

- I) V1-5 INTRO: Woe to those who devise iniquity and work out evil on their bed At morning light they
  - a) In this chapter Micah will begin to list the various sins of the people
  
- II) GOD HAD PRONOUNCED JUDGMENT: On the nation because of their many sins, especially idolatry
  - a) By mingling idolatry with their worship of God, they had placed themselves in a place of judgment
  
- III) GOD HAD: Exercised divine patience on their behalf, calling them to repentance and to return
  - a) Sadly, they had refused to do so and came to where He said *her wounds are incurable*
    - 1) They had sinned against God, and He would bring judgment on them for this
  
- IV) IN CH 2: Micah addresses the sins that they have sinned against mankind, against one another
  - a) The reality is: when we are not *right with God* we will inevitably not be right with *one another*
  
- V) THE 10 COMMANDMENTS: Outlines this reality in what is called the table of the Law
  
- VI) THE FIRST FOUR COMMANDS: Speak of our obligations to God
  - a) We are to have no other gods, before Him
  - b) We are not to make idols: we are not to bow down or serve them
  - c) We are not to take the Name of the Lord in vain, because God will not hold us guiltless
    - 1) These four commands speak of our relationship to God
  
- VII) THE SECOND TABLE OF THE LAW: Speaks of our relationship with people
  - a) We are to honor our father and mother
  - b) We are forbidden to murder
  - c) We are forbidden to commit adultery
  - d) We are not to steal
  - e) We are not to bear false witness: we do not gossip, slander, or lie about a person to injure them
  - f) We are not to covet anything that belongs to another: We do not lust after someone's property, wife, or even other's servants or possessions that he owns
  
- VIII) A PERSON'S RELATIONSHIP: With God can be clearly seen by how they view other people
  
- IX) ON ONE OCCASION: Jesus was approached by a young man with a deeply important question
  - a) He asked Jesus Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?
  
- X) JESUS' ANSWER: To this seemingly sincere question is very enlightening
  - a) If you want to enter life, obey the commandments
  
- XI) AT THIS POINT: The young man says: *which ones* and Jesus then gives a very basic list

a) Mt 19:18-19 Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself

XII) TRUE FAITH IN GOD: Is always revealed by our relationship with other people

a) 1 Jn 4:20 If anyone says, "I love God," yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, *whom he has not seen*.

XIII) CH 1 SPOKE OF THEIR SINS AGAINST GOD: Ch 2 begins to reveal sins against other people

a) Again, when you are not right with God, you will not be right with other people

I) V1-2 WOE: To those who devise iniquity and work out evil on their beds At morning light they practice

a) Their hearts are so full of evil that their constant habit is meditating on how they can accomplish it

II) V1 WHEN THEY ARE IN BED: They are still thinking of ways to fulfill their evil desires

a) Instead of sleeping, they are wide awake lying in the dark, planning on fulfilling their plans

1) Devise: Imagine, invent, or to think about

2) Work out: Plan out moral and physical wrong

3) Practice: To act out, with effect; to execute their plans

4) They have the power: Strength, exercised through opportunity and position

III) THOUGHT: They think about, then strategize a plan; then they execute the plan

a) They do this because they are able to do it, having the power and position to make it happen

IV) THE FACT IS: Often the ungodly are also successful

a) Because they have the finances, they can push their plans and see them succeed

1) Money means power, and they can push their plans and fulfill their evil desires

2) Money is the answer for everything: it supplies them with luxury, food, and

entertainment

V) OBVIOUSLY: The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil

a) It is not evil have it, but it is more important to learn to properly regard it and to use it

1) Eccl 5:12 The sleep of a laborer is sweet, whether he eats little or much, but the abundance of a rich man permits him no sleep.

VI) V2 THEY COVET FIELDS: And take them by violence, also houses and seize them So they oppress

a) Land was a birthright of a Jew, but the rich were forcing them off of their land

1) They saw the land, they coveted the land, and then they simply took the land

2) Ex 20:17 You shall not covet your neighbor's house...nor anything that is your

neighbor's

VII) V3 THEREFORE: Thus says the Lord Behold against this family I am devising disaster from which you

a) You have devised against your neighbors, and I am devising judgment against you

1) The disaster that they cannot remove their necks from is a picture of Assyrian captivity  
2) Is 14:25 That I will break the Assyrian in My land, And on My mountains tread him underfoot. Then his yoke shall be removed from them, And his burden removed from their shoulders.

VIII) V3 NEITHER: Shall you walk haughtily for this is an evil time

a) You will not go in an arrogant and proud manner, but will be terribly humiliated

IX) V4 IN THAT DAY: One shall take up a proverb against you and lament with a bitter lamentation

a) Your punishment will become part of what is spoken of by people in general

1) A funeral song will be written for you, as if you had all died

X) V4 HE HAS: Changed the heritage of my people how he has removed it from me To a turncoat  
He has

a) He has taken our land, even as I stole it from its rightful owners, and an apostate now owns it

1) The way they had taken land from its rightful owners is now turned on them: they lose the land

XI) KEY: The apostate is in reference to the Assyrians:

a) 30 YEARS EARLIER: Jonah had preached to the king of Nineveh but the change did not last

I) V5 THEREFORE: You will have no one to determine the boundaries by lot in the congregation of the

a) Though God will restore Israel, these who were undergoing judgment would not be part of it

II) V6-7 DO NOT PRATTLE: You say to those who prophesy so they shall not prophesy to you

a) PRATTLE: To drip (words): stop your constant dripping of your prophecies! Be quiet!

III) THE PEOPLE: Had gotten tired of hearing these prophetic messages and want them to cease

a) Just thirty years earlier, they had said a similar thing to Amos

1) Amos 7:12-13 Then Amaziah said to Amos: "Go, you seer! Flee to the land of Judah. There eat bread, And there prophesy. *But never again prophesy at Bethel, For it is the king's sanctuary, And it is the royal residence.*"

IV) THIS ATTITUDE: Continues through their history

a) Jer 6:16-17 Thus says the LORD: "Stand in the ways and see, And ask for the old paths, where the good way *is*, And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk *in it*.' Also, I set watchmen over you, *saying*, 'Listen to the sound of the trumpet!' But they said, 'We will not listen.'

V) IT CONTINUES: Into the NT

a) A crippled man had been healed at the Beautiful Gate, and the religious authorities were upset

1) Ac 4:18 They called them (Peter and John) and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus

VI) **OBVIOUSLY:** This attitude continues to this day with the proliferation of hate speech laws

a) Facebook, Google, Apple, and MySpace -- all promise a world filled with much more free speech and democracy. The National Religious Broadcasters conducted a study of the social networking websites that showed even among the largest of the sites, only Twitter hasn't censored Christians.

b) YouTube has reportedly censored Christian videos and Christian messages

c) Hate Speech legislation can have the effect of silencing the gospel

VII) **THIS OCCURS:** In our world but, one of the voices attempting to silence teaching is from Christians

a) There are many argumentative Christians that post on FB, continually

1) They do not desire truth and angrily respond to it when it is presented

VIII) **IN THE TIME OF AMOS:** God had already stated what would happen because of this attitude

a) Amos 8:11 Behold the days are coming says the Lord God, that I will send a famine on the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord

1) If you will not listen, I will not speak: this led to 400 years of silence

IX) **V7 YOU WHO:** *Are named* the house of Jacob Is the Spirit of the Lord restricted? Are these His doings

a) You are called the house of Jacob, but do not understand or trust in the power of God

1) Is God's Spirit on a leash, restricted from moving and working? Is His power limited?

2) Do not the judgments you are now and will experience demonstrations of His power?

X) **V7 DO NOT:** My words do good to him who walks uprightly

a) **QUOTE:** Certainly, both God's laws, and the words delivered by his prophets, would do you great and lasting good if you would obey them.

1) Jn 6:63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life.

I) **WHEN GOD SPEAKS:** It is wise for man to listen

a) 2 Pe 1:19-21 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as *they were* moved by the Holy Spirit.

II) **V8-9 LATELY:** My people have risen up as an enemy---you pull off the robe with the garment

a) Though you belong to me, you treat Me as if I am an enemy

1) You are unjust to the poor, taking from them even their garments that they are wearing

2) As men who returned from war, and were finally living securely and at peace: surprised

by this

III) **V9 THE WOMEN:** Of My people you cast out from their pleasant houses from their children

a) You are the cause of the women being uprooted, with their children, and taken captive

1) They should have been taught to give Glory to God, but now will be unable to do so in

**captivity**

- IV) KEY: They will be deprived of My presence, and I will not receive their praise**
  - a) WHY: Because they have not been raised properly and because they will not worship in the Temple**
  
- V) V10-11 ARISE: And depart for this is not your rest; because it is defiled it shall destroy you**
  - a) Prepare for your captivity, because you will not have a place to rest here**
    - 1) As you have done to others, so shall it be done to you**
  
- VI) AS LONG AS: You are rebellious towards Me rest will not be what you experience**
  - a) This land will not be a place you rest in, and you will be cast out**
  
- VII)**