

# What the Lord Requires of You

“Do Justice (Part 2): Hitched and Hijacked”

Micah 3:1-4:8 – February 22, 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>Hitched and Hijacked</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

## Four Lessons from Micah on Unhitching

### 1. Unhitch from **Predatory power** (Micah 3:1-4)

- **They're hitched to a power without responsibility**
  - These are rulers who **know** justice but reject it (3:1)
  - Leadership has become **predatory**, not protective
  - Authority meant to shepherd now **consumes** people (ref. Ezekiel 34:2-4)
- **Key Idea:** They hitched themselves to **position** instead of **justice**. (ref. Isaiah 10:1-2)
- **What Micah Exposes**
  - They used authority to **consume** people
  - They treated God's people as **fuel**, not neighbors
  - When crisis comes, God **will not answer** them (3:4) (ref. Jeremiah 22:16)
- **What do we learn? We must unhitch from:**
  1. Using power to **protect ourselves** instead of **servicing others**
  2. Valuing **position** over **people**
  3. Separating **authority** from **accountability**
- **Mark 10:43-45** – *But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,<sup>[a]</sup> 44 and whoever would be first among you must be slave<sup>[b]</sup> of all. 45 For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*

### 2. Unhitch from **Transactional Religion** (Micah 3:5-8)

- **They're hitched to a Gospel that's for sale**
  - Prophets speak **peace** when they are **paid** (3:5)

- Silence or **doom** when they are not
- God's word has become a **product** (ref. Ezekiel 13:17-19)

➤ **Key Idea:** They didn't reject spirituality—they **monetized** it. (ref. Isaiah 30:10)

### ➤ **What Micah Exposes**

- Prophetic truth was driven by **appetite**, not obedience
- Messages shaped by **comfort**, not conviction
- Religion used to **manage people**, not confront sin (ref. Jeremiah 6:13-14)

### ➤ **Micah's Contrast**

- False prophets are driven by **hunger** (3:5)
- Micah is driven by the **Spirit of the Lord** (3:8)
- One avoids **confrontation**
- One speaks **truth**, even when it costs (Ref. 1 Corinthians 2:4-5)

### ➤ **What do we learn? We must unhitch from:**

1. Expecting God's word to **benefit us** before it **forms us** (Micah 3:5)
2. Letting our **comfort** determine our **convictions** (Micah 3:5-6)
3. Using spirituality **to avoid confrontation** instead of **calling out sin** (Micah 3:8)

### 3. Unhitch from **Religious Presumption** (Micah 3:9-12)

#### ➤ **What They're Hitched To: Presumption**

- Leaders, priests, and prophets all named (3:9)
- Everyone is corrupt—but everyone feels **secure**
- They rely on God's presence as a **given** instead of a **gift** (ref. Psalm 78:34-37; Jeremiah 7:4-11)

#### ➤ **The Verdict**

- “Zion shall be plowed as a field.” (3:12)
- The city that symbolized permanence will look like **farmland**
- This is **reversal theology**—status and position do not protect from judgment

- Definition: Reversal theology is the truth that God can and will overturn human assumptions about safety, power, and permanence—what seems secure in our eyes can be plowed under **if we are living in pride and presumption**. (ref. Isaiah 1:7; Lamentations 2:1-2)

➤ **Key Idea:** You can be surrounded by religious language and still be **hijacked by pride**.

#### ➤ **What do we learn? We must unhitch from:**

1. Assuming **presence** equals **protection** (Micah 3:11)

2. Trusting in **titles** or position instead of **obedience** (Micah 3:9–10)
3. Ignoring the call to **repentance while feeling secure** (Micah 3:12)  
(*ref. Proverbs 16:18; Jeremiah 17:9–10*)

- Eternal source of hope and restoration – *Revelation 21:4; Isaiah 25:8*

#### 4. Re-Hitch to the **Coming King and His Kingdom** (Micah 4:1-8)

- **What They're Invited to Hitch To: A future reign, not a present system.**
- **They are invited to hitch to...**
  1. **A Lifted Mountain** (4:1–2)
    - Hitch to God's **rule** over all nations
    - Hitch to **learning** from God, not human domination
    - Hitch to God's **word** going out, not exploitation  
(*ref. Isaiah 2:2–3; Psalm 72:8*)
  2. **A Peaceful King** (4:3–4)
    - Hitch to turning **weapons** into **tools for life**
    - Hitch to a life free of **fear**
    - Hitch to every person living under their own **vine and fig tree**  
(*ref. Isaiah 11:6–9; Zechariah 8:12*)
  3. **A Shepherd-King** (4:6–8)
    - Hitch to gathering the **lame**
    - Hitch to restoring the **outcast**
    - Hitch to the Lord reigning **forever** as the **better King**  
(*ref. Ezekiel 34:23–24; Revelation 21:1–4*)
- **Hitch to...**
  - Sovereign Lord over all nations – *Psalm 72:8; Daniel 7:14*
  - Righteous Judge – *Psalm 98:9; Revelation 19:11*
  - Prince of Peace – *Isaiah 9:6; Micah 4:3*
  - Protector of the weak and oppressed – *Psalm 10:17–18; Ezekiel 34:23–24*
  - Gatherer of the outcast and lost – *Micah 4:6–7; Luke 19:10*
  - Everlasting King – *Psalm 45:6; Revelation 11:15*
  - Source of justice and righteousness – *Isaiah 11:4–5; Jeremiah 23:5–6*
  - Good Shepherd – *John 10:11–14; Ezekiel 34:11–16*
  - Provider of peace and abundance – *Micah 4:4; Revelation 7:16–17*
  - Light of the nations – *Isaiah 60:1–3; John 8:12*
  - Healer of heart and body – *Isaiah 61:1–3; Matthew 11:28–30*
  - Victor over evil and death – *1 Corinthians 15:25–26; Revelation 20:10*
  - King who reigns in love and mercy – *Psalm 103:8; Romans 5:8*
  - Teacher of truth – *John 14:6; Matthew 5:1–12*