

The Book of Micah

“Who is like Yah?”

Chapter 2

Pre-Exilic Minor Prophets

In **Israel** (Samaria), northern kingdom

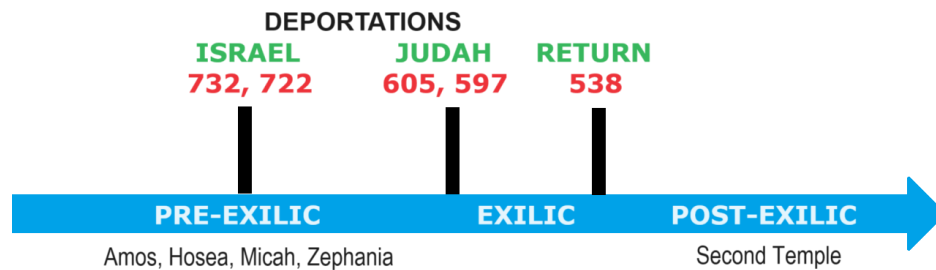
Amos c. 50 yrs. Foretold restoration.

Hosea c. 38 yrs. Foretold faithfulness.

In **Judah** (Jerusalem), southern kingdom

Micah c. 36 yrs. Foretold prosperity.

Zephania c. 49 yrs. Foretold restoration.



Social sins in Israel and Judah

- Land (farm) and home seizures (2)
- Violated inheritance laws (2)
- Haughty attitude (3)
- Suppress prophetic speech (6)
- Seize men's clothing (8)
- Deprive women and children (9)
- Wind and lies (11)
- Promoted alcoholism (11)

Poetic parallelism: ideas rhyme

- Numerical: tell a number, then raise it.
'six things he hates, yea seven he detests'.
- Synonymous: restate same idea.
'Give ear to my lament; hear my complaint'.
- Antithetic: state a contrast.
'The wicked lie; the righteous tell the truth'.
- Progressive: build on first line.
'Like a tree, planted by a water stream'

Micah 2:1 (Lexham English Bible 2012)

- Power: *El*, a name of God, implies legal ways in which to obtain wealth at others' loss.

Divine judgment

- God discriminates right and wrong.
- By the criteria of his revealed laws.

Micah Chapter 2

- Pronouncing verdicts of weal or woe.
- God searches men's motives.
- God weighs their actions.
- God avenges wrong.
- God rewards good.
- God forgives the repentant.

Micah 2:2

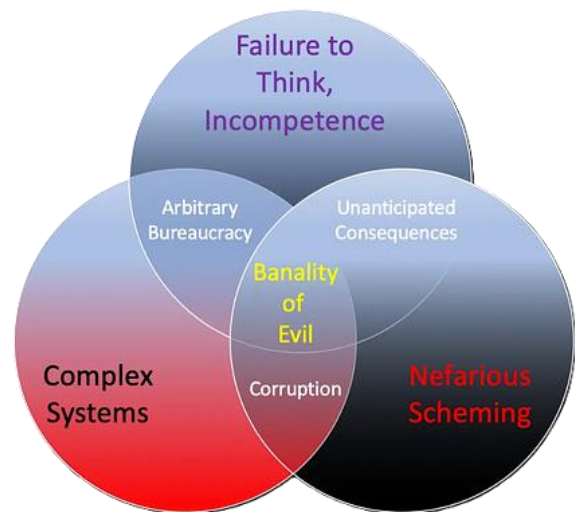
- Inheritance: Protected by divine law, debt must be cancelled every seven years, and property must be returned to owners or heirs every 50 years.

Confiscation of property

- Royalty: Royal (divine) privilege.
- Communism: State ownership.
- Socialism: Government administration.
- Republic: Eminent domain.
- Democracy: Investors' rights.
- Globalism: Official prerogative.
- Collapse: Gang violence.

Banal evil in American society

- Pervasive traffic in narcotics.
- Health-destroying food products.
- Debt slavery by excessive usury.
- Pornography and perversion.
- Homosexuality and transgenderism.
- Abortion, warfare and weapons.
- Financialized land and rental properties.
- Lawfare and excessive imprisonment.



Micah 2:3

- Family: Sinning Israelites/Judeans.
- Necks: Bound together with ropes.

Jewish prisoners during the Babylonian Captivity. Hand-colored woodcut



Individuals & groups in Micah 2

- Yahweh 3, 7, 13
- King 13
- Micah 8
- Wicked 1, 2
- Preacher 11
- People, family, Jacob 3, 4, 7, 14
- Assembly 5, 12
- Men 2, 8
- Women 9
- Children 9
- Apostate 4
- Remnant 12

Micah 2:4

- Field: Land, orchards, and herds.
- Apostate: One who serves other gods.

Nebuchadnezzar II

- Reigned Aug. 605 – Oct. 562 BC.
- Neo-Babylonian Empire.
- Sieged Jerusalem during 587-586 BC.
- Destroyed the Jerusalem temple.

15 levels of authority

Occult

1. Yahweh: eternal purposes
2. King Messiah: end-time Ruler
3. Holy angels: do God's will
4. The devil: 'the god of this world'
5. Spiritual rulers & powers: ideas
6. Elite cabals and networks: agendas
7. Global financiers: confiscate wealth

Overt

8. Imperial powers: dictate to nations
9. Military forces: impose authority
10. Parliaments: legislate
11. Elected officials: execute
12. Bureaucracies: enforce policies
13. Courts: prosecute offenders
14. Police: capture suspects
15. Media: propaganda and censure

Micah 2:5-6

- Lot: Set property lines by casting lots.
- Assembly: Greek OT has ekklesia = NT "church". Here = Israel/Judah.

Yahweh's assembly

- Eden: Yahweh, Spirits and Humans.
- Israel: Hebrew tribes in their land.
- Church: Messiah in believers' midst (local, regional, worldwide, universal).
- Kingdom: Messiah ruling on earth.
- Eden: God, Messiah and the redeemed in the new heavens and new earth.

Micah 2:7-13

- Not: Rhetorical query expecting 'yes'.
- Strip off: robbing fellow citizens.
- Returning from war: "with no thought about war" (ESV).
- Resting: Israel no longer a safe place to live and rear a family.
- Uncleaness: idolatry with immorality.
- Drink: Alcohol kills neurons, destroys families, crashes cars, hastens death.
- Tumult: future shouts of thanksgiving and rejoicing.
- Gate: Ishtar Gate, Babylon.
- King: Yahweh. The Davidic dynasty was not restored and will not be until Messiah rules.