

MICAH 7 vs 1

In chapter one, the prophet asked:

What is the transgression of Jacob? / what is their sin? Is it not **Samaria?**

and what is the high place of Judah? / what is their height of hypocrisy? Is it not **Jerusalem?**

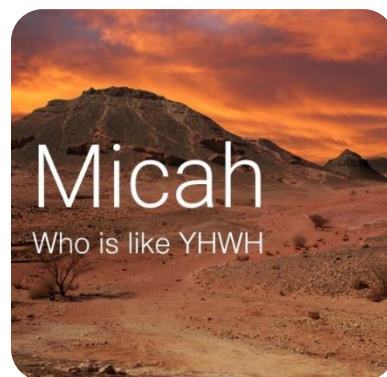
The people long ago rejected the Covenant of blessing God made with them at Sinai. Micah starts at **Samaria** and **Jerusalem** – the 2 capitals where the people have **not** lived up to their God-given names: **Israel** = **ruled by God**; and **Judah** = **praise of God**: so they both will learn 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 **Woe is me!** / remember, the prophet speaks for the Lord; Jesus the night He was betrayed, told us that His Father labors tirelessly in the vineyard; carefully watching and inspecting each life He planted – **John 15**;

How terrible it is for Me!

For I have become as when summer fruit is gathered, as when vintage grapes are gleaned there is **no cluster to eat: my soul desired the first-ripe fruit** / so after all the cultivating... and planting and watering; and lots of patient waiting with hopeful expectations throughout the growing season and the heat of the summer; and as the annual Festival of Ingathering approaches; and the harvest is to be gathered, to discover: can you imagine? Not even a cluster of sweet, juicy grapes worth eating.



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Paul to the Galatians reminds us: the fruit of the spirit begins with **Love and Joy and Peace** ... and so much more, because it doesn't end there – **Galatians 5**.

And what does the disappointed prophet of the Lord conclude about Samaria and Jerusalem leadership and all who follow them?

2 The good man has perished from the earth:

and there is no one upright among mankind / the people of God who had been so richly blessed with the knowledge of the Living God... they rejected the Covenant God made with them; and became no different than the other nations: careless, lawless, perverse, and corrupt in all their ways; the failure of both Houses **Ephraim, Manasseh and Judah** has tragically infected all the nations; which is what Zechariah tells us: about the **3 faithless shepherds**:

they all lie in wait for blood / to get their wealth, they all act as if they are in a state of war; they do not even care if it is a neighbor or a brother – Matthew Henry;

they hunt every man his brother with a net / Dr. Moffatt wrote: the devout have vanished from the land; not an honest soul remains; everyone waits for bloodshed; each targets his fellow. Wow! This is also the agenda of the last roman govt that will deviously work throughout the world; for the nations are drunk with the wine of her passion... and the rulers who committed immoral acts... weep and lament because no one buys their cargo anymore – beginning with: their gold and silver... ending with: their trafficking in slaves and human souls – **Revelation 18**.

And why should anybody be amazed if people treat one another like animals? After all their scientists and brilliant educators de jour... have taught: God is the myth; and Monkeys are their reality.

Check out our commentary: **We came from where?**

3 Concerning evil, both hands do it well / still trending in our genius 21st century; beginning at the highest levels of govt; infecting the lowest levels of life; they have quick fingers for foul play; they are skillful to do evil; and they praise themselves on their art and dexterity – MH,

the prince asks, and the judge asks: for a reward / did someone really ask, for a bribe?; **and the great man, he utters his mischievous desires so, they wrap it up** / so they package it; and prepare it for those who believe all their advertisements; it is ill for the people when their rulers and judges and great men are in confederacy to pervert justice – Matthew Henry:

4 The best of them is like a thorn: the straightest of them is sharper than a prickly hedge: the day you post a watchman, your judgment has come; then your confusion will occur.



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Notice how the closest relationships continue to deteriorate under such faithless wrongdoing:

5 Never trust a neighbor, never confide in a friend: keep the doors of your mouth shut, keep your secret close... from her who rests on your chest.

6 For the son dishonors the father, the daughter rises up against her mother, the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; a man's enemies are those of his own household / Jesus said, this would be indicative of the last days, happening throughout the world – **Mark 13**; **Luke 21**.

