

What the Lord Requires of You

“Love Mercy (Part 2): When God Casts Your Sins Into the Sea”

Micah 7:11-20 – March 15, 2026

Our Sermon Series

WHAT THE LORD REQUIRES OF YOU		
<i>A Study of the Book of Micah</i>		
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

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. 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”:

Theme	Hear Ye #1	Hear Ye #2	Hear Ye #3
COMING JUDGMENT	Micah 1:1-2:11	Micah 3:1-12	Micah 6:1-7:10
HOPE	Micah 2:12-13	Micah 4:1-5:15	Micah 7:11-20

- Theme verse for whole book: **Micah 6:8**
- Application of This Series: Lord, how are you calling me to do justice? Love mercy? Walk humbly with You?

Thought Flow of Micah 7:11-20

- **7:11-13** – Micah prophesies the future restoration of Israel promising that the walls of Jerusalem will be rebuilt, its boundaries expanded, and exiled Jews will return from nations like Assyria and Egypt. Micah declares a reversal where God’s people will flourish, while the surrounding nations that oppressed them face judgment for their sins.
- **7:14-17** – Micah asks God to shepherd His desolate people returning them to former blessings. God responds by promising a miraculous, Exodus-like deliverance that will cause opposing nations to be humbled and to fear the Lord. God invites us to marvel (v.15).
- **7:18-20** – Micah boasts on the unique character of a God who pardons His people’s sins. The Lord forgets His anger and, instead, delights in steadfast love (*hesed*). He has compassion on His people again. He treads our iniquities underfoot. He will cast our sins into the depths of the seas. God is faithful to His covenant to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Three Reasons to Marvel at God (Micah 7:11-20)

1. Marvel at the **character** of God (v.18)

- Micah’s name in Hebrew literally means “Who is Like Yahweh?” And now Micah climaxes his prophecies with the question, “Who is a God like You?”
- Micah highlights at least three attributes of God:
 - (1) **Merciful** (v.18) – Michael Houdmann: “God’s mercy is the divine attribute of compassionately withholding the punishment that humanity deserves for its wrongdoings, offering forgiveness, grace, and unconditional love instead.”
 - (2) **Compassionate** (v.19) – Tim Mackie: “God’s compassion is His deep, heartfelt empathy for human suffering that moves Him to action. God’s compassion is a parental, protective love signifying God’s grace, mercy, and tendency to comfort, heal, and forgive.”
 - (3) **Faithful** (v.20) – Eden Parker: “To say that God is faithful means that He is completely trustworthy, reliable, and consistent, always keeping His promises and acting according to His holy nature.”
- Application #1 – This week, I choose to...
 - Marvel at God by spending 30 minutes in personal worship in my backyard with a worship playlist.
 - Marvel at God by studying His attributes by reading either A.W. Tozer’s “Knowledge of the Holy” or Bill Bright’s “God: Discover His Character” or by listening to The Bible Project’s “Character of God Series.”

2. Marvel at the **completeness** of your forgiveness (v.19)

- Verse 19 is an allusion to the complete victory of the Jewish people over Pharaoh’s horses and chariots, except this time, the victory will not be over the Egyptian army but over sin. Like an army being defeated, our iniquities will be trampled under God’s feet. Like the Egyptian army being drowned in the Red Sea, our sins will be cast into the depths of the sea.
- Notice the shift in Verse 19 from third person (He) to second person (You). For Micah, God’s complete forgiveness is becoming very personal. Let it become personal for you!!
- We know that God’s plan for accomplishing this promise was through the Messiah, His Son, Jesus Christ becoming a Man, dying on the cross for our sins, being buried, and rising from the dead (1 Corinth 15).
- **1 Peter 3:18** – *For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.*
- **Isaiah 53:5** (NIV) – *But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him, and by His wounds we are healed.*

- **Ephesians 1:7** – *In Christ we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.*
- **Colossians 2:13-14** – *And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the cross.*
- **1 John 1:9** – *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*
- **Romans 10:9** – *If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.*
- **Acts 2:38** – *Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*
- **Application #2** – Receive Christ into your life.

