



Who is like you, good shepherd?

Our Lord, as a good shepherd, will gather His people, take care of them in a good land, and rule over them... But for this to happen, God must remove evil from His people... through discipline, whose goal is repentance, not rejection... And after repentance, He returns to have mercy and saves His people.

+ **Number of chapters:** 7 chapters.

+ **The meaning of the name:**

- Who is like? (Michael = Who is like God?) ... Micah was living in a small city called (Moreshet) in the kingdom of Judah.

+ **Period of Prophecy:**

- He lived in the era of Isaiah the prophet and Hosea the prophet (from the prophets before the captivity)... His prophecy lasted for nearly 50 years.

+ **Circumstances of writing:**

- At this time, both kingdoms of Israel and Judah were evil and far from our Lord.

+ **Who is this book targeting?**

- For the kingdoms of Israel (and its capital is Samaria) and Judah (and its capital is Jerusalem).





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+ The book goal:

- Micah warned that the kingdom of Assyria would be captured by the kingdom of Israel, and after that it would try to destroy Jerusalem... then, kingdom of Babylon would cause even greater destruction.
- The purpose of his prophecy was to warn the people of their sins and call them to repentance before the punishment of our Lord comes, because our Lord hates sin very much.
- But as usual with the warnings, comes the promise of hope and salvation... Our Lord punishes in order to chasten and save.
- There is great hope by the incarnation of our Lord Jesus... and his acceptance of the repentant... and he is the Good Shepherd who takes care of his people.
- The greatness of the mercy of our Lord is described to us (forgiving sin and pardoning evil).
- It teaches us to wait for the Lord in tribulation.
- It teaches us social justice... It can't be that the rich oppresses the poor (as what the prophet Amos said).

+ The book Summary:

- The book goes from warning to hope, and so on.
- That the people of our Lord are a blessing to the whole world, they must be pure; and this gives us hope because the promise and faithfulness of our Lord are stronger than our sins.
- Therefore, his goal of punishment is discipline, not rejection.
- The important thing is that we understand and repent.

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WARNING AND BLAME TO ISRAEL

+ (Chapter 1):

- The prophecy begins that our Lord appears to Israel with great glory, clouds, smoke and earthquake (as it appeared in Sinai in the days of Moses the Prophet).
- But this time our Lord comes as a just judge punishing the people of Israel for more than 500 years of disobedience.

+ (Chapter 2):

- Micah explains examples of these sins... He focuses on the leaders of the people, and that they became rich by stealing and greed (as King Ahab killed Naboth the Jezreelite in order to take his field in [1 Kings 21](#)).
- Not only kings, but also the false prophets... for the sake of money they are willing to lie and say that the world is peace and there is no problem.

THEREFORE, OUR LORD WILL STOP HIS PROTECTION OF ISRAEL

- + (Chapter 2: verse 12 and 13) But as usual, there is hope for everyone who waits for the Lord... Our Lord says that, he as a good shepherd, He takes care of His people in good lands and takes care of them and reigns over them (very similar to the Gospel of the Good Shepherd - [John 10](#)).

+ What should we learn?

- The Lord is good...there is no acceptance by our Lord for any sin...and there is no opportunity to meet with Him except for the repentant who clings to the blood of Jesus Christ... As for the arrogant who commits sin and does not care about it, our Lord must send him warnings and then discipline. ..so as not to perish.

O Lord, give me a vigilant life... and continuous and immediate repentance... and if You discipline me, I will accept discipline and repent... so that I may be saved.

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WARNING AND BLAME FOR ISRAEL'S LEADERS

- In the second part, Micah completes examples of the sins of the leaders and prophets of Israel and how they all gathered to do great injustice.

+ (Chapter 3):

- Bribery - perverting the judiciary in favor of the rich... While the poor are robbed of their land and security... Of course, this is completely contrary to the commandments of our Lord in the Jewish law, that the land cannot be sold even if its owner becomes poor (Leviticus 25:23).

+ (Chapter 3 verse 12):

- Therefore, the punishment of our Lord will come... in the form of a strong and violent nation... that enslaves the kingdom of Israel and destroys the temple of Jerusalem.

+ (Chapter 4: Verse 1 to 7):

- Also after warning and punishment, hope comes... Micah says that our Lord will build his house again in the New Jerusalem (the Church of the New Testament) and dwell in it with his glory among his people who fear him... And all peoples will come to Jerusalem The new, then our Lord will reign over the whole earth, and the whole earth will know our Lord, and peace will fill the whole earth.

+ What should we learn?

- There is always hope in our Lord... Our Lord chastens until he purifies (The Lord hath chastened me sore: but he hath not given me over unto death) ... And after chastisement, if there is repentance, there would definitely be salvation and comfort.

Oh Lord, how great is your love and mercy... You chasten like a father and heal like a doctor... So that the sheep does not go astray or the son perish.



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CAPTIVITY, AND THE RETURN, AND CHRIST INCARNATION

+ (Chapter 4):

- After that, the prophet Micah talks about the captivity ... the captivity of Israel by the hand of Assyria and the captivity of Judah at the hands of Babylon, after the captivity, our Lord will gather His people and bring them back again.

