb's Image	Fiery Furnace	Neb's Tree Dream	Writing on The Wall	Lion's Den	Daniel's 4 Beasts	Goat & Ram Vision	70th Week Prophecy	Vision of a Man	Kings of South & North	Time of The End

DEPORTATIONS

605BC
598BC
597BC
587BC
586BC
582BC

- Jeremiah: Prophecy of captivity, 605BC (Je.25)
- Jeremiah: Message to Exiles, 597BC (Je.29)
- Jeremiah: Prophecy against refugees in Egypt, 585BC (Je.44)

BACK IN JUDAH

1st Return, led by Sheshbazzar (Ez.1:1-11)

Temple Foundation Laid

Now also many nations have gathered against you, Who say, "Let her be defiled, And let our eye look upon Zion."

MICAH 4:1 1





**“Now also many nations have gathered against you, Who say,
“Let her be defiled, And let our eye look upon Zion.”” (Mi.4:11)**

- Though the nations were set against Israel, the LORD was for them.**
- In view of the restoration Micah inserts a few thoughts regarding the nation's opinions. The nations looked upon Zion with glee at their demise.**
- This looks beyond the Babylonian invasion to a larger invasion that includes “many nations have gathered against you,” (Is.34:2; Zc.12:2-9; 14:2; Rv.16:14-16, a.k.a. Armageddon).**



**But they do not know the thoughts
of the LORD, Nor do they understand
His counsel; For He will gather them
like sheaves to the threshing floor.**

MICAH 4:12



“But they do not know the thoughts of the LORD, Nor do they understand His counsel; For He will gather them like sheaves to the threshing floor.” (Mi.4:12)



- The LORD will deal with Israel’s enemies as easily as a farmer deals with the sheaves of grain on the threshing floor.**
- The heathen nations misunderstood the Lord's dealings with his people and thought it was because He had turned against them.**
- When God reveals the future, his purpose goes beyond satisfying our curiosity. He wants us to change our present behavior because of what we know about the future.**



**"Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion;
For I will make your horn iron, And I
will make your hooves bronze; You
shall beat in pieces many peoples; I
will consecrate their gain to the LORD,
And their substance to the Lord of the
whole earth."**

MICAH 4:13





““Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion; For I will make your horn iron, And I will make your hooves bronze; You shall beat in pieces many peoples; I will consecrate their gain to the LORD, And their substance to the Lord of the whole earth.”” (Mi.4:13)

- When the Lord restores Zion, He will restore them in strength as a strong ox with an iron horn.**
- This has its ultimate fulfillment in the Millennium when Israel will be lifted up as a “superpower” among the nations.**
- She is supernaturally equipped with horns of iron, symbolizing her strength.**



The background of the slide is a scenic landscape. In the foreground, a calm body of water reflects the sky and the trees. The middle ground shows a line of trees, including several tall evergreens, along the shore. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The title text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

THE RULER FROM BETHLEHEM

(Micah 5:1-6)

**Now gather yourself in troops, O
daughter of troops; He has laid
siege against us; They will strike
the judge of Israel with a rod on
the cheek.**

MICAH 5:1





“Now gather yourself in troops, O daughter of troops; He has laid siege against us; They will strike the judge of Israel with a rod on the cheek.” (Mi.5:1)

- Israel will be humbled by foreign powers, and even her judges will bear insults.**
- Jerusalem will be besieged by the Babylonians (2Ki.25:1). This is a near prophecy event (586BC).**
- Verses 2-6 is a distant future prophecy (100+ years).**
- Micah did not identify the ruler of Israel (Zedekiah) except to say that he would be struck on the cheek with a rod. To strike someone on the cheek was to humiliate him (1Ki.22:24; Jb.16:10; Lm.3:30).**



BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY MAIN DATES

- **605BC is the first Babylonian raid taking captives. This is the beginning of 70 year captivity.**
- **586BC is the Babylonian siege resulting in the Fall of Jerusalem including the Temple.**
- **536BC is the first return of the Jews back to Jerusalem with the Temple foundation laid (Ez.1:1-11).**

MICAH (735-700BC)

At least 114 years

BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY (605-536BC)



**"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
Though you are little among the
thousands of Judah, Yet out of you
shall come forth to Me The One to
be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings
forth are from of old, From
everlasting."**

MICAH 5:2





“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.” (Mi.5:2)

- In this time of humiliation under foreign powers, God will raise up a great Ruler from a humble place - Bethlehem.**
- Bethlehem (House of Bread) was well known as the hometown of David. Yet it was never a great or influential city.**
- God chose it as the birthplace of the Messiah, the “Ruler in Israel.”**
- This passage from Micah 5 was quoted by the chief priests and teachers of the law when Herod asked about the birth of the Messiah (Mt.2:5-6).**







““But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.”” (Mi.5:2)

- This glorious promise was fulfilled in Jesus Christ, and Micah’s prophetic voice declares that though Jesus came from Bethlehem, He did not begin there. His goings forth are from eternity past.**
- There was never a time when the Son did not exist.**
- Before Jesus was born in Bethlehem, He existed as the Second Person of the Trinity (Jn.17:5, 24).**
- The eternal Son existed before He revealed Himself as “Jesus” (Lk.1:31, angel Gabriel announced it to Mary).**





