

Book of Micah

Holly Hills Bible Church

9:00 a.m. Micah Class Study . 27 October 2024 . #2

10.27.2024

HHBC 9 AM / MICAH: Overview Chap. 1, v.1 / A. Molloy

Overview – *Micah 1:1*

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Alternate Theme(s) from M.D.: *'He delights in unchanging love.'*

Key Verses:

- Micah 7:18 Who is a God like You, who pardons iniquity And passes over the rebellious act of the remnant of His possession? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in unchanging love.

Additional Notes:

- Two well known verses in Micah speak of the reigning of the Messiah in the Kingdom:
- Micah 4:3 - *And He will judge between many peoples And render decisions for mighty, distant nations. Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation will not lift up sword against nation, And never again will they train for war.*
- Micah 5:2 - *"But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, [Too] little to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity."*

The Significance of MICAH as a Prophet:

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He met the REQUIREMENT of a prophet of God:

“WHEN A PROPHET SPEAKS IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, IF THE THING DOES NOT COME ABOUT OR COME TRUE, THAT IS THE THING WHICH THE LORD HAS NOT SPOKEN. THE PROPHET HAS SPOKEN IT PRESUMPTUOUSLY; YOU SHALL NOT BE AFRAID OF HIM” [Deut 18:22]

AS EVIDENCED BY:

- ✓ Micah prophesied about the Assyrian destruction of the Northern Kingdom (with the fall of its capital Samaria in particular) to SARGON II in 722 b.c. [Micah 1:1 – 1:6]
- ✓ The fall of most of Judea by Sennacharib in the near future, 701 b.c. [Micah 1:9- 1:16]
- ✓ The later defeat of the Southern Kingdom by the Babylonians, and subsequent Babylonian captivity 100 years into the future [4:9,10]
- ✓ “But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Too little* to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity.”



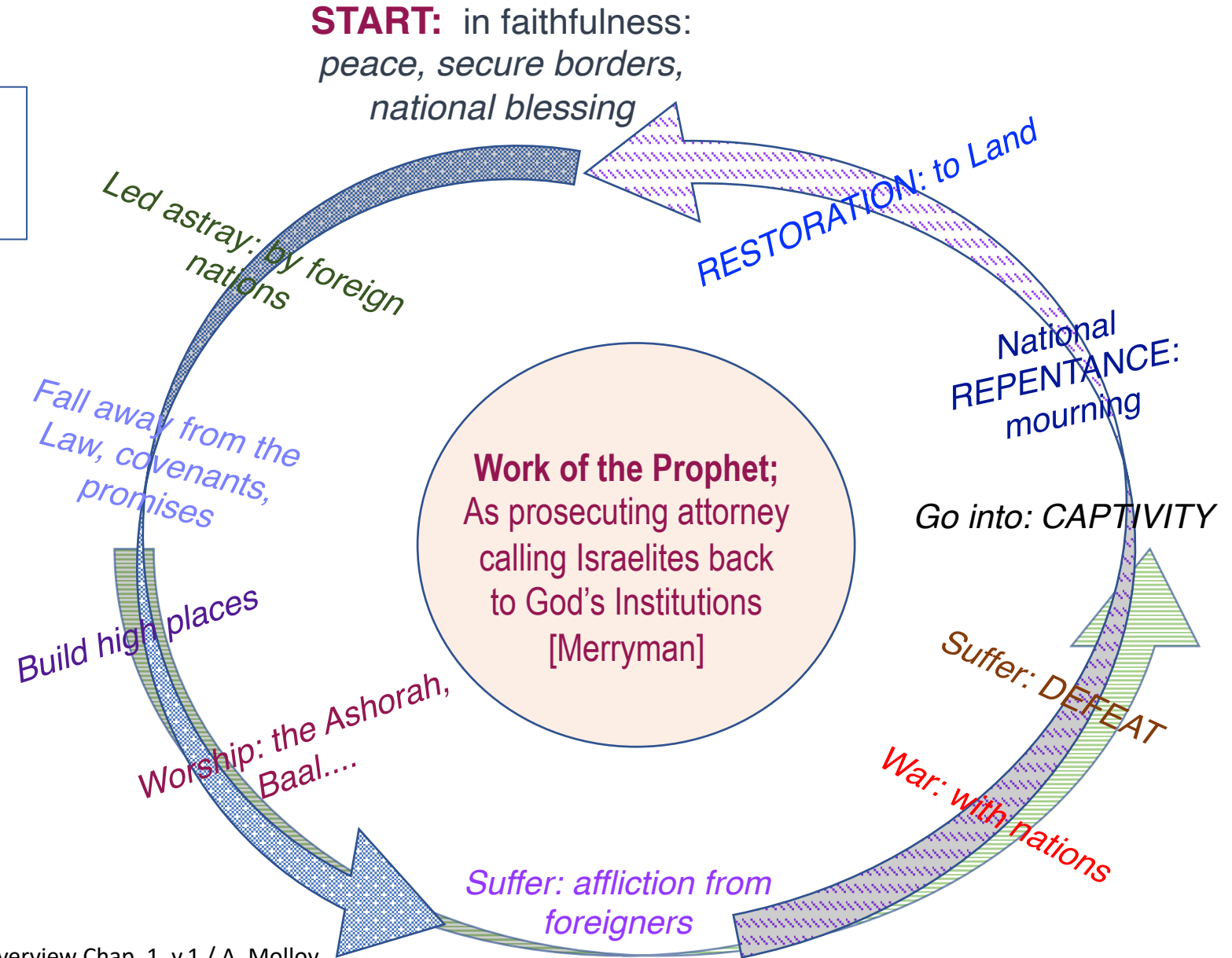
The Cycle of National Sin in Israel & Judah

