



August 7, 2022

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: Micah 3:1-12

And I said: Hear, you heads of Jacob and rulers of the house of Israel! Is it not for you to know justice?— ²you who hate the good and love the evil, who tear the skin from off my people and their flesh from off their bones, ³who eat the flesh of my people, and flay their skin from off them, and break their bones in pieces and chop them up like meat in a pot, like flesh in a cauldron. ⁴Then they will cry to the LORD, but he will not answer them; he will hide his face from them at that time, because they have made their deeds evil. ⁵Thus says the LORD concerning the prophets who lead my people astray, who cry “Peace” when they have something to eat, but declare war against him who puts nothing into their mouths. ⁶Therefore it shall be night to you, without vision, and darkness to you, without divination. The sun shall go down on the prophets, and the day shall be black over them; ⁷the seers shall be disgraced, and the diviners put to shame; they shall all cover their lips, for there is no answer from God. ⁸But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the LORD, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin. ⁹Hear this, you heads of the house of Jacob and rulers of the house of Israel, who detest justice and make crooked all that is straight, ¹⁰who build Zion with blood and Jerusalem with iniquity. ¹¹Its heads give judgment for a bribe; its priests teach for a price; its prophets practice divination for money; yet they lean on the LORD and say, “Is not the LORD in the midst of us? No disaster shall come upon us.” ¹²Therefore because of you Zion shall be plowed as a field; Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins, and the mountain of the house a wooded height. ¹

BACKGROUND

Micah prophesied in Judah during the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah (about 750–700 B.C.), at about the same time as Isaiah. It was a time of prosperity, and Micah denounced the wealthy, who were oppressing the poor, and warned of impending judgment. The northern kingdom actually fell during Micah’s ministry, in 722, and Judah almost fell in 701 (2 Kings 18–20). The book contains three sections, which alternate between words of warning and messages of hope. Micah told of a day when there would be peace among all nations, who would then be able to “beat their swords into plowshares” (4:3), and of a royal deliverer who would save God’s people from all her enemies. This deliverer would be born in Bethlehem (5:2).²

SERMON NOTES

¹ [*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](#). (2016). (Mic 3:1–12). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

² [*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version*](#). (2016). (Mic). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

D-GROUP AGENDA

Welcome & Catch Up

Begin your D-Group time by taking a few minutes to catch up since your last meeting. Share updates regarding prayer requests shared previously and celebrate what God has done and is doing in the lives of your group members.

Read It

Read the Scripture passage that Sunday's sermon was focused upon. As you re-read the passage, discuss some of the things that really stand out.

Study It

Perhaps there are confusing statements or ones that make you want to go deeper. There are good commentaries available that can be helpful. Among your group, discuss those things that stand out in the passage. For things that may be confusing or create more questions, work together to discover God's truth. Be careful to use good commentaries and biblically sound resources. If you have questions about such, please contact one of the pastors at the church for recommendations.

Review It

In Sunday's sermon, Pastor David spoke of a type of rebellion that equates to willful ignorance. What comes to mind when you hear the descriptor of "willful ignorance?" Are there times in your own life when you have been so?

What are the dangers of being willfully ignorant?

The people of God were confronted by Micah with some very graphic words. Why do you think he used such terms?

Five Questions

1. What did you like about this week's scripture passage and sermon?
2. What did you not like or find confusing about this week's scripture passage and sermon?
3. What does this week's scripture passage and sermon say about God?
4. What does this week's scripture passage and sermon say about humanity?
5. Who outside your group needs to hear the truths from this week's sermon?

Prayer

Close your group time with prayer for each person. You may share requests, but we recommend you don't just do a blanket prayer for "all the requests" but divide each up or have one person commit to pray (silently or aloud) for one other. Pray for each other to close.