+ (Chapter 5: verse 1 to 6):

- And the Christ will come in the New Jerusalem (Son of David) as a king... to be born in Bethlehem and reigns over Jerusalem.

+ (Chapter 5: from verse 7):

- And the rest who retained their faith in our Lord will be the source of blessing for all nations and preach to them with our Lord.
- And our Lord will destroy evil and rule over it.

+ What should we learn?

- The ultimate hope! God Himself descends and incarnates in our land and becomes a human like us so that he bears our sins... and we live in the glory of the New Testament: One Church uniting all nations and peoples... One people to our Lord.

O, Lord, no matter I do, I cannot thank you for this great blessing.. After we as nations were so far from salvation, you sent your only son to redeem the whole world... and all believers became one in Christ.





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FINAL WARNINGS THAT END WITH A WONDERFUL PRAYER

+ (Chapter 6):

- Micah rebukes again Israel for their sins, and reminds them that our Lord commandment is clear and that He wants His people to walk in mercy, truth and humility... .
- If they stay away from this, punishment will come.

+ (Chapter 7: Verse 8 to the end):

- The book ends with a very beautiful hope... He likens Israel to a sinful, weak and defeated person (like the captived Israel)... But this person has hope and asks for mercy and forgiveness from our Lord.
- Why does God forgive a sinful and distant people like this?

- For two reasons:

- 1- This is the nature of our Lord... A God who forgives sin and pardons evil (verse 18)
The promises of our Lord... Our Lord promised Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
- 2- And God is faithful in His promises (verse 20) Of course our Lord promised our father Abraham that in him (In his descendants) all the nations of the earth will be blessed...
Of course, in order to be a blessing to the whole world, they must be honest with our Lord.

+ What should we learn?

- The prayer of Micah the Prophet with which he ends the book is one of the greatest prayers that gives us hope... No matter how evil we are, simply because our Lord is a God who forgives sins and keeps the covenant... All we have to do is repent.

Lord, let me not look at myself and become desperate... but look at your mercy And your cross... so that I may be filled with hope and holy sorrow, which leads to repentance for salvation without remorse.



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VERSES SUMMARIZING THE BOOK

- + For, behold, the Lord cometh forth out of his place and will come down, and tread upon the high places of the earth. And the mountains shall be molten under him, and the valleys shall be cleft, as wax before the fire, and as the waters that are poured down a steep place (Micah 1: 3, 4)
- A clear indication of the incarnation of Christ and after that his second coming.
- The mountains: a sign of the arrogant man... who, on the day of the Lord's coming, as a just judge, will not have a good fate.
- Fire: A sign of the work of the Holy Spirit that opens a path in a hard heart.
- Water: a sign of being filled with the Holy Spirit.

- + Who also eat the flesh of my people, and flay their skin from off them, and they break their bones, and chop them into pieces, as for the pot, and as flesh within the caldron. Then shall they will cry unto the Lord, but He will not hear them: He will even hide His face from them at that time, as they have behaved themselves ill in their doings (Micah 3: 3, 4)
- Anyone who prays and says, "Our Lord does not listen to me," he must rethink this again: Is he doing as our Lord wants or not? If not, there will be discipline, its goal is to offer true and strong repentance.

- + But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the Lord will be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills, and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come and say: Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, and to the house of the God of Jacob, and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths. For the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off, and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks. Nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. (Micah 4: 1 - 3)
- The Last Days = Lord's Day = Cross or Second Coming.
- The mountain of the Lord = Jesus Himself (the base of the church) ... because Jerusalem was built on a mountain.



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- Established in the top of the mountains: meaning true faith overcomes the rest of the wrong philosophies and worship.
 - The return of the nations, of course, is a sign of the Church of the New Testament, which accepts all believers from all peoples.
 - Let us go up: Our Lord wants us to rise with our thoughts from the world (like Moses and Elijah, and like what our Lord Jesus used to do).
 - He will teach us of His ways: A clear sign of the Incarnation.
 - And the word of the Lord from Jerusalem: The word of our Lord is present in the church.
 - Nation shall not lift up a sword against nation: this is how our Lord thinks.. the world will be in peace... and this is the blessing of the new covenant, and it will happen completely in the happy eternity.
- + For all people will walk everyone in the name of his God, and we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever (Micah 4: 5)
- A very beautiful slogan about the power of the name of our Lord Jesus, which the Church sings in all her prayers, especially the psalis.
- + Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops. He hath laid a siege against us: They shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek. But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel, whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. (Micah 5: 1 - 2)
- Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops: It means the church will have a great army of angels and saints.
 - They shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek: a clear prophecy about what happened with Jesus.
 - Bethlehem Ephrathah: Bethlehem is a small and unknown village near Jerusalem... But David the Prophet came out of it.
 - Yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel: a clear indication of the Lord Christ... And the chief priests who were understanding, at the time of Christ's birth, when Herod asked them: Where will Christ be born? They said: In Bethlehem (based on this prophecy).
 - whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.: the eternity of Christ... He is not just born as an ordinary person... He was born of the Father before all ages.



