

A SURVEY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT:

Micah

"God's righteousness vindicated"

Title & Author:

- Micah:
 - Name was short for Micaiah or Michaiah and means, "Who is like _____?"
 - Probably came from a rare, godly family.
 - He was a Morasthite from the city of Moresheth about 20 miles southwest of Jerusalem (1:1).
 - He had a similar background to _____.
 - Apart from 1:1, we really don't know much for sure about Micah.
- Summary: The prophet Micah calls the Southern Kingdom's royalty to hearken to God's judgment of their wickedness

Date:

- _____ BC
 - Micah dates his writing to the time of three southern kings, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah.
 - He was more or less contemporary with _____ (in north) and _____ (also in south).
 - He wrote shortly before the destruction of Samaria and the northern kingdom (1:5-7).
 - Since Assyria destroyed the north in 722 BC, we have assigned a date a few years before.

Setting & Background:

- Set in the _____ Kingdom
- Background:
 - Hosea brought the sure promise of destruction to a people that God had disowned.
 - Micah brought the promise of very imminent, total destruction of the _____ Kingdom.
 - His (and other prophets') messages brought a reprieve to the Southern Kingdom.

Overview:

- Personal Introduction (1:1)
- Hearken to _____ (1:2-2:13)
 - The judgment is for the _____ of Israel, Samaria, and Jerusalem (1:5).
 - Woe to those who imagined evil then carried it out (2:1-3).
 - Rejection of real prophets (2:6) and acceptance of false ones (2:11).
- Let the _____ hearken (3:1-5:15).
 - The rulers were taking advantage of the people, so God will not hear them (3:1-4).
 - The prophets were lying, so their prophecies would fail (3:5-8, 11).
 - Jerusalem will be destroyed (3:12).
 - And it will be raised again in peace (4:1-4).
 - Israel will be expelled for a time (4:10).
 - Eventually, they will defeat their enemies (4:13).
 - The future, everlasting ruler to come from Bethlehem (5:2).
 - Assyria would be removed by an attack from _____ (5:5-6).
 - Future removal of evil (5:12-15).
- Hearken to _____ appeal (6:1-7:20).
 - Has God wearied Israel? (6:1-3)
 - What pleases God? (6:6-8)
 - God will make them desolate (6:13-15).
 - Good men have ceased in the land (7:2-4).
 - Confidence in Jehovah's intention to complete His promises (7:20).

Key Doctrine:

- God will keep His promises to _____ (7:20).
 - Micah really brings his message back to a single thrust at the end.
 - Although Israel is going through a hard time as a nation, God will perform His promise the Jacob and Abraham.
 - We can be confident in God's promises because He hasn't yet failed to keep one.

Key Theme:

- Personal _____ (6:6-8)
 - God does not want sacrifice.
 - God wants us to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with Him.

Key People:

- Micah: the prophet who wrote the book.
- The coming _____ of Israel (5:2)
 - He would come from Bethlehem Ephratah
 - His goings forth have been from everlasting past (aka eternal).
 - He will be great until the ends of the earth (5:4).

Christ in Hosea:

- The coming ruler is, of course, the _____ (Matthew 2:1-6).
 - Even the religious rulers of Jesus' day understood the truths of Micah's prophecy.
 - But they were looking for the wrong kind of Messiah.
 - They wanted "The Anointed One" to free them from _____.
 - When Christ did not match their expectations or desires, they crucified Him.

Application: Let us sensitively respond to God's Word rather than choosing to ignore what it says.