

MICAH 1 vs 1

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The people long ago rejected the Covenant of blessing God made with them at Sinai. Micah starts at **Samaria** and **Jerusalem** – the 2 capitals where the people have **not** lived up to their God-given names: **Israel** = **ruled by God**; and **Judah** = **praise of God**: so they both will learn a lesson, but it won't be there: **Samaria**, the 10 northern tribes of **Israel**, led by Ephraim – they were **NOT** Jewish, they would first go into Assyrian captivity (modern day northern Syria); **then to another place promised to King David** -- **2 Samuel 7**; carrying with them the birthright promises given to **Abraham, Isaac and Jacob** -- who were **NOT** Jewish; someday we will learn that important lesson. Hosea says where **Israel** goes, they will be known as **the children of the Living God** – **Hosea 1**. Check out: **The Promises of God to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob**



By the way, **orthodox Jewish people, are too late with the issue of building a 3rd Temple**; Messiah came the first time just as **Daniel wrote – Daniel 9**. Isaiah tells us the future messianic kingdom, includes a **tent**: a very temporary shelter, **where the Lord will instruct His people** – Isaiah 4. Zechariah tells us, **the Branch will build it**. **Too bad people don't read what the prophets wrote**; and prefer their traditions. In Jerusalem, if you can't see past all the idolatrous junk that clutters up every street, then you missed why some still walk in darkness and have no light. Thanks to the Lord God, not all living there are stumbling around:

¹ The word of the Lord that came to Micah the Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning

Samaria / the capital of the large 10 northern tribes of **Israel**; **none** of them were Jewish;

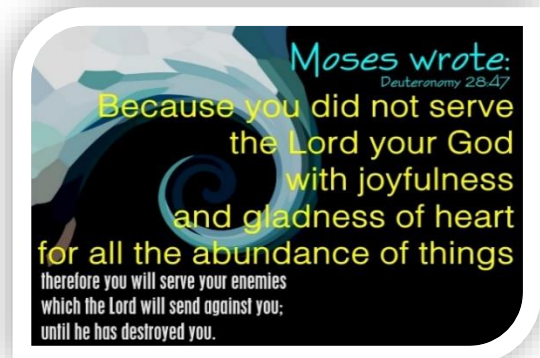
and Jerusalem / the capital of the small 2 southern tribes of **Judah**; **all** of them were Jewish.

² Hear, O peoples, all of you / Micah says, all you who claim to be God's people, use your ears;

Listen, O earth, and all that is in it / so even if you don't know if you are from ancient Israel, or ancient Judah, the Lord God who created all things, invites everybody to stop what they are doing, and pay attention to Him:

and let the Lord GOD be witness against you, the Lord from His holy temple / the only temple that matters to the Lord; not some cheesy, sleazy building of brick or stone here on planet earth:

Isaiah tells us, **the Holy One, who lives forever, whose name is Holy, who dwells in a high and holy place, and also with the contrite and lowly of heart** – **Isaiah 57**;



[Paul spoke to the Athenians on Areopagus](#), The God who made the world, and all things in it, since He is the Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. -- **Acts 17**. When listening to [Judah](#) now days; I want to know what they plan to do with the Chief cornerstone, rejected 2000 years ago.

Those who are so concerned about rebuilding something in Jerusalem, need to get some joyfulness and gladness of heart to the Lord going for His goodness to us... and drop their wild imaginations, and their hocus pocus traditions; and do what the Lord God actually told us to do: listen to Him.

³ For behold, the LORD comes from His place, and will come down / one day... sooner than we can imagine, the Lord will come again from His temple, with power and great glory; and we are told He is coming with a rod of iron,

and tread on the high places of the earth / what are these high places of earth that need the Lord to trample on and squash? Well, Micah is not talking about geographic localities as much as hard headed jackasses who have elevated themselves above the populous of earth. Prophet Habakkuk was deeply troubled that the Lord didn't know what was happening on earth; with the violent Chaldeans on the march; he learned otherwise: **Habakkuk 3**.



⁴ And the mountains will melt under Him, and the valleys will split open, like wax before the fire, and like water poured down a steep place / exactly what Habakkuk also saw.