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- + O my people, what have I done unto thee? and wherein have I wearied thee? Testify against me! For I brought thee up out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed thee out of the house of servants, and I sent before thee Moses, Aaron and Miriam. O my people, remember now what Balak king of Moab consulted, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, from Shittim unto Gilgal, that ye might know the righteousness of the Lord. Wherewith Shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good, and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God. (Micah 6: 3 - 8)
- Our Lord speaks and blames his people and is hard for him! What did I do for you to leave me and go worship other gods?
 - Wherewith Shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God: O Lord, what should we give you for your deeds? Are burners enough?
 - Is the Lord pleased with thousands of rams? Is this what pleases our Lord?!
 - Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression: O Lord, even my son himself is not sufficient and is not able to atone for my sin, so what about the calves?! What is the solution?
 - But to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God: this is the answer. This is what God wants. Neither rams nor my son ... He will redeem me and forgive me ... What is required of me: I do the right and walk through it (our Lord Jesus) and mercy and be humble with our Lord.

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- + For the son dishonoureth the father, the daughter riseth up against her mother, the daughter-in-law is against her mother-in-law; a man's enemies are the men of his own house. Therefore I will look unto the Lord, I wait for the God of my salvation. My God will hear me. (Micah 7: 6, 7)
- Because there is a lot of evil and corruption, there are no more good friends and no good morals.
 - Our Lord Himself used this verse.
 - Because there is a lot of evil in the world, it is possible if a person wants to walk with our Lord that he finds hostility even from his family.
 - Therefore I will look unto the Lord: Oh, the world has evil, but our Lord will save his children... We are supposed to be patient until God interferes (In your patience possess ye your souls).
- + Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily in the wood, in the midst of Carmel. Let them feed in Bashan and Gilead as in the days of old. According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt, will I shew unto him marvellous things. (Micah 7: 14, 15)
- Feed thy people with thy rod: the idea of a good shepherd again... Micah asks for it from our Lord... O Lord, our kings are not useful, you must be responsible for us.
 - Rod = cross.
 - Which dwell solitarily in the wood: lost and weak.
 - Let them feed in Bashan and Gilead as in the days of old: every corner of it is a mess, fix it, O Lord.
 - According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt, will I shew unto him marvellous things: as you brought your people out of the land of Egypt, O Lord, show them the wonders again.



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INTERPRETATION OF SOME VERSES

- + I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee. I will surely gather the remnant of Israel. I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men. The breaker is come up before them. They have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it, and their king shall pass before them, and the Lord on the head of them. (Micah 2: 12, 13)
- This part reminds us with the Gospel of the Good Shepherd (John 10).
- Our Lord gathers His people, like sheep, in His barn and takes care of them in good pastures... So we go in and out, we are saved, and we find pasture.
- The breaker = our Lord Jesus, who removes the obstacles in our path and opens for us the gates of heaven.

- + But truly I am full of power by the Spirit of the Lord, and of judgement and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel of his sin. (Micah 3: 8)
- A great blessing for any people and any church in which there is a servant filled with the holy spirit like Micah... He faces the people with their sin and calls them to repentance.
- Strength in service comes from the Spirit of our Lord, not from talents or appearances.
- It is also very important that the servant knows that his main message is that he reaches the people of our Lord... I mean, if he sees something wrong, he cannot remain silent about it.

- + Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy, when I fall, I shall arise. when I sit in the darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me. I will bear the indignation of the Lord because I have sinned against Him, until he plead my cause, and execute judgement for me. He will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold his righteousness. Then she that is mine enemy shall see it, and shame shall cover her, which said unto me: 'Where is the Lord thy God?' Mine eyes shall behold her. Now shall she be trodden down as the mire of the streets. (Micah 7: 8 - 10)
- A beautiful verse we all memorize; When we are defeated by sin, the voice of despair rises inside us; But the voice of hope says that there is salvation by the mercy of our Lord.



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- I will bear the indignation of the Lord because I have sinned against Him: If He chastens me, I will be patient and endure, that I may be purified.
 - Until he plead my cause, and execute judgement for me: Because on the Day of Judgment I will be innocent with His precious blood.
 - He will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold his righteousness: In eternal life, hope.
 - Then she that is mine enemy shall see it, and shame shall cover her: Shame of Satan, who used to tell me: Where is God?
- + Who is a god like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? He retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into depths of the sea. Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, and the mercy to Abraham, which thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old. (Micah 7: 18, 20)
- The Book of Micah ends with a wonderful prayer.
 - Who is a god like unto thee: this is the meaning of the name Micah...there is no one like you Lord.
 - That pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression: he takes away the sin for all the repentant... as if it had never been.
 - Because he delighteth in mercy: this is his will.
 - He will have compassion upon us: with repentance, even if we went wrong, our Lord will return and have mercy on us if we repent (this verse gives us hope and not scorn)
 - And thou wilt cast all their sins into depths of the sea: in the mercy of our Lord our sins disappear completely.
 - Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, and the mercy to Abraham: fidelity in the covenant is from our Lord... and we also have Saint Mary and Saint George and all the martyrs and saints of the New Testament.



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