

What the Lord Requires of You

“Do Justice (Part 1): The Lord is Coming to Judge”

Micah 1:1-2:13 – February 15, 2026

Our Sermon Series

WHAT THE LORD REQUIRES OF YOU		
A Study of the Book of Micah		
Date	Message Title	Bible Text
Feb 15	DO JUSTICE (Part 1): <i>The Lord is Coming to Judge</i>	Micah 1:1-2:13
Feb 22	DO JUSTICE (Part 2): <i>A Day is Coming When All Wars Will Cease</i>	Micah 3:1-4:8
Mar 1	LOVE MERCY (Part 1): <i>Bethlehem, Armageddon, and the King</i>	Micah 4:9-5:15
Mar 8	WALK HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD: <i>I Will Look to the Lord</i>	Micah 6:1-7:10
Mar 15	LOVE MERCY (Part 2): <i>When God Casts Your Sins into the Sea</i>	Micah 7:11-20

Overview of Micah

- Micah is a prophet who spoke to the common people of Judah from 740-700 BC during the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah.
- Micah's name means “**who is like Yahweh?**” (Micah 7:18)
- The common people were being harassed by wealthy and oppressive rulers and false prophets. Micah cried out for social justice!
- Micah's messages used courtroom language where God is both the Judge, the Jury, and the Witness. In courtroom fashion, Micah began each message with “Hear ye, hear ye”:
 - Hear all you peoples, God is coming to judge His people (1:2-2:13)
 - Hear all you leaders, disaster is coming because of all of your injustices (3:1-5:15)
 - Hear all you mountains, the Lord has an indictment against His people (6:1-7:20)
- Micah's 3 prophecies go back and forth between...

Accusations and warnings	Micah 1:1-2:11	Micah 3:1-12	Micah 6:1-7:10
Hope and restoration	Micah 2:12-13	Micah 4:1-5:15	Micah 7:11-20

- Theme verse for whole book: **Micah 6:8** (let's memorize it together, ESV)
- Application Preview: Lord, how are you calling me to...
 - Do justice?
 - Love kindness?
 - Walk humbly with You?

Thought Flow of Micah Chapters 1-2

- **1:1** - Intro. Ahaz (bad king). Jotham (so-so king). Hezekiah (great king).
- **1:2** - First of three “Hear ye.” Courtroom language. The Lord is Judge, Jury, and Witness.
- **1.2-4** - Pay attention! The Lord is coming to judge!
- **1:5** - Why? Because of the sins of Israel. These sins are headquartered in Samaria (North) and Jerusalem (South).

- **1:6-7** - Judgment and destruction is coming. (Assyria will defeat and destroy Samaria).
- **1:7** – Calling out Israel's sins: idolatry, unjust wages, prostitution.
- **1:8-9** - Micah laments the coming destruction of Samaria.
- **1:10-16** - Micah calls the surrounding cities to lament for Samaria, Jerusalem, and themselves. (The “conqueror” is Assyria.)
- **2:1-5** - Woe to the oppressors. The powerful seize land and houses. God will bring disaster on the family of Israel.
- **2:6** - People to Micah: “Don't preach these things. These judgments will not happen!”
- **2:7** – Micah to the people: “Yes, these judgments WILL happen. But, God's Word does good to those who walk uprightly.”
- **2:8-9** - Israel's sins: stripping innocent people (women and children) of their robes, houses, and God's glory.
- **2:10** - Judgment destruction is coming.
- **2:11** - Anyone who preaches differently is wrong but also is a fitting preacher for these deceived people.
- **2:12-13** - Hope for the future: The Lord will gather a remnant of His people in the future, and (like sheep) He will Shepherd them Himself as Messiah King.

Micah's Message for Us in Chapters 1 and 2

- 1. The Lord is coming to judge (1:2-4,6)**
 - The Lord judged Israel (north) in 722 BC by sending the Assyrian army to conquer and defeat Samaria (northern Israel).
 - The Lord judged Judah (south) in 586 BC by sending the Babylonian army to conquer and defeat Jerusalem (southern Judah).
 - The Lord will judge the whole world at an undisclosed date in the future when He sends a Great Tribulation as described in Revelation 6-19.
 - Application #1 – Warning: Whether during our lifetime or in death, we WILL give an accounting for our actions and choices and words (Matthew 12:36; Romans 14:12; 2 Corinthians 5:10). Judgment IS coming!!!!
- 2. The reason He is coming to judge is because of idolatry and injustice (1:7; 2:1-2,8-9)**
 - **Idolatry**: Northern Israel had set up golden calves in Dan and Bethel that they worshipped (1 Kings 12:28-30). Under Ahab and Jezebel, the worship of the Phoenician god Baal and the goddess Asherah became dominant (1 Kings 16:31-33; 18:19; 2 Kings 17:16-17).
 - Application #2 – How is my country guilty of idolatry today? How am I guilty of idolatry today? Idolatry is a heart orientation of what we rely on, love, or fear the most. I need to repent of making an idol of...
 - Technology and social media
 - Money and consumerism

