MICAH 3

"But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the LORD, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin." **Micah 3v8**

Daniel Rowland - 'The Angry Clergyman' Micah 1-3 'The Angry Prophet'.

Micah's picture of God you may be not be used to, afraid, even alarmed.

v1-4 Rulers; v5-7 Prophets; v9-12 Rulers v11 Rulers, Priests & Prophets

1. THREE FALSE ASSUMPTIONS (Do not take God for granted)

[1] v4 God will always hear us - Proverbs 1v28

[2] v7 God will always speak to us - Amos 8v11

[3] v11 God will always be with us and protect us - v12

2. THREE FORGOTTEN SINS (Do act as though God doesn't see)

[1] v1-3 Rulers do not give justice

[2] v5-7 Prophets do not speak God's word

[3] v9-10 Rulers do not give justice

v11 Rulers; Priests & Prophets love money - 1 Tim 3v3; 6v10; 2 Tim 3v2

v12 Judgement is coming

3. THREE FEATURES OF HOPE (Do not think God is not speaking)

[1] 1v1 The word of the Lord came to Micah of Moresheth

[2] 2v12-13 Gathered like sheep & 'Breaker' the Messiah

[3] 3v8 Micah's ministry - i. His loneliness

ii. His unction

iii. His mission

"*When the Holy Spirit comes in revival there is a great anointing, and it shows itself in many ways. You read of men who had believed the truth, and who were preaching faithfully and regularly, but who were ineffective and lacking in power. Suddenly they are filled with power. They speak with boldness and with power and with great authority. That is the anointing of the Spirit . . .*" Dr Lloyd-Jones

MICAH 4v1-5

(a) Did you ever copy anyone at School or let a friend copy your answer?

Compare Micah 4v1-5 with Isaiah 2v1-5 - who copied whom?

The Holy Spirit wanted this to be in twice - why?

(b) Why all these prophecies about people long ago and far away?

[1] Proof that this is the word of the LORD;

[2] Jerusalem's destruction, see 3v12, was not the victory of other gods;

[3] God is Sovereign overall nations;

[4] A vision of the future gives hope for today;

(c) How are we to interpret prophecies?

Prophecies about destruction are easy to see if they come true;

Prophecies of hope are more difficult: [1] Time scale - *"the latter days"*

[2] Language used - *"the highest mountain"*? Literal or a picture to convey.

Jerusalem the golden / in glory high above;
O city of God's presence, / O vision of God's love:
how wonderful the pleasures / and joys awaiting there;
what radiancy of glory, / what peace beyond compare!

1. JERUSALEM THE GOLDEN - v1

Stability - *"shall be established"*

Supremacy - *"the highest of the mountains...above the hills."*

Supernatural magnetism - *"peoples shall flow to it".*

2. HOME OF GOD'S ELECT - v2

They encourage one another - *"come, let us go..."*

They come to learn - *"he may teach us his ways"*

They come so that they can walk with God - *"we may walk in his paths"*

They come because here is the word of the LORD - v2d Zion replaces Sinai

3. PEACE BEYOND COMPARE - v3-5

The Lord is coming to Judge and will put all things right;

United nations - statue and inscription;

Metal railings, pots & pans, turned into weapons and aircraft?

Weapons of war turned into implements of agriculture - v3b

No fear - *"No one shall make them afraid."*

No sin - *"Walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever."*



Statue at the United Nations of a man beating his sword into a plowshare.