

The Book of Micah

Chapter Three

Introduction

- The second message of Micah begins here and lasts through Chapter 7.
- Chapter 3 is directed at the aristocracy and the false prophets in the land.

Chapter Three – The Gross Sin of the People

- vs. 1 – The leaders should have understood and practice justice but did not.
- vs. 2 – hate good, love evil – complete apostasy and disregard for truth.
- vs. 2-3 – I do not think this is saying they are literally practicing cannibalism. Their actions are compared to that unpardonable act to illicit the proper response to their own sins.
- vs. 4 – When they turn to God it will be too late. God gives space for space for repentance but there comes a point when only judgment will bring it about. See Deuteronomy 31:16-18.
- vs. 5 – The selfish state of the prophets. To whomever feeds them they pronounce blessings but on those who do not feed them they mount attacks.
- vs. 6 – Because these prophets have proven unfaithful God will no longer work through them. Judging by the previous verse it appears much of their work wasn't on God's behalf anyway.
- vs. 7 – “cover their lips” – speaks of shame, see Ezekiel 24:17.
- vs. 8 – Micah is moved to contrast himself against the unfaithful prophets. While they had no courage to denounce sin, Micah was empowered by God to do so.
- vs. 9 – “pervert all equity” – A good government with good laws in a good society must be run by good men. If evil men are introduced to a good system, they will corrupt and twist it into something mirroring their own hearts.
- vs. 10 – The prosperity they had was not from God but rather built upon their evil.
- vs. 11 – See Matthew 6:24
- vs. 11 – Why do they think the Lord is among them? Likely because they had the Temple and assumed the Temple would never fall.
- vs. 12 – The only cure for their sin and arrogance was thorough judgment.