And the HEED of the all the Prophets to Both to Remain, Continue in the Blessing (at Left)

GOD'S BLESSING TO ISRAEL:

- The Adoption as sons
- The glory
- The Covenants
- The Law
- Temple Services
- The Promises: *land, seed, blessing*

[Rom. 9:4]



Common Characteristics of PROPHETS as 'Truth Tellers' :



- They affirmed the collective and individual apostasy of their listeners
- They predicted God's judgment on Israel via the Assyrians & Babylonians due to their apostasy
- They predicted God's eventual restoration of His people Israel to the Land, though yet in unbelief (fulfillment: May 14, 1948)
- Their message was not popular: it was rejected by the priests, religious leaders (the Ministerial Alliance), the politicians, the people and the press (*sound familiar?!?*)

FROM: 'LEARNING FROM HABAKKUK: CERTAINTY IN TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY' RONALD C. MERRYMAN,; P. 5: MERRYMAN MINISTRIES, LEE'S SUMMIT, MO

Example of the unpopularity / unwelcomed reception of a prophet from previous Pt. IV: (I Kings 22:5-8)



. . . Moreover, Jehoshaphat (**King of Judah/south**) said to the king of Israel, (**AHAB/north**) “Please inquire first for the word of the LORD.” Then the king of Israel (**AHAB**) gathered the prophets together, ***about four hundred men(!)***, and said to them, “Shall I go against Ramoth-gilead to battle or shall I refrain?” And they said, “Go up, for the Lord will give it into the hand of the king.” But (**King**) Jehoshaphat said, “Is there not yet a prophet of the LORD here that we may inquire of him?” The king of Israel (**AHAB**) said to Jehoshaphat,

“There is yet one man by whom we may inquire of the LORD, but I hate him, because he does not prophesy good concerning me, but evil. He is Micaiah son of Imlah.” But Jehoshaphat said, “Let not the king say so.”

Micah: It's Chiasm (a Hebrew Poetry Pattern)



ADAPTED FROM: LITERARY STRUCTURE OF THE BIBLE; HAJIME MURAI-
HTTP://WWW.BIBLE.LITERARYSTRUCTURE.INFO/BIBLE/33_MICAH_E_1.HTML

Crimes & Sins

1: Judgment against Assyria [1:1-7]

Sins

2: Doom of the Cities of Judah [1:8-16]

Punishment

3: Social Evils Denounced [2: 1-13]

Hear 3:1

b. Wickedness (3:10)

4: Wicked Rulers & Prophets [3: 1-12]

The Mount of the Lord

5: Restoration promised after exile [4: 1-14]

Fold here:

VICTORY: vs. foreign countries

6: The Ruler from Bethlehem [5: 1-8]

VICTORY: vs. foreign countries

7: The Future Role of the remnant [5: 9-14]

The Mount of the Lord

8: God Challenges Israel [6: 1-8]

b. Wickedness (6:10)

Hear (6:9)

9: Cheating & Violence to be punished [6:9-16]

Punishment

10: The total corruption of the people [7:1-8]

Sins

11: Penitence & Trust in God [7:9-13]

Crimes & Sins

12: God's Compassion and Steadfast Love [7:18-20]

