

The Book of Micah

“Who is like Yah?”

Chapter 4

Micah 4, Chiastic structure

- A Jerusalem made great again (1-2).
- B International peace enforced (3-5).
 - C Israel regathered and restored (6-8).
 - c Israelites rescued (9-10).
- b Israel invaded by Gentiles (11-12).
- a Jerusalem’s Lord honored (13).

Restoration theories

- Promises were conditional, and Israel never repented, so are null and void.
- Promises fulfilled spiritually by Jesus.
- Fulfilled literally by the RC church.
- Promises fulfilled in Christianity.
- Promises will be fulfilled spiritually when Israel repents.
- Promises will be fulfilled literally.

Micah 4:1-2, Jerusalem made great again

- Latter days: “End times” when far-future predictions would come to pass.
- Law: torah, instruction in how to live.
- Word: deber, message, revelation.

Jerusalem mounts

- Antonia*
 - Olivet (Olives)
 - Ophel
 - New Zion
 - Moriah* (Abraham)
 - Scopus
 - Zion* (City of David)
- *Original temple site?

Micah 4:3-5, International peace enforced

- Judge: ‘decide disputes’.
- Nations: Enforced peace & prosperity.
- Mouth of the LORD: Through legitimate prophets (Deut 18:18; 2 Chron 36:12).
- ‘Walk in the name’: Take action under the authority of, obey commands.
- National gods: Deut 32:8 (ESV, NIV n2); Psalm 82 (‘the divine council’).
- Our God: Many Israelites thought of Yahweh as their national God.



Implications for society

- Jurisprudence (justice).
- National identities (no NWO).
- Disarmament, denuclearization.
- Metallurgy, tool-making.
- Engineering sciences.
- Abundant agriculture → Leisure → Study → Philosophy → Justice → Industry.

God's will for nations

- International diplomacy.
- Young men live long, love and labor.
- Peace with prosperity.
- Individual land ownership-stewardship.
- Abundant food (fruit and vegetables).
- Domestic tranquility.

These not being available in their lands, millions of men are currently migrating westwards, most for economic reasons, some for ideological causes, others as militants.

Divine titles in Micah 4

- The LORD (*Yhwh*) (10X).
 - God (*Elohim*) of Jacob (2).
 - god (*elohim*), pagan deities (5).
 - Our God (*Elohim*) forever (5).
- Lord (*Adon*) of the whole earth/land (13).

National gods

Deut. 32:8. "When the Most High ... divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God" (Gen 6:2; Job 1:6).

Psalms 82:1, 6. "God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods he holds judgment... You are gods."

Micah 4:6-8, Israel regathered and restored

- Tower: Dominion and kingship = protective monarchy = daughter Zion = end-time Jerusalem.

In that day = 'Latter days' (v. 1)

- 1 Judah goes into exile in Babylon. 586
- 2 Yahweh rescues a remnant. 538
- 3 Nations gather, Israel threshes them.
- 4 Yahweh reigns from the temple mount.
- 5 Nations come to learn from Yahweh.
- 6 Yahweh judges and instructs nations.
- 7 Yahweh enforces peace and prosperity.

Daughter of Zion = Daughter Zion

- Cities were called 'daughter' because they were lovely, cherished, and protected by their national gods.
- "Escape to Zion, you who dwell with the daughter of Babylon." Zech. 2:7
- "The daughter of Babylon is like a threshing floor..." Jer. 51:33

Micah 4:9-10, Israelites rescued

- No king: Jehoichin exiled in 597 BC.
- Babylon: Elite families were exiled in 597 BC and commoners in 586 BC and after.

The 70-year Babylonian captivity (50 years of exile).

Foretold by Jeremiah 25:11-12; 29:10.

607 Nebuchadnezzar II exiled royal families, including Daniel.

597 King Jehoiachin deposed & exiled.

586 Jerusalem destroyed, 2nd major exile.

581 3rd major exile.

538 Persian Cyrus permits return.

Math: 607 BC – 538 = 70-year captivity.

Micah 4:11-12, Israel invaded by Gentiles

- Defiled: Image of public rape.

Many nations

- The Babylonian army consisted of many nationalities. However...
- The context is one of impending judgment, likely in the end-times.
- The climax of history will occur in Jerusalem, not in New York City, Washington DC, Beijing or Rome.

End-time coalition

- Psalm 83 lists ten nations as Edom, Ishmaelites, Moab, Hagrites, Gebal, Ammon, Amalek, Philistia, Tyre, and Asshur.
- Those territories today include Arabia, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Palestine, Syria, and Turkey.
- Things could soon prove apocalyptic.

Micah 4:13, Jerusalem's Lord honored

- Peoples: 'am = groups whose members are related by kinship or religion.

Divine actions in Micah 4

- Teaches his ways, law, and word (2).
 - Judges between nations (3).
 - Assembles the afflicted (6).
 - Reigns from Jerusalem (7).
 - Rescues = redeems captives (10).
 - Thinks and plans (12).
 - Gathers 'peoples' for 'threshing' (12).

Judah's actions in Micah 4

- 'Walk' in Yahweh's name forever (5).
 - Become a remnant, a nation (7).
 - Cry, writhe and groan (9-10).
 - Go out and dwell in the open (10).
 - Go to Babylon (10)
- Thresh and beat 'many peoples' (13).