- Individualism and self
- Career and status
- Comfort and entertainment
- Politics and ideology
- Celebrities
- My family
- **Injustice:** The land-grabbing upper classes used their power to unjustly take land away from the poor and the powerless. They took innocent people's clothing and houses from them.
- Classic example: Ahab, Jezebel, and Naboth's vineyard (1 Kings 21)
- Tim Keller: "Biblical justice is rooted in the very character of God and is characterized by radical generosity, universal equality, life-changing advocacy for the poor, and responsibility. Biblical justice requires that every person be treated according to the same standards with the same respect, regardless of class, race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, or any other social category (Leviticus 19:15; Deut. 16:19)."
- Application #3 – How is my country guilty of economic injustice today? How am I guilty of or complicit to economic injustice today?
 - Am I paying all the people in my life a fair wage? An equitable wage? Do I pay equally qualified people of different genders the same? Do I pay equally qualified people of different ethnicity the same?
 - Have I researched how my investments (mutual funds) are being used and for what? Are any of my investments engaging in labor exploitation in countries with weak labor laws? Are any of my investments helping fund abortions?
 - Do I tip generously? Tipping is a very tangible way to help those who are making low wages.

3. Despite the coming judgment, there is **hope** for those who turn to the Lord (2:12-13)

- This is our first glimpse of Messiah in the Book of Micah.
- Stephen Um: "Here is the ultimate hope: a Shepherd is on His way who gathers His people together. He will burst through the gap and burst open the gates of oppression to lead us to the dawn of a new day."
- These verses promise us a good King who will lead us. This King will lead us by fulfilling the just requirements of God's law, dying in our place, rising from the dead, and then sending His Spirit to live inside any who invite Him to (John 1:12; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 3:16). This is the key to living Micah 6:8. You can't... unless you...
- Application #4 – Receive King Jesus into your life.

Lord Jesus, I repent of my sin, and I receive You into my life. Thank You for dying on the cross for my sins and for rising from the dead. By faith, I invite You into my life to forgive me of my sins, to give me eternal life, and to live Your Micah 6:8 life in me and through me.

- Go public with your faith decision through public water baptism on Sunday, March 1. Info at WhatIsGrace.org/Baptisms
- Application #5 – Five tangible ways to DO JUSTICE this month through your church. Find out about all of these and more at WhatIsGrace.org/Missions (especially click on "Upcoming Events" under Local Outreach):
 - Participate in Feed the Hunger Packathon on Feb 19, 20, or 21. If GF tickets run out, go to feedthehunger.org/katy/
 - Help out regularly with GF's Garden of Grace that grows fresh produce for the poor.
 - Mobilize your small group to create and execute a Double Dog Dare project.
 - Go on a cross-cultural mission trip this summer.
 - Volunteer with one of Grace Fellowship's partner organizations: Houston Welcomes Refugees houstonwelcomesrefugees.com/ or Prestige Learning Institute prestigeinstitute.org/
- Application #6 – Nine tangible ways to DO JUSTICE this month in your everyday life:
 - Make it personal.** Get to know people. Ask the names of the people who serve you (cashier, barista, custodian, mail carrier). Use their name. Make eye contact. Treat them as image-bearers. Listen to their story. Get up close. (Regina: "It's hard to hate up close.")
 - Pay people fairly.** There is something more important than minimizing your expenses and maximizing your profits – namely, biblical justice, kindness, and love. Honor the labor of others. Increase the pay of the person who mows your lawn or cleans your house or watches your children.
 - Tip very generously.** Tipping is an easy way to help some of the lowest income earners in our community. Be generous.
 - Buy with awareness.** Before purchasing, do your research to know: Was this made ethically? Does this company exploit workers? Is this harming vulnerable communities? Be intentional.
 - Speak up when someone is dismissed.** If someone is interrupted, misrepresented, or stereotyped, say, "I'd like to hear them finish," or "That might not be the whole story." Small interventions create just environments.
 - Pray and examine your own biases.** Ask yourself: Who do I instinctively distrust? Whose suffering do I overlook? Where do I benefit from systems that I've never questioned?
 - Listen to stories outside of your experience.** Read books, attend events, or have conversations with people whose economic or cultural experiences differ from yours. Justice grows from informed empathy.
 - Memorize Micah 6:8** (ESV) and recite it daily in Feb & March
 - Watch The Bible Project's** "Book of Micah Summary: A Complete Animated Overview" [6:39]