“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.” (Mi.5:2)

- In the Old Testament, Jesus appeared as God made visible or “The Angel of the LORD.”**
 - There are many instances in the Old Testament where individuals are shown to have had a face to face encounter with the LORD (Ge.16:7-13; Ge.18; 32:24-32; Js.5:13-15; Jg.6:11-24; 13:8-24; Da.3).**
 - In each situation, the Person is given different titles, but in all cases the person is plainly referred to as the LORD Himself, but appearing in a human form.**
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- 



“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.” (Mi.5:2)

- This verse is a double prophecy of the coming of the Messiah.**
- (1) FIRST ADVENT: In Bethlehem, the Messiah will be born. He comes as a suffering servant to provide spiritual redemption for His people and the world.**
- (2) SECOND ADVENT: The Messiah will come back to be the “Ruler in Israel.” This ARRIVAL of the Messiah is described at verse 4.**



**Therefore He shall give them up,
Until the time that she who is in
labor has given birth; Then the
remnant of His brethren Shall
return to the children of Israel.**

MICAH 5:3





“Therefore He shall give them up, Until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; Then the remnant of His brethren Shall return to the children of Israel.” (Mi.5:3)

- Micah anticipates a future time, partially fulfilled in the Babylonian exile and return, ultimately fulfilled in the Great Tribulation and restoration of Israel.**
- The LORD will seem distant from Israel until the time of the restoration is ready.**
- The labor is the pain of national discipline.**
- The end of Daniel’s 70th Week is also the end of the “times of the Gentiles” After that, “all Israel will be saved” (Ro.11:26).**



END OF 'TIMES OF THE GENTILES'

- **There is a transition period of 75 days after the 70th Week (Da.12:11-12):**
 - **30 days for the bowls that culminate in Armageddon.**
 - **45 days of preparation to separate all unbelievers from believers before the earthly kingdom begins.**



**And He shall stand and feed His
flock In the strength of the LORD,
In the majesty of the name of the
LORD His God; And they shall
abide, For now He shall be great
To the ends of the earth;**

MICAH 5:4





**“And He shall stand and feed His flock In the strength of the LORD,
In the majesty of the name of the LORD His God; And they shall
abide, For now He shall be great To the ends of the earth;” (Mi.5:4)**

- After the time of Israel’s trial the LORD will restore them gloriously.**
- The Ruler born in Bethlehem will tenderly care for His flock in the strength of the LORD.**
- The greatness of the Ruler from Bethlehem becomes the standing of His people. They “abide” because of His greatness.**



**And this One shall be peace. When
the Assyrian comes into our land,
And when he treads in our palaces,
Then we will raise against him
Seven shepherds and eight
princely men.**

MICAH 5:5





“And this One shall be peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land, And when he treads in our palaces, Then we will raise against him Seven shepherds and eight princely men.” (Mi.5:5)

- It isn't just that the Ruler from Bethlehem brings peace; He is peace (Ep.2:14).**
- Though the enemies of God's people come against them, under God's blessing leaders will raise against them. God often works this way to deliver us from our enemies.**
- “Seven shepherds and eight” appears as a more-than-adequate number of shepherds or leaders. Christ will enable Israel to defeat her foes.**





“And this One shall be peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land, And when he treads in our palaces, Then we will raise against him Seven shepherds and eight princely men.” (Mi.5:5)

- After the pattern of the prophets, Micah blends near and distant ages in his prophecy (“the Assyrian”).**
- The threat of the Assyrian would come against both kingdoms shortly, but Micah also uses the idea of the Assyrian for any pagan nation set against God’s people.**



**They shall waste with the sword the
land of Assyria, And the land of
Nimrod at its entrances; Thus He
shall deliver us from the Assyrian,
When he comes into our land And
when he treads within our borders.**

MICAH 5:6



“They shall waste with the sword the land of Assyria, And the land of Nimrod at its entrances; Thus He shall deliver us from the Assyrian, When he comes into our land And when he treads within our borders.” (Mi.5:6)

- Israel's leaders will lead the land of Assyria with the sword. They will bring it under Israelite control.**
- Nimrod and Assyria are frequently linked together in prophecy and history.**
- Assyria is a symbol of all the evil nations in the world.**
- Many nations have ruled Israel with the sword, in the Millennium the tables will be turned and Israel will rule over her foes because He, Messiah, will deliver her.**





TRIUMPH OF THE REMNANT OF JACOB

(Micah 5:7-15)

**Then the remnant of Jacob Shall be
in the midst of many peoples, Like
dew from the LORD, Like showers
on the grass, That tarry for no man
Nor wait for the sons of men.**

MICAH 5:7





**“Then the remnant of Jacob Shall be in the midst of many peoples,
Like dew from the LORD, Like showers on the grass, That tarry for
no man Nor wait for the sons of men.” (Mi.5:7)**



