

- I) V1-3 INTRO: Now it shall come to pass in *the latter days* that the mountain of the
  - a) As we have looked at Micah, we have seen the first three chapters are judgment
    - 1) God was bringing judgment on them for many things: especially idolatry
  
- II) WHEN LAST TOGETHER: We looked at Mic 3:5-8
  - a) The false prophets of Israel were going to be judged for leading people astray
    - 1) In contrast, Micah was a true prophet who spoke God's word clearly (V8)
  
- III) THOUGH: He spoke the truth to them, they wanted him to *leave them alone*
  - a) Micah 2:6 Do not prattle you say to those who prophesy. So they shall not prophesy to you; they shall not return insult for insult
  
- IV) THE PEOPLE: Had sinned, and God it was necessary for God to chastise them
  - a) Though the punishment was to be severe, it was intended to bring them back to Him
    - 1) Dt 8:5 You should know in your heart that as a man chastens his son, so the LORD your God chastens you.
    - 2) Pr 3:11-12 My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor detest His correction; For whom the LORD loves He corrects, Just as a father the son *in whom* he delights
  
- V) BECAUSE HE LOVED THEM: He would deal with their sin
  - a) Though the judgment would be severe, He would not completely abandon them
  
- VI) KEY: This chapter begins with a prophecy of future glory
  - a) It will still speak of judgment, but it also reveals God's intention for their future
  
- VII) V1 NOW: It shall come to pass in *the latter days* that the mountain of the Lord's house
  
- VIII) IMMEDIATELY: You might notice that this is similar to something Isaiah wrote
  - a) Micah and Isaiah lived at the same time, and prophesied similar messages
    - 1) Is 2:2-4 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days *that* the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it. Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.
  
- IX) AGAIN: The nation was filled with idolatry and governed by thieves who ruled by violence and graft
  - a) Justice no longer was afforded to the least in society: widows and orphans
    - 1) Because of this God had said He would turn His hand against them, as if they were enemies
  
- X) HE WOULD: Cleanse the evil from amongst them, but would not completely destroy them
  - a) The cleansing ultimately, in the future, would lead towards restoration

- XI) **KEY:** These promises were Messianic, foretelling the future work that God would perform for them
- a) Jer 33:15-16 In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David a Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. In those days Judah will be saved, And Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which she will be called: The Lord our Righteousness
- I) **GOD'S PROMISE:** Was that He would restore them when Messiah rules and reigns in Jerusalem
- a) When Messiah rules, then all transgressors will be properly dealt with
    - 1) Is 1:28 The destruction of transgressors and of sinners shall be together, and those who forsake the Lord shall be consumed
- II) **MICAH:** Echoes a similar prophecy as he prophesies to the nation
- III) **MICAH 3:12 PREDICTED:** That Jerusalem would be levelled and become heaps of ruins
- a) But now, Micah moves beyond the destruction of Jerusalem by Babylon, and Rome
    - 1) He moves beyond all destructions of the city and speaks of the *latter (last) days*
- IV) **THE LAST DAYS:** Is a technical term that speaks of God moving in judgment on all evil
- a) Jesus spoke of it as the Tribulation, and Great Tribulation which begins the last days
- V) **THE TRIBULATION:** Is relatively short, seven years, and at its conclusion Jesus returns to earth
- a) His return concludes the Tribulation, and He then establishes His kingdom on earth
    - 1) The Last Days includes the Tribulation, the return of Jesus, and the 1,000 year reign
- VI) **THIS HELPS US TO SEE:** That Micah is not speaking of near events, but distant future events
- VII) **V1 NOTICE:** The mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains
- a) Zech 14:10 All the land shall be turned into a plain...*Jerusalem* shall be raised up
- VIII) **ALSO:** Peoples shall *flow* to it, many nations shall come and say Come and let us go up to the
- a) **FLOW:** Speaks of driven by an internal desire; it is a spontaneous movement
- IX) **KEY:** People will recognize that God is once again with His people, and will be driven to worship Him
- a) Zech 8:23 In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man saying "Let us go with you for we have heard that God is with you"
- X) **POINT:** *When Messiah reigns*, the nation of Israel will be known as the headquarters of Messiah
- a) When people desire to worship God, they will come to those they know *worship Him*
    - 1) Is 55:5 Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations that do not know you will hasten to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendor

