OLD TESTAMENT · MINOR PROPHETS · BOOK 33 OF 66

Micah

What doth the LORD require of thee? (6:8)

7	Micah	c. 735–700 B.C.	Beth-lehem
Chapters, 105 Verses	The Morasthite	Jotham to Hezekiah	The Ruler's birthplace (5:2)

STRUCTURE

The Book in Three Parts

Three messages, each opening with "Hear," and each moving from judgment to hope.



Each bar shows that part's share of the 105 verses.

I 1–2 · 29 verses

Judgment and a Remnant

Samaria falls; a flock gathered.

II 3–5 · 40 verses

The Coming King

Zion plowed; a Ruler from Beth-lehem.

III 6–7 · 36 verses

The LORD's Mercy

What He requires; He pardons sin.

THE SHAPE OF THE BOOK

Three Calls to Hear

Each message opens with "Hear" and ends with hope.

1 1:2 · 2:12

"Hear, All Ye People"

Samaria and Judah judged; then "I will surely gather the remnant."

2 3:1 · 5:2

"Hear, I Pray You, O Heads of Jacob"

Corrupt rulers rebuked; then a Ruler from Beth-lehem.

3 6:1 · 7:18

"Hear Ye Now What the LORD Saith"

The LORD's controversy; then "Who is a God like unto Thee?"

From Samaria to Bethlehem

MAP

From Samaria to Bethlehem

Micah warned both capitals, mourned over the towns around his home in the low hills of Judah, and named little Bethlehem as the birthplace of the Ruler. The numbers match the cards below.

MICAH 1; 5

From Samaria to Bethlehem

Two capitals judged, Micah's home towns mourn, and a Ruler promised

c. 735–700 B.C. · Places approximate



The capitals
Samaria and Jerusalem (1:5)

Towns of the lament
Gath, Lachish, Mareshah, Adullam

Micah's home and Bethlehem
Moresheth-gath (1:1) and the Ruler's birthplace (5:2)

Judah
The southern kingdom

"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good."

MICAH 6:8 (KJV)

Moresheth-gath lay about 35 km (22 mi) southwest of Jerusalem.

BibleStudyForAll.com · Map positions approximate · Scripture from the King James Version

1 1:5–6

Samaria

Capital. Israel's capital: "I will make Samaria as an heap of the field."

2 1:9; 3:12

Jerusalem

Capital. The wound "is come unto the gate of my people, even to Jerusalem."

3 1:10

Gath

Town of the lament. "Declare ye it not at Gath": do not let the Philistines hear.

4 1:1, 14

Moresheth-gath

Home of promise. Micah's home town in the low hills of Judah.

5 1:15

Mareshah

Town of the lament. "Yet will I bring an heir unto thee, O inhabitant of Mareshah."

6 1:13

Lachish

Town of the lament. "Bind the chariot to the swift beast": a fortress city of Judah.

7 1:15

Adullam

Town of the lament. "He shall come unto Adullam the glory of Israel."

8 5:2

Bethlehem

Home of promise. Little among the thousands of Judah, yet the Ruler would come from it.

MICAH AT A GLANCE · PART 3 OF 5

The Mountain of the LORD and the Ruler from Beth-lehem

MICAH 4

The Mountain of the LORD

In the last days the nations will come to learn God's ways, and war will end.

4:1
Exalted
Above the hills

4:2
Taught
"He will teach us of His ways"

4:3
At Peace
Swords into plowshares

4:4
Secure
Every man under his vine

> *"And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."*
>
> Micah 4:3 (KJV)

MICAH 5

The Ruler from Beth-lehem

Seven hundred years before His birth, Micah named the town where Christ would be born.

> *"But thou, Beth-lehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."*
>
> Micah 5:2 (KJV)

5:2
Born in Beth-lehem
Little among Judah

5:2
From Everlasting
His goings forth of old

5:4
The Shepherd
Feeds in the LORD's strength

5:5
Our Peace
"This man shall be the peace"

What the LORD Requires, and Christ in Micah

MICAH 6

What Doth the LORD Require?

Not rivers of oil or a firstborn son, but a life turned toward God and neighbour.

1 6:8

Do Justly

Deal fairly; no wicked balances or seized fields.

2 6:8

Love Mercy

Delight in kindness, as God delights in mercy (7:18).

3 6:8

Walk Humbly

Walk with thy God, in trust and obedience.

"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" (6:8)

MICAH 7

Who Is a God Like unto Thee?

The book closes by answering the question in Micah's own name.

7:18

He Pardons

Iniquity and transgression

7:18

He Delights

In mercy

7:19

He Subdues

Our iniquities

7:19

He Casts

Sins into the depths of the sea

LOOKING FORWARD

Christ in Micah

Micah points to the King who would be born in Beth-lehem and shepherd His people.

5:2 · MATTHEW 2:5–6

Born in Bethlehem

The scribes told Herod that Christ would be born in Bethlehem of Judaea.

5:2 · JOHN 1:1

From Everlasting

The One born in Beth-lehem had no beginning.

5:4 · JOHN 10:11

The Good Shepherd

He feeds His flock in the strength of the LORD.

7:6 · MATTHEW 10:36

A Man's Foes

Jesus used Micah's words about households divided over Him.

Key Themes and Key Verse

BIG IDEAS

Key Themes

God Judges Sin
Samaria an heap of the field.
1:6

Justice for the Poor
They covet fields.
2:2

Faithful Leaders
Is it not for you to know judgment?
3:1

A Remnant
I will surely gather.
2:12

The Messiah
Out of thee shall He come forth.
5:2

Peace for the Nations
Swords into plowshares.
4:3

True Religion
Do justly, love mercy, walk humbly.
6:8

Hope in God
I will wait for the God of my salvation.
7:7

Forgiveness
He delighteth in mercy.
7:18

KEY VERSE

"He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

Micah 6:8 (KJV)