



**Sermon Title:** Micah week 1

**Sermon Title:** Aware and Active

**Date:** 8/14/2022

God is aware of everything in His creation. **Hebrews 4:13**

**Big Idea: Live righteous lives because God is aware and active**

We will look at two areas of God's involvement

The 12 tribes of Israel were divided between the two kingdoms. Micah primarily prophesied and ministered in Judah, although he does have the distinction of being the only prophet in the bible to minister in both kingdoms.

Micah's warning to both Israel and Judah serves as a reminder to us that God knows everything we do in our lives. In Micah 1 & 2, God is about to pronounce judgment on the Jewish people because He knows everything they did.

### **GOD IS AWARE OF OUR CHOICES**

**Micah 1:2-5** is the warning that God is about to judge Israel. Something important here is to remember that God does not judge without giving multiple warnings first. Unfortunately, Israel continued to rebel, which brought judgment and wrath. Micah specifically calls out the sins of the two capital cities, which "set the pace" for the rest of Israel and Judah.

While the northern kingdom abandoned God from the beginning, the southern kingdom of Judah would waver back and forth.

Micah also addresses Judah and some of the specific sins happening there. In Micah 2, Micah addresses the influential elites who were materialistic greedy thieves who had a general disregard for the well-being of their fellow man. They had the power to do what they wanted to. **Micah 2:1-6**

By taking the land and taking slaves, these powerful people were breaking laws that God established generations earlier. Idol worship combined with the corruption of the leadership is what is bringing them to judgment. God saw everything that they did. Nothing was hidden from Him. **Hebrews 4:13**

The condition of Micah's country and the judgment that was coming to them broke his heart. **Micah 1:8-9**

### **GOD IS ACTIVE IN REALITY**

Micah announced to Israel the judgment that was coming their way by way of the Assyrian army. There was a lot of idol worship going on in Samaria, and the Lord said He would bring it all to an end by destroying the city.

Micah continues to tell the people of Judah to mourn because they will be impacted by Assyria, too – although not as severely as Israel because God will help them. **Micah 1:11-13**

Jeremiah 26:18-19 tells us that King Hezekiah heard this warning from Micah, and he repented of the sins of Judah. He tore down the idols and turned back to God. As a result, God fought on their behalf and prevented Assyria from invading Jerusalem. **2 Kings 19:35-36**. God held off judgment on Judah for 150 years. But after 150 years, Judah returned to their evil ways, and Micah's prophecy was fulfilled when God sent Babylon to conquer Judah. Micah tells them the judgment that the elite in Judah will face. **Micah 2:3-5**

God used Micah to bring this message of judgment to Israel and Judah. To point out their sinful rebellion against God and let them know that God is watching and fully aware of what they are doing.

Many people today do not want to hear that God has standards that He expects us to live by. They don't care that when judgment comes, the people who don't know Jesus will be swept up in that judgment. There are also people who know that God is aware of everything going on in the world today and may have even recognized that Jesus is their only hope for salvation but still choose to live life their way and pick and choose what parts of the bible they want to obey.

Some people wake up every day and choose to intentionally follow the Lord's principles and commands, knowing and trusting and asking for the Holy Spirit to give them the wisdom and courage to live their life on purpose for God. They're not immune to the temptation of sin, but they don't set out to sin on purpose.

### **Discussion Questions:**

- **What about the sermon stuck with you this week? What part challenged your thinking?**
- **Why do people continue to ignore God's warning about the need for salvation?**
- **Are there people, places, or things in your life that you place such a high value upon that they impact your relationship with God? Explain**
- **Are you bringing idols, even good seeming ones, into your faith? Explain**
- **Describe a time when you heard a warning and responded by changing your ways**
- **God protected Jerusalem from the Assyrian army. Describe a time when you are confident God protected you**