

“Leaders Needed” - Micah 3:1-12

Ask - “Do you consider yourself more of a leader or follower? Explain your answer.”

Background - Micah was an Old Testament prophet who spoke to both the Northern and Southern Kingdom (Samaria and Jerusalem). He warned of future judgment upon both, but also spoke of restoration to follow. Micah was likely written between 735-700 BC.

“Corrupt Leadership” - Micah 3:1-4

(v1) To whom are Micah’s words addressed? Should leaders be unaccountable and free from justice? Is this issue still a problem today?

(v2-3) How does Micah describe Israel’s leaders and prophets? Identify and discuss each of the descriptors he gives about them.

(v4) How does God respond to their cries? What does He do instead and why?

MICAH LEVELS AN INDICTMENT AGAINST THE LEADERS OF ISRAEL. THEY ARE WICKED, CORRUPT, AND VILE. GOD WILL SEND HIS JUSTICE UPON THEM.

“False Prophets” - Micah 3:5-8

(v5) How does the message of these false prophets change based upon their circumstances? Explain.

(v6-7) What does God say will happen to the prophetic messages, visions, and dreams? How will they be affected?

(v8) How does Micah contrast with these other prophets? What is Micah’s main message and how does it differ from theirs?

THE LORD CHARGES THE FALSE PROPHETS WITH FLATTERING THOSE WHO SUPPORT THEM AND CONDEMNING THOSE WHO DON’T. THEIR PROPHECIES WILL PROVE TO BE EMPTY.

“Inescapable Accountability” - Micah 3:9-12

(v9-10) To whom does the LORD address this declaration? How does He describe them? Compare this with verses 2-3 above.

(v11) What 3 offices are named? What sin do they have in common? What is their primary message?

(v12) What does the LORD, through Micah, state will actually happen? Who will share a large part of the blame for the coming judgment?

THE LEADERS, PRIESTS, AND PROPHETS WILL BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR LIES, GREED, AND DECEPTION.

Application - Leadership matters. Corrupt, wicked leaders who are more interested in money than in truth will be held accountable. They will not escape God's justice forever. They promise peace and prosperity, they tickle the ears of their listeners, and they slander those who question their message. But the day is coming - perhaps sooner than later - that those in authority will have to answer for their leadership. Pray for our leaders - in the church, the government, the workplace, the family, the schools, and so forth.