

Micah

Reveals Jesus Christ - Royal Shepherd and Righteous King

The little known Prophet delivered two outstanding declarations about practical religion: Micah 4:6-8 and Micah 7:18-19. Both of these passages of Scripture are obviously inspired comments and help to prove the Bible is the Word of God. The latter is an exquisite poem of just 12 lines in the Hebrew language.

The Prophet, who mainly preached in the country, is noted for numerous Messianic Prophecies. The key prophecies named the place of Jesus birth, (Micah 5:2) declared Christ to be the Righteous King, (Micah 2:12-13) bringing peace, (Micah 5:5) forgiving sin, (Micah 7:18-20) and reigning over the whole earth, (Micah 4:1,7).

The Prophet, who lived in the days of Isaiah, condemned the national sins of the people who professed to be God's people. These deadly sins are named in the book and include idolatry, (Micah 1:7, 6:16) covetousness, violence, and oppression, (Micah 2:2) acceptance of false prophets, (Micah 2:11, 3:6) corruption of princes, prophets and priests, (Micah 3:1-11) bribery, (Micah 3:9-11, 7:3) dishonesty, (Micah 6:10-12).

The Prophet, whose name means *Who is like God*, also highlights God's mercy and willingness to pardon. Interestingly, Micah introduces his powerful closing statement of the book with the use of his own name, *Who is like God?* (Micah 7:18-20) Micah's own name was a challenging message to the people of his time.

Other Significant facts and figures in the book:

Times: Micah began his prophetic ministry during the eighth century, in the reign of good king Jotham and continued under King Ahaz, who was very wicked, (2 Chronicles 28:3) and King Hezekiah. (Micah 1:1) The conditions were similar in Israel and Judah, but Micah primarily ministered to Judah.

Micah the man: The only information given is that the Prophet was from Moresheth Gath, about 20 miles south of Jerusalem. He was a younger contemporary of Isaiah in Jerusalem, and Hosea in Israel. The Northern Kingdom of Israel was taken into captivity during Micah's life time.

Quoted: This Book, which is full of poetic beauty, is quoted three times in the Scriptures.

- By the Elders of Judah when trying to save Jeremiah's life. (Jeremiah 26:18)
- By the three wise men arriving in Jerusalem. (Matthew 2:5-6, Micah 2:5-6)
- By Jesus when sending the twelve disciples out to witness. (Matthew 10:35-36, Micah 7:6) These incidents of other Bible writers, and Jesus, quoting Micah, verify his ministry as a prophet and further confirm the records of Scripture.

Prophecy fulfilled exactly:

History verifies the prophecies Micah received from God. Through his prophet God predicted..." and to Babylon you shall go." (Micah 4:10) That is exactly what did happen, as 2 Chronicles 36:15-21 graphically tells.¹³⁶

Outline of the book, based on the prophet's name:

Who is like unto you?

Denunciatory	1-3
Consolatory	4-7

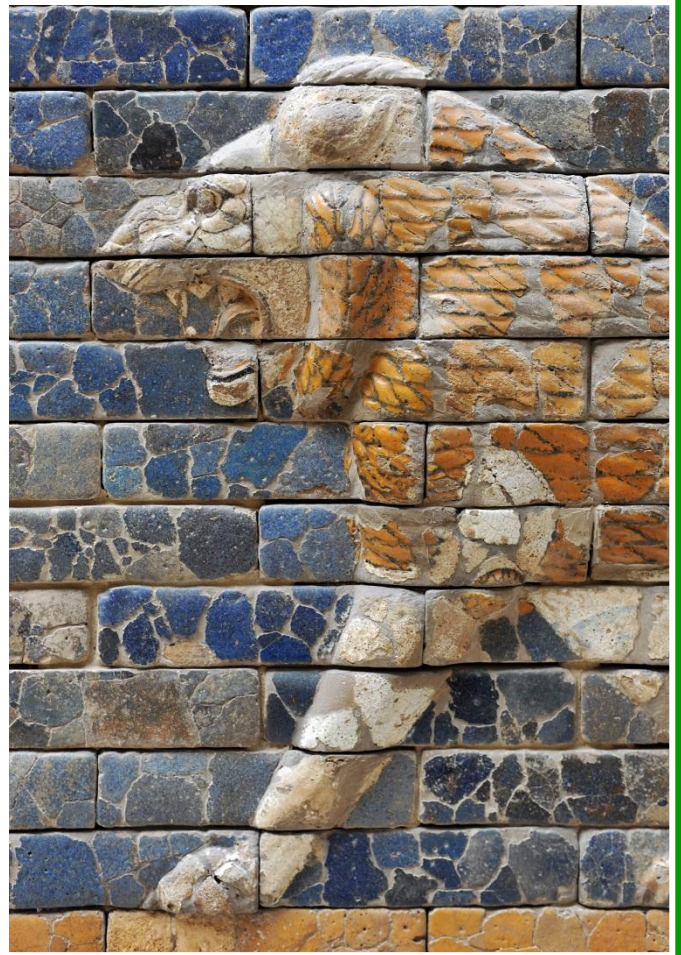
Who is like you?

Witnessing	1-3
Consoling	4-5
Pleading	6
Pardoning	7 ¹³⁷

Informative Scripture Readings: Micah

The birth and rejection of the King, (Micah 5:2-9).

The start of five messages commencing with the words, *Hear now*, (Micah 1:2-5, 3:1, 3:9-12, 6:1, 6:2-8).



¹³⁶ Townend, W Austin. *More than meets the eye*, p91.

¹³⁷ Lee, Robert. *The Outlined Bible - Micah*.