

MICAH

chapters 2 & 3

Micah was prophet during the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah (kings of Judah). Approximate years for his work are 740 to 700 B.C., the same time as the prophet Isaiah. Samaria, the northern kingdom, was destroyed by the Assyrians in 722 B.C.

Here's a brief summary of Micah chapter 1:

- Micah's vision concerns Samaria and Jerusalem.
- *"Hear, O peoples, all of you...that the Lord God may witness against you."*
- The LORD is coming down because of Jacob's transgression and Israel's sins.
- *"I will make Samaria a heap of rubble."*
- Micah used wordplays on place-names to announce the coming disasters.
- There was no good news in chapter 1.

2:1-5

Who are exposed?

What have they done wrong according to the law of Moses?

Compare the first words in verse 1 to the LORD's first words in verse 3. What do you see?

How does their punishment fit their crimes?

2:6-11

How did the "prophets" respond to Micah's message?

According to verse 11, what was their message for the people?

Do not my words do good to him whose ways are upright? Answer the LORD's question.

For what sins did the LORD rebuke his people?

See Jesus' words in Matthew 23:25-28 and Mark 12:40. What is similar to Micah words?

How do the sins mentioned in 3:1,2,8,9,11 appear in our society?

2:12-13

What is striking to you about this section?

What other parts of God's Word does this section bring to mind for you?

What image does Micah begin in verse 12, and how does he advance it in verse 13?

3:1-7

What was backwards among the leaders and rulers? (See also Isaiah 5:20.)

Explain the repulsive imagery Micah uses in verses 2 and 3.

What does the LORD expose about the prophets' motives?

What frightful judgment does the LORD pronounce in verses 6 and 7?

3:8-12

How was Micah different from those other prophets?

What rebellion and sin did Micah declare against the leaders and rulers?

What was Micah's forecast for Jerusalem?

Read Jeremiah 26:17-19 and discover what effect Micah's prophesy had.

What do these two chapters in Micah have to say to the oppressors in society?

What do these two chapters in Micah have to say to the oppressed in society?