7 But as for me, I look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my **salvation** / Micah refuses to join their charade; in Hebrew: *yesha*, a diminutive of **Yeshua**; where we get the name: **Jesus**; we don't need to take the law into our own hands; God's people will wait for His law to rule – **Isaiah 42**;

my God will hear me / He will help me.

8 Rejoice **not** over me, O my enemy, when I fall, I will rise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord is my light / to gloat over me, would be a miscalculation of my enemy.

9 For my sin against Him, I will bear the anger of the Lord, until He pleads my cause, and executes judgment for me / until He takes my part; and vindicates my right – Dr. Moffatt:

He will bring me to the light, and I will behold His rightness / His right way of doing things.

10 Then my enemy will see, and shame will cover them who said to me, "Where is the Lord your God? / 2000 years ago, Peter said... **in the last days scoffers will come** -- **2 Peter 3**; busloads of them will come, mocking those who look for our Messiah's return. Well scoffers have arrived, so do not lose faith; we were chosen for this day; we are called to this great hour; be watchful; and look up! As for those scoffers:

My eyes will look on them: now trampled down like mud in the streets / so definitely, the Lord took care of them – slush, squash, slush, squash; Micah says there is a day coming; **3 Days of the Lord are still on His calendar**: The Day of Trumpets; the Day of Afflicting of souls; and...

11 The day comes for Your walls to be rebuilt / one last time, when He comes with a rod of iron to rule the world with truth and grace: the 7th Day of the Lord is still on His calendar; the Day of Tabernacles – the Day of temporary tents and shelters – **Zechariah 14**,

in that day the frontiers will be far extended.

12 **In that day**, he / some stranger... will even come to You from Assyria, and from the cities of Egypt, and from Egypt even to the Euphrates River, and from sea to sea, and from



mountain to mountain / from east to west; from south to north -- throughout all the world... they will come to Jerusalem... to be taught by the Lord of glory.

¹³ **Nevertheless the earth will be desolate because of its inhabitants, for the fruit of their deeds** / obviously the terrible 6th Day of the Lord, when that day afflicting of souls has come and gone; and the foolish and faithless of the earth lose that battle; it will be a massive cleanup effort involving every vulture and scavenger; every birdbrain in God's creation – small and great, recruited to lunch on all the carcasses of the world -- small and great: **Revelation 19**.

¹⁴ **Shepherd your people with your rod, the flock of your inheritance, dwelling alone like a loner in the wood in the midst of Carmel** / your blessed people who were in the world, living on the frontlines of the world; but not of the world; Micah says, let them dwell; in the beautiful garden:

let Bashan and Gilead be their pasture, as in the days of old / let them dwell on the heights first given to the brothers: Ephraim and Manasseh,

¹⁵ **like in the days, when You came from the land of Egypt; saying,**

I will show him marvelous things / including the Stone the builders rejected, who has become the Chief cornerstone – all the works of the Lord... are marvelous in our eyes – **Psalm 118**; no eye has seen, no ear has heard, nor has it entered the imagination all that God has prepared for those who love Him – for those who wait for Him – **Isaiah 64**. Just an aside: since some are in a hurry to build a new temple, is the Chief cornerstone going to be part of it, or rejected again?

¹⁶ **Let the nations see and be ashamed of all their might: with hands they cover their mouth, and their ears will be deaf.**

¹⁷ **Let them lick the dust like a serpent, and like worms of the earth that come trembling from their holes: to the Lord our God they come in dread, they come in terror of You.**

¹⁸ **Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquities and passing over transgressions of His remnant inheritance? Who does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in mercies** / just don't presume on Him... like the people did so many years ago; rather, come to Him, learn from Him... get on His side... especially if we messed up, because we all do; and you will find rest for your soul – **Matthew 11**,

¹⁹ **He will again turn, He will have compassion on us; He will trample underfoot our iniquities and You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea** / our iniquities, and inequalities and injustices will be gone.

²⁰ **You will show faithfulness to Jacob** / to the one who was a scoundrel, **and steadfast love to Abraham**/ to the one who is Your friend, **as You pledged to our fathers from the days of old.**

Israeli Band : Psalm 150 **Every Praise**