- X) **V2 MANY NATIONS:** Shall come and say Come and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord  
a) When Jesus reigns, people will come to Him to learn how to worship and live
- XI) **KEY:** These are coming to be *taught* by Messiah: Not just information, but equipping for service  
a) *Teach:* to point out, show; to direct, instruct  
1) Is 54:13 All your children *shall be* taught by the LORD, And great *shall be* the peace of your children.  
2) Jn 6:45 It is written in the prophets And they shall all be taught by God. Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me  
b) *Ways:* A habit of life; of moral character  
c) *Walk:* Manner of life, proceed, move  
d) *Path:* The path a traveler follows; a way of life
- I) **V3 HE SHALL:** Judge between many peoples and rebuke strong nations afar off They shall beat
- II) **JUDGE:** To rule, govern; to decide controversy (of God, man) to execute judgment
- III) **FACT:** There is no need of a World Court when Jesus is the One settling all disputes  
a) Ps 9:8 He shall judge the world *in righteousness*, and He shall administer judgment for the peoples in uprightness.
- IV) **KEY:** As He settles these conflicts, peace that is *the fruit of righteousness* shall begin to exist  
a) Without righteousness, there truly can never be peace
- V) **KEY:** As He rules, the things that caused division between nations shall be settled by Messiah  
a) They will no longer need to learn war any more  
1) Swords are military weapons, and speak of killing and destruction  
2) Plowshares are used to speak of producing crops for the betterment and care of people
- VI) **A BRONZE SCULPTURE:** Is in the North Gardens of the UN headquarters  
a) It is named Let us Beat our Swords into Plowshares  
1) It was created by a Soviet artist and donated on Dec 4, 1959 intending to symbolize man's desire to put an end to war and to convert a means of destruction into creative tools to benefit mankind
- VII) **POINT:** Instead of learning to fight, Jesus teaches us to walk in peace with one another  
a) Ps 46:9 He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire.
- VIII) **V4 BUT:** Everyone shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree and no one shall make them afraid  
a) **RESULT:** Under the rule of Messiah, they will be secure and at peace  
1) Zech 13:10 In that day,' says the LORD of hosts, 'Everyone will invite his neighbor under his vine and under his fig tree.

IX) V5 FOR: All people walk each in the name of his god but we will walk in the name of the Lord our God

- a) In the past, people walked after their own gods, and the result was war and problems
  - 1) Their idolatry had led them into violence and evil

X) WHEN MESSIAH RULES: All will honor Him and follow Him

- a) In the future all will walk in the Name of the Lord
  - 1) Ps 145:2 Every day I will bless You, And I will praise Your name forever and ever.
  - 2) Phil 2:9-11 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

XI) V6-7 IN THAT DAY: Says the Lord I will assemble the lame, I will gather the outcast and those whom

- a) In the millennial kingdom, the nation of Israel (lame, outcast, remnant) will be restored
  - 1) In their long history, much suffering had occurred and they were in a position of need
  - 2) Though God acknowledges it was He who afflicted them, He also will be their comfort
  - 3) Ps 51:8 Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice.

I) V8 AND YOU: O Tower of the flock the stronghold of the daughter of Zion to you shall it come

- a) The kingdom was mighty under David and Solomon, but under Messiah it will be greater

II) V9-10 NOW: Why do you cry aloud Is there no king in your midst Has your counselor perished

- a) In the near future Babylon will come and conquer the nation
  - 1) Nebuchadnezzar came against Judah three times, leaving it in ruins
  - 2) The suffering of the people is described like the pain of labor

III) *IN THE FUTURE*: During the tribulation the pain will be intense and destruction will be terrible

- a) Many will suffer, and many will die
  - 1) Zech 13:8-9 And it shall come to pass in all the land," Says the LORD, "*That* two-thirds in it shall be cut off *and* die, But *one-third* shall be left in it: I will bring the *one-third* through the fire, Will refine them as silver is refined, And test them as gold is tested. They will call on My name, And I will answer them. I will say, 'This *is* My people'; And each one will say, 'The LORD *is* My God.'"
  - 2) Mt 24:22 And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.