Lord Jesus, I want a personal relationship with You. I confess that I have sinned breaking that relationship. I repent of my sin. Thank You for dying on the cross and rising from the dead so that I can have a personal relationship with You. I receive You Jesus into my life. Now, please make me into a new person. I will follow You.

- **Application #3** – Get baptized. Our next immersion baptism service is on Sunday, April 12, at 12:45pm. Get more info or sign up here: WhatIsGrace.org/Baptisms
- **Application #4** – Live like you are forgiven! Forgive yourself! Quit rehearsing those old sins. You are forgiven! You are new! Live like it! Marvel at God’s complete forgiveness of you!
- Three pictures to help you accept and marvel at God’s complete forgiveness of you:
 - (1) The ocean’s complete absorption of waste.
 - (2) Corrie ten Boom’s posted sign: “When we confess our sins, God casts them into the deepest ocean, gone forever. I believe God then places a sign out there that says, ‘No Fishing Allowed.’”
 - (3) The Jewish practice of Tashlich.
- **Application #5** – Tell others how they can be forgiven through Christ. One person that I’m going to share that Good News with is...

3. Marvel at God’s **faithfulness** to His **covenants** (v.20)

- Micah concludes his prophetic book by declaring God’s faithfulness to fulfill His covenant promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
- Briah Aucker: “The book rightly concludes by summarizing the foundational attributes and actions of the covenant-keeping Lord (Exodus 34:6-7; Deuteronomy 4:31; 7:12). God’s steadfast love moves Him to keep His Word. Thus, the covenant promises to Abraham and Jacob still stand.”
- Seven major covenants that God has made in the Bible

COVENANT	SUMMARY	SCRIPTURE
Adamic	Conditional agreement with Adam promising blessing for obedience and curse and death for disobedience.	Genesis 1-3
Noahic	God unconditionally promises never again to destroy the earth with a flood. Sign of the covenant = the rainbow.	Genesis 8-9
Abrahamic	God unconditionally promises land, numerous descendants, and blessings on all nations through Abraham. Sign of the covenant = circumcision.	Genesis 12,15,17
Mosaic	God gives the Jewish people His Law and promises blessings for obedience and curses for disobedience.	Exodus 19-20,24; Deuteronomy 28
Priestly	God unconditionally promises a lasting priesthood for Phinehas and his descendants because of his zeal for God’s holiness.	Numbers 25
Davidic	God unconditionally promises that David’s throne and kingdom will be established forever thru Messiah.	2 Samuel 7; Psalm 89; Isaiah 9
New	God unconditionally promises a new relationship with people of faith in Messiah including complete forgiveness of sins and the gift of His Spirit.	Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ezekiel 36:25-27; Luke 22:20; Hebrews 8:6-13

- According to Everett Storms’ count, there are 7487 promises made by God to us.
- **Proverbs 30:5** – *Every word of God proves true.*
- **Psalms 119:160** (NIV) – *All Your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal.*
- **Matthew 5:18** – *For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.*
- **Application #6** – Lord, I marvel at Your faithfulness to all 7487 of Your promises!!! I trust You!! And specifically, I ask You to fulfill in my life Your promise for...

SOME VERY GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES		
Strength Psalm 18:32; Isaiah 40:31	Guidance John 16:13	Help Isaiah 41:10-14
Instruction Psalm 32:8; John 14:26	Wisdom Prov 2:6-8; James 1:5	Heaven John 14:1-3; 2 Peter 3:13
The Holy Spirit Acts 2:33; Eph. 1:13	Joy Psalm 132:16; Gal. 5:22	Spiritual Life Romans 8:9-13
Resurrection Life John 11:25	Sufficient Grace 2 Corinth 12:9	Eternal Rewards 1 Tim 4:8; James 1:12
Answered Prayer 1 John 5:14-15	Financial Provision Philippians 4:19	Forgiveness 1 John 1:9
Return of a Prodigal Prov. 22:6; Luke 15:17	He Will Finish His Work Philippians 1:6	Healing Isaiah 53:5
Reaching the Nations Matt. 24:14; 28:18-20	Marriage Oneness Genesis 2:24-25	I Can Do All Things Philippians 4:13

My Takeaway – My major takeaway from God’s Word today is... Someone with whom I am going to share that takeaway is...