

## Micah 3:1-12

**Leaders are God's representatives,  
and are held to the highest standards**

**Micah 3:1-4**

- These leaders are acting like Cannibals
  - Taking the people for all they are worth and killing them in the process
- Because of this when they cry out to God in need they will not be heard
  - Anthropomorphism - assigning human characteristics to a deity or animal

**Micah 3:5-8 Prophets in the kingdom**

- Permitted people to pay in order to receive fortune of prosperity from God
  - God's grace and blessing cannot be bought
  - They are the shepherds of the people (depicted as sheep). This is what God does and they are his representatives,
    - Instead of leading the people closer to God they are leading the people astray
- God will remain quiet and put them to shame

**Luke 17:9-12 - A kingdom of their own design**

- They detest Justice - Sign of Complete corruption
  - They extorted the people for their own gain on the responsibilities that God gave them
    - They build their own kingdom instead of God's
  - For this God brings Justice that they have denied

Leaders are held to a high standard in the NT Church

- Elders (1 Tim 3/Titus 1/Peter 5)
  - They Lead
    - In ways of righteousness
      - Reflected in Character
      - Reflected in passion for their personal relationship with Jesus.



- Elders (cont.)
  - They Lead
    - As overseers in the church - They are held responsible
      - They do this with encouragement and correction
        - 1 Thessalonians 5:11-13
    - They are responsible to direct and teach the people
    - They are to be Shepherds and Stewards of the people
      - Care for them
      - Care about them
      - Seek their flourishing
  - The congregation is to submit to their leadership
    - Hebrews 13:17 - let be joy for these leaders as you submit
- We have to take this seriously
  - The congregation must...
    - express significant amount of trust
  - Leaders must...
    - Steward that Trust well
- Whatever false representation that starts in leadership will trickle down to the people
  - Be vigilant and trust those in leadership

**We plead for vigilance because our greatest desire is to please the Lord in everything we do as the body of Christ**