

Bible Synthesis IV
(Bible Survey)

**INTRODUCTION TO
MICAH**

1. INTRODUCTION

If you appreciate beautiful language, poetry, and great literature, you will appreciate the book of Micah. It would not be a bad idea for the young Pastor or other servant of the Lord to make it his meditation and live by its concepts, then as he grows older to continue to do this on a regular basis. It will lend heart to a man's ministry. Three passages in the book which must be noted. These are:

- (1) Micah 6:2 which gives a key thought of the book: *Controversy*.
- (2) Micah 7:18–19 which shows the true nature of God as a God of mercy in the midst of His judgment.
- (3) Micah 6:6–8 which reveals God's declaration of true spiritual religion.

Three quotations from Micah are found elsewhere in the Bible:

- (1) Micah 3:12 is quoted in Jeremiah 26:18. It was quoted by the elders of Judah in answer to a threat against Jeremiah's life.
- (2) Micah 5:2 was quoted by the Chief Priests and Elders to tell Herod where Christ would be born. See this in Matthew 2:6 (2:4–6). Herod slew all the children two years of age and under that were in Bethlehem (Matt. 2:16).
- (3) Micah 7:6 was quoted by Christ when He commissioned His disciples and described His program to them (Matt. 10:35–36).

Micah 4:1–8 presents the future glory of Israel in the Kingdom. Though 4:9–13 reveals the suffering that shall precede that Kingdom glory.

2. AUTHOR

The Prophet Micah = “who is like Jehovah” — The thought of his name is expressed in Micah 7:18.

- (1) Called the Morasthite (1:1), meaning that he was a native of the town of Moresheth-gath (1:14), a town about 20 miles southwest of Jerusalem.
- (2) He was from Judah and prophesied in Jerusalem.
- (3) He is also mentioned as a prophet in Jeremiah 26:17–19.

3. RECIPIENTS

Both the northern and the southern kingdoms: Israel (Samaria) and Judah (Jerusalem) — 1:1, 5, etc. Though, his primary emphasis was on the northern kingdom.

His prophecy concerns Samaria and Jerusalem. Micah was from the southern kingdom, but a good part of his prophecy pertains to the northern kingdom. He prophesied to that nation during the time when it was under attack by Assyria. The southern kingdom was attacked also, but it was the northern kingdom which was carried off in 722 B.C.

4. DATE OF WRITING

- (1) During the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah of Judah — 1:1; Jer. 26:18–19
- (2) He was contemporary with Hosea and Isaiah.
- (3) The date of writing was between about 750 and 695 B.C. Suggested date is 735 B.C.

5. PURPOSE OF THE BOOK

- (1) To Give three prophetic warning addresses:
 - 1. A general judgment upon Israel and Judah because of their sins — 1:2
“Hear all ye people”
 - 2. A judgment upon leaders, wicked princes, and false prophets in Israel — 3:1, 9
“Hear, I pray you, O heads of Jacob, and ye princes of the house of Israel”
 - 3. Admonitions to repentance and hope of future deliverance and salvation — 6:1–2
“Hear ye, ... the LORD hath a controversy with His people”
- (2) He shows them God’s principles of righteousness in place of their externals (6:8):
 - 1. *“(D)o justly”* (2:1–2, 8-9)
 - 2. *“(L)ove mercy”*
 - 3. *“(W)alk humbly with thy God”*
- (3) He makes specific predictions concerning Samaria, Judah, Christ, the return from captivity, and the future peace and prosperity of Israel. [Samaria (1:6); Judah (1:9; 3:9–12); Christ (5:2)]

6. THEME

“The divine requirements” — 6:8

7. KEY PASSAGES

Micah 6:8

8. KEY TERM

“Hear” — 9 times
“Desolation” (with “desolate”) — 4 times
“Gather” (with “assemble”) — 9 times
“Controversy” — 2 times

(Bible Survey)

**OUTLINE OF
MICAHA**

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| 1. Judgment upon Israel and Judah | —Mic. 1–2 |
| — Deliverance of a Remnant | |
| (1) Judgment against Samaria and Judah | —1:1–16 |
| (2) The nature of their sin and its punishment | —2:1–11 |
| (3) Promise to deliver a remnant | —2:12–13 |
| 2. Judgment upon National Leaders | —Mic. 3–5 |
| — Establishment of the Messianic Kingdom | |
| (1) Condemnation of the leaders | —3:1–8 |
| (2) Prediction of the fall of Jerusalem | —3:9–12 |
| (3) Millennial Kingdom — Restoration of Israel | —4:1 – 5:15 |
| 3. Controversy With Israel | —Mic. 6–7 |
| — His Promise of Future Mercy | |
| (1) The controversy | —6:1–16 |
| (2) Reconciliation of the Controversy | —7:1–20 |