Moresheth gath:
Hometown of
Micah



Cities of the Prophecy of MICAH

Lachish: 1st town
in Judea to
introduce idolatry

Shaphir
Gath
Jerusalem
Lachish
Adullam
Zaanan

Maroth - unknown probably in the Philistine plain : *lit. 'bitter town'*
Achzib - between Mareshah and Adullam : *lit. 'lie'*
Mareshah
Moresheth –i.e. Mareshah Gath where Micah lived



COURTESY: BOB
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Cities in Micah 1

Especially: Mic 1:9-16

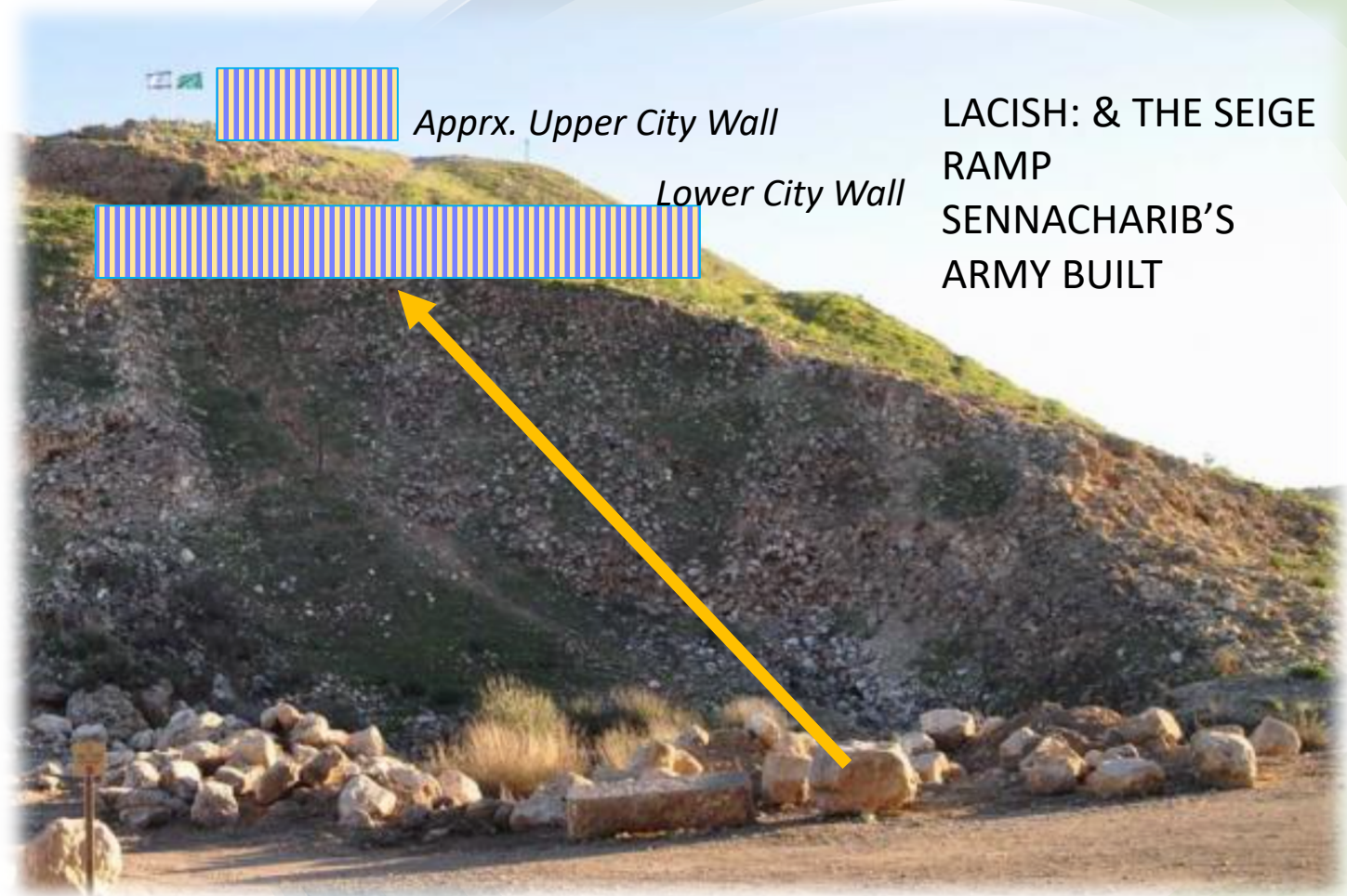
HOMework: For Next week.....