- When God delivers Zion it won't be a “small” deliverance. It will spread as wide as the dew and showers on the grass.**
- After Christ destroy's Israel's enemies the remnant of believing Israelites (Mh.2:12; 4:7; 5:8; 7:18) will be refreshing and influential (like dew and showers) among many peoples.**
- As the dew and rain come from God in His timing (they do not wait for man), so God will refresh the nations in His own timing, apart from man's doings.**



**And the remnant of Jacob Shall be
among the Gentiles, In the midst of
many peoples, Like a lion among
the beasts of the forest, Like a
young lion among flocks of sheep,
Who, if he passes through, Both
treads down and tears in pieces,
And none can deliver.**

MICAH 5:8





“And the remnant of Jacob Shall be among the Gentiles, In the midst of many peoples, Like a lion among the beasts of the forest, Like a young lion among flocks of sheep, Who, if he passes through, Both treads down and tears in pieces, And none can deliver.” (Mi.5:8)

- When God delivers Zion, it won't be a “weak” deliverance (“like a young lion”).**
- God will strengthen Israel so that she will triumph over her enemies like a lion against sheep. God is doing this, not Israel.**
- This has its ultimate fulfillment in the Millennial Earth.**



**Your hand shall be lifted
against your adversaries,
And all your enemies shall
be cut off.**



MICAH 5:9





**“Your hand shall be lifted against your adversaries,
And all your enemies shall be cut off.” (Mi.5:9)**

- **“All your enemies” will give Israel complete peace which is something she had not yet experienced.**
- **This points to the millennial kingdom when the Prince of Peace will reign, having conquered the nations (v.15).**
- **The greatest enemies the people of Israel ever had were those who led them into idolatry.**
- **The enemies will be “cut off” in the sense that any idolatry they influenced will be removed.**



**"And it shall be in that day," says
the LORD, "That I will cut off
your horses from your midst And
destroy your chariots.**



MICAH 5:10





““And it shall be in that day,” says the LORD, “That I will cut off your horses from your midst And destroy your chariots.” (Mi.5:10)

- **In restored Zion, the LORD will not allow any of the idolatries Israel once indulged in (“I will cut off…”).**
 - **“I will cut off your horses” (v.10)**
 - **“I will cut off the cities of your land” (v.11)**
 - **“throw down all your strongholds” (v.11)**
 - **“I will cut off sorceries” (v.12)**
 - **“Your carved images I will also cut off” (v.13)**
 - **“And your sacred pillars” (v.13)**
 - **“I will pluck your wooden images” (v.14)**



**I will cut off the cities of your
land And throw down all your
strongholds.**



MICAH 5:1 1





“I will cut off the cities of your land And throw down all your strongholds.” (Mi.5:11)

- Fortified cities were designed for defense. Their strength tempted people to put their trust in them rather than in God alone.**
- All forms of self-reliance in war and idolatrous worship will be removed so that the nation must rely solely on Christ their King for security and worship Him alone.**



**I will cut off sorceries from
your hand, And you shall
have no soothsayers.**



MICAH 5:12





“I will cut off sorceries from your hand, And you shall have no soothsayers.” (Mi.5:12)

- Besides destroying enemies from outside Israel, the Messiah will purge the nation of every trace of occultic and idolatrous practices, which were “enemies” within.**
- Sorceries or witchcraft suggests seeking information from demonic sources.**
- Soothsayers or fortune tellers refers to the activity of attempting to know and control the future.**



**Your carved images I will also
cut off, And your sacred pillars
from your midst; You shall no
more worship the work of your
hands;**

MICAH 5:13





“Your carved images I will also cut off, And your sacred pillars from your midst; You shall no more worship the work of your hands;” (Mi.5:13)

- “Carved images” were idols of foreign gods (Ge.28:18, 22; Du.16:22).**
- A very foolish fact, in connection with the worship of graven images is that they were the work of their hands.**
- Magical and divination practices were common in Mesopotamia and Egypt, where exorcists, diviners and magicians were fixtures at court, interpreting omens and performing rituals.**



**I will pluck your wooden
images from your midst;
Thus I will destroy your
cities.**

MICAH 5:14





**“I will pluck your wooden images from your midst;
Thus I will destroy your cities.” (Mi.5:14)**

- The “wooden images” is 'asherah.' These were objects used in worshiping male and female Canaanite idols.**
- All the cities (Mi.5:11) where Israel practiced idolatry or relied on her military strength will be demolished.**
- After the Babylonian captivity we do not see Israel worshiping idols as they did before they were taken captive.**



**And I will execute vengeance
in anger and fury On the
nations that have not heard."**



MICAH 5:15





**“And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury
On the nations that have not heard.”” (Mi.5:15)**

- God will not only look after Israel’s purity; in the Millennial Earth the nations will also need to walk in purity before Him.**
- Nations who refuse to obey the Lord will suffer God’s anger and wrath.**
- He will rule with an iron scepter (Ps.2:9; Rv.12:5; 19:15).**
- The people of God learned of the practice of idolatry through the heathen nations, hence He was incensed against them and determined to take vengeance on them.**





MICAH 4-5