⁵ All this for the transgression of Jacob / always stepping over the line; moving the goal post; and in the OT when the Lord uses this name: **Jacob**, we can substitute: **scoundrel**, schemer, charlatan or swindler; for Jacob was always trying to work a deal, and that deal was always to benefit him. It was not until he was 100 years old that the Lord was able to wrestle him down, and get him to admit his corrupt nature; what the apostle Paul called: **the old man**. Finally, he was given a new name: **ruled by God**,

and for the sins of the house of Israel / they were **not** living up to their name: **ruled by God**.

What is the transgression of Jacob? Is it not Samaria?

and what is the high place of Judah? Is it not Jerusalem?

Judah = Praise God / so, neither of the 2 houses were living up to their name. They had not kept the Covenant of God – 10 commands and no more; they didn't need God's blessing, and instead thought they needed His curses. Well they got them. They violated every command, and repealed and replaced each one with their genius manmade images; preferring their idol worship which was adapted from all those in the neighborhood.

The prophet speaking for the Lord said, **I could have written 10,000** ... but they would have been ignored – **Hosea 8:12**. Add to those words, He also said: **So, I permitted them statutes that were not good, and judgments whereby they would not live** -- **Ezekiel 20:25**.

And this changed attitude started when faulty thinking fools included the disgusting demonic practice **to sacrifice their own children** – **Jeremiah 7**. And perhaps we begin to understand why Jewish people and all the religious late-comers are taught much like the roman church folks to light candles, but **not** read the OT or NT which is so clear; and substitute some confusing mumbo jumbo chants for the Word of God.

6 So, I will make Samaria as a heap of the field and as place for planting a vineyard: and I will pour down her stones into the valley, and will uncover her foundations / a pile of what? A pile of oxen and ass dung? the Lord will see what Samaria DC was made of, leaving no stone unturned.

7 All her graven images will be beaten to pieces, all her earnings will be burned with the fire / about destroying the graven images of others, Moses said, **you will burn them with fire, and not covet for yourself the silver or gold that is on them**; – **Deut. 7**. Most people would have a very difficult time doing that, rationalizing: why this waste? Just like Judas.

and all her idols I will lay waste: for she gathered them from the earnings of a whore, and to the earnings of a whore, they will return.

8 So, I will lament and wail, I will go stripped and naked / it is possible, Micah acted out this deadly lament for Samaria walking barefoot and with a loin cloth tracing out the route that the invading armies took – **Isaiah 20**:

I will make a wailing like the dragons / in Hebrew: *tannin*, this word appears 22 times in the OT; in recent years... **biblical scientists have asked whether this fierce animal was possibly a dinosaur**; the average-size fossilized dinosaur is actually between the size of a cow and a goat. The Lord will roar!

and mourning as the ostriches.

9 For her wound is incurable, and it has come to Judah, it has reached the gate of My people, to Jerusalem / faithless Israel's deadly STD – its spiritually transmitted disease infected Judah;

10 Do not tell it in Gath, do not weep at all / recalling David's lament over the shameful downfall of faithless Saul and David's beloved friend, Jonathan – the son of Saul:

in the Beth-le-aphrah roll yourself in the dust / in the house of dust, roll yourself in the dust; from dust we were made, to dust we will return.

11 Pass on your way, inhabitants of Shaphir / shaphir = pleasant ; keep walking citizens beyond the Beverly Hills, River Oaks or Manhattan Plaza District of the day... left destroyed and exposed,

in nakedness and shame:

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the inhabitant of Zaanan do not come out / these verses are full of lots of word plays; all suggesting that things are not going to go well with Israel, or with Judah;

the lamentation of Beth-ezel, he will take away from you its support.

¹² For the inhabitants of Maroth wait anxiously for good: but disaster came down from the LORD to the gate of Jerusalem.

¹³ Harness the stallions to the chariots, inhabitants of Lachish; it was the beginning of the sin to the daughter of Zion / they foolishly allied with the enemy:

for in you was found the transgressions of Israel / Judah was infected with the disease of Israel.

¹⁴ So, give your parting presents on behalf of Moresheth Gath / Judah give your marriage dowry

the houses of Achzib will be deceptive to the kings of Israel / they were a mirage, they were not as they appeared.

¹⁵ Yet I will bring one who takes possession of you O inhabitant of Mareshah / an enemy is coming; a conqueror will come:

the glory of Israel will come to Adullam / clearly the nobility will flee to the caves, and perhaps call on the rocks to hide them from the LORD who leaves His temple and approaches.

¹⁶ Make yourself bald in mourning, for the children of your delight; shave your heads like the vulture eagle; for they go from you into captivity.

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