<https://youtu.be/34XBkm4QiLo?si=pqKSe4AVK2iF1qwJ>

King Hezekiah, Sennacharib & the fall of Judah

- Isaiah 36:1–37:38
- 2 Chron. 32: 1-23
- 2 Kings 18, 19



Masada:
*Its Siege ramp
built by the
Roman army*



1:1 - The word of the LORD which came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.



Micah – means ‘Who is like Yahweh?’

Concerning: SAMARIA – capital of the Northern Kingdom = ISRAEL (all 20 Kings after Solomon were BAD kings) see supplement

And concerning: Jerusalem: capital of Kingdom of Judah = Southern Kingdom (Tribes of Judah & Benjamin)

BIOGRAPHIES OF THE KINGS MICAH was under:

(Just prior to Jotham was Uzziah:)

- He initially did what was right in the sight of the Lord; but he didn't tear down the Ashera poles/ shrines in the high places— he did not reform the people of Judah
- He was very blessed militarily and had Judah secure
- But his heart was proud: he entered the temple and burned incense to the Lord, doing the work of a priest
- For this: God struck him with leprosy— which he had until his death

I. JOTHAM: [2 Kings 15: 32-38]

- i. Uzziah's son
- ii. Did right in the sight of the Lord: but did not tear down the high places
- iii. Strong militarily

1:1 - The word of the LORD which came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.



BIOGRAPHIES OF THE KINGS OF JUDAH MICAH was under:

II. **AHAZ:** [2 Kings 16; 2 Chron. 28] 731-715 B.C.

- i. Bad king: did not do right in the sight of the Lord
- ii. Very bad: he sacrificed and burned incense on the high places
- iii. Even sacrificed his own son to Molech
- iv. Got a slaughtering from the King of Aram (Damascus)
- v. Got slaughtered from the Tribe of Ephraim (No. Kingdom)
- vi. He basically replaced the Lord's temple service and alter with that of the gods of Damascus (he was paying tribute to Syria)

III. **HEZEKIAH:** [2 Kings 18, 19; 2 Chron. 29] 715-687 B.C.

- a) Very, very good King
- b) He tore down the pillars and the Asherah poles....
- c) He destroyed Moses's bronze serpent which was still in existence (it was being worshipped)
- d) He clung to the Lord, did not depart from Him
- e) Northern Kingdom fell to Assyria under Hezekiah, went into captivity
- f) Sennacharib laid siege to Judah, Lachish fell; Sennacharib tried to get tribute out of Hezekiah
- g) Sennacharib's commander: *'Men of Jerusalem, do not listen to Hezekiah, come out and surrender!..'*

1:1 - The word of the LORD which came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.


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BIOGRAPHIES OF THE KINGS OF JUDAH MICAH was under:

III. HEZEKIAH , continued: [2 Kings 18,19; 2 Chron. 29] 715-687 B.C.


- h) So, Hezekiah called in the Big Gun:
- i) Isaiah: who said 'do not be afraid of the King of Assyria'
- j) Hezekiah prays a beautiful prayer to the Lord regarding Sennacharib, and the threat to Jerusalem
- k) The Lord answers with: 'I have had Sennacharib's downfall planned from long ago from ancient times, I've got his number (and a hook in his nose), he will turn back from where he came'
- l) The answer: Lord Byron describes it quite nicely:




The Destruction of Sennacharib *(Lord Byron, 1815)*



*The Assyrian came down like the wolf on the fold,
And his cohorts were gleaming in purple and gold;
And the sheen of their spears was like stars on the sea,
When the blue wave rolls nightly on deep Galilee.
Like the leaves of the forest when Summer is green,
That host with their banners at sunset were seen:
Like the leaves of the forest when Autumn hath blown,
That host on the morrow lay withered and strown.*



The Destruction of Sennacharib *(Lord Byron, 1815)*



*For the Angel of Death spread his wings on the blast,
And breathed in the face of the foe as he passed;
And the eyes of the sleepers waxed deadly and chill,
And their hearts but once heaved, and for ever grew still!
And there lay the steed with his nostril all wide,
But through it there rolled not the breath of his pride;
And the foam of his gasping lay white on the turf,
And cold as the spray of the rock-beating surf.*

The Destruction of Sennacharib *(Lord Byron, 1815)*

*And there lay the rider distorted and pale,
With the dew on his brow, and the rust on his mail:
And the tents were all silent, the banners alone,
The lances unlifted, the trumpet unblown.
And the widows of Ashur are loud in their wail,
And the idols are broke in the temple of Baal;
And the might of the Gentile, unsmote by the sword,
Hath melted like snow in the glance of the Lord!*