

SUMMER QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2015

THEME: GOD DEMANDS JUSTICE

UNIT II– APPEALS TO THE UNJUST FOR JUSTICE

“THE CONDEMNATION OF THE CORRUPTED!”



Sunday School Lesson No. VI – July 12, 2015

Rev. Frank A Davis, III – Pastor-Teacher

Lesson Text: Micah 3:1-12

Motto Text: Micah 3:8, *“But truly I am full of power by the spirit of the LORD, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin.”*

Required Reading: Micah Chapter 3

Reliable Resources: Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Precepts for Living (UMI); Word-Search 10 Electronic Library System; Standard Lesson Commentary; The Tim LaHaye Prophecy Bible; The Outline Bible by H. L. Willmington; Children’s Ministry Resource Bible; Jeremiah Study Bible Notes

LESSON INTRODUCTION

On last week Micah helped us to understand that God was watching Israel, both northern and southern kingdoms, to whom Micah had ministered nearly 50 years. According to the Tim LaHaye Prophecy Bible: “Micah ministered during the reigns of Jothan, Ahaz and Hezekiah. He was contemporary with Isaiah in Judah and Hosea and Amos in Israel, his ministry impacted both nations... Micah prophecies that God will raise up a loyal remnant who will follow their King and God.”

According to Willmington: “Micah was the first prophet to predict the Babylonian captivity and restoration of the southern kingdom. Even though God’s Laws were very specific about how Israel was to govern Herself in every realm of life. Micah exposes the hidden blemishes of greed, selfishness, and crime in the hearts of Israel’s leaders both political and sacred. They were so wicked and the prophet warns them, not only was God watching them, but He was going to chastise them severely and make them an example to their heathen neighbors. Then in His own time He would rescue them and restore them from a mere remnant of themselves who would trust and obey Him!

Examine my Anticipated Power Points:

- The Butchery of their Callous Profiteers. Micah 3:1-4
- The Blasphemy of their Corrupt Prophets. Micah 3:5-7
- The Boldness of Micah, God’s Chosen Prophet. Micah 3:8
- The Bamboozled, Baffled, and Intentionally Blind. Micah 3:9-12

LESSON OUTLINE

“The Condemnation of the Corrupted”

I. The Butchery of their Callous Profiteers. Micah 3:1-4

According to Dr. David Jeremiah, “Micah compares the injustices against the poor to butchering animals for food (Ps. 53:4; Ezekiel 22:27), graphically describing the corrupt leaders as cannibals. They viewed their victims not as fellow human beings but as animals who existed solely to satisfy their appetites. These butchers would reap what they had sown – God would show them no mercy.”

History describes their adversaries the Assyrians who were known for literally skinning their captives alive. (LaHaye Prophecy Bible). Galatians 6:7, ***“Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”***

II. The Blasphemy of their Corrupt Prophets. Micah 3:5-7

According to David Jeremiah: “Many prophets were also corrupt. If people gave these false prophets food in exchange for a prophetic message, they promised peace, but if they did not receive satisfactory pay, they pronounced doom. The Lord would judge the false prophets by shutting off all their channels of revelation, both legitimate (visions) and illegitimate (divination).” Read the story of Balaam the prophet in Numbers 22:1 – 24:25.

III. The Boldness of Micah, God’s Chosen Prophet. Micah 3:8

Dr. David Jeremiah writes: “Whereas the leaders in Israel were motivated by greed, Micah’s message has power because it agrees with God’s Law: Micah calls for justice and courageously confronts violators of the covenant (Isa. 58:1), ***‘Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgressions, and the house of Jacob their sins.’*** Anyone who claims to speak by the Spirit of the Lord must also live a life that proclaims His priorities.” Beloved, it’s time for the preacher/prophet to speak with holy boldness in a sin cursed, compromising society. As in the day of Isaiah, the question was asked: ***“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”*** Beloved, will God get the answer of Isaiah? ***“Here am I; send me.”***

IV. The Bamboozled, Baffled, and Intentionally Blind. Micah 3:9-12

These bamboozled, baffled, intentionally blind were civic leaders, prophets and priests. They were the epitome of unfaithful leaders. Their motto could have been ***“Get all you can, can all you get, and sit on the can!”*** Note from Precepts for Living, “The rulers who govern civic and state affairs are corrupt. The priests who dictate religious standards practiced evil. The prophets who speak the Word of the Lord only do it for money. Micah contends that Judah’s leadership has turned away from the Lord...These leaders, however, believe that what they do is good and pleasing in the eyes of the Lord. They are convinced that since Zion is the dwelling place of God and that since the Hebrews are God’s chosen people, all is well and their transgressions can be overlooked.” God states that this crowd will cause the fall of the whole nation, doing what they do supposedly in the name of the Lord!

CLOSING:

When anyone loses sight of God’s objective, it’s easy to become misled and bamboozled! Beloved, be ever mindful of who we are really trying to impress by our labor. Let’s not build on the backs and burdens of the poor and neglected. Remember Deuteronomy 15:11, ***“For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land.”***

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Looking Ahead:

July 19, 2015

Micah 6:3-8



Noonday Bible Study will not be held in the month of July. Noonday study will resume on Wednesday, August 5th.