IV) V11-12 NOW: Also many nations have gathered against you Who say Let her be defiled and let our eye

- a) He now closes with a far distant look into the future

V) MANY NATIONS: Are gathered against Israel

- a) Zech 12:2 Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem.
- b) Ezek 38:2-7 Son of man, set your face against Gog, of the land of Magog, the prince of ROSH, MESECH, and TUBAL, and prophesy against him, and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, I *am* against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal. I will turn you around,

put hooks into your jaws, and lead you out, with all your army, horses, and horsemen, all splendidly clothed, a great company *with* bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords. PERSIA, ETHIOPIA, and LIBYA are with them, all of them *with* shield and helmet; GOMER and all its troops; the house of TOGARMAH *from* the far north and all its troops--many people *are* with you. Prepare yourself and be ready, you and all your companies that are gathered about you; and be a guard for them. (V13 Includes SHEBA and DEDAN (Saudi Arabia))

VI) GOG: Gog (title, high one) of the land of Magog: Central Asia (Scythia), so. part of ancient Russia

a) Gen 10:2: Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan: possibly No. Afghanistan

VII) ROSH: Rosh can be translated as chief, or some consider it to refer to Russia

a) Some believe it is Russia because vv. 6 and 15 refer to the *far north*, which could be Russia

b) MESECH: Meshech and Tubal also were sons of Noah's son Japheth

1) Today, they would be in modern Turkey, So. Russia, and northern Iran

VIII) PERSIA: It was called Persia until 1935, changed its name to Iran

a) in 1979 it became the Islamic Republic of Iran

1) Obviously, Iran is an archenemy of Israel and the West, and actively works to cause other Arab nations to no longer cooperate with the US, Israel, or any of our allies

IX) THEN WE HAVE: (Cush) Ethiopia, (Put) Libya, Gomer, and Togarmah

a) Ethiopia was the land just south of Egypt, on the Nile: This is Sudan, home of Nat'l Islamic Front

1) They were strong supporters of Osama bin Laden, where he lived from '91-'96

l) PUT: Is modern Libya and openly refuses to recognize Israel's right to exist

a) Gomer originally was in ancient southern Russia and is modern Turkey in the area called Armenia

b) Togarmah is modern Turkey

II) IMPORTANT: What we have here is a coalition of enemies of Israel that have one thing in common

a) They are all nations that have a Muslim majority

III) KEY: Four of the nations mentioned are now in modern Turkey: Meshech, Tubal, Gomer, Togarmah

a) QUOTE: This makes a pretty strong argument for Turkey being a part of the invasion of Israel. Current circumstances in that country also lend this view some credibility. Since the break-up of the Soviet Union, Turkey has been gaining inroads into Central Asia (Magog). It is also linked to Central Asia both ethnically and linguistically, and has a growing number of political parties that support opposition to Israel, the establishment of a Turkish Islamic Republic, and the worldwide rule of Islam.

IV) FOR MANY YEARS: People wondered how Russia might be able to participate in such a coalition

a) The former USSR was led by atheistic communism: how could these nations ally with Russia

1) INTERESTINGLY: Islam is currently the second most widely professed religion in the Russian Federation. According to the most recent estimates: while there are 6 million *genuine* followers of Islam in Russia, there are more than 20 million *officially* self-identified Muslims.

V) EZEK 28:3 NOTICE: Behold *I am against you* O God the prince of Rosh, Meshech, and Tubal

a) POINT: This coalition's invasion against Israel is regarded as an attack on God Himself

1) This will make the conflict between them and God, and God is going to defend Israel

2) The huge odds against Israel will be nullified because God is on their side

3) Ps 56:11 In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?

VI) MICAH 4:13 ARISE: And thresh O daughter of Zion for I will make your horn iron and I will make

a) In that day, help will not come from man but from God

1) Ezek 38:4-7 I will turn you around, put hooks into your jaws, and lead you out, with all your army, horses, and horsemen, all splendidly clothed, a great company *with* bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords. Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are with them, all of them *with* shield and helmet; Gomer and all its troops; the house of Togarmah *from* the far north and all its troops--many people *are* with you. Prepare yourself and be ready, you and all your companies that are gathered about you; and be a guard for them.

VII) V4-7 I WILL: Turn you around put hooks into your jaws and lead you out with all your army

a) Like an animal that has been caught, the invaders will not be successful in their plans

VIII) KEY: God actually allows them to enter Israel so that He can visit them with judgment

a) They come in fully confident and fully armed and prepared to conquer Israel

